Record of Public Comments Received During the Public Review and Comment Period on the Wisconsin DNR Draft Wolf Management Plan

The public review and comment period began on November 10, 2022, and concluded February 28, 2023, at 11:59pm CST. The comment period was initially announced via department news release on November 10, 2022. On January 4, 2023, an extension to the comment period was announced via department news release. On February 24, 2023, the department issued another news release with a reminder and last call for comments. The draft plan was made available on the department's wolf management plan webpage at the beginning of the comment period. Any member of the public wishing to share their thoughts on the draft plan could do so via an online comment tool, email, or regular mail. The department also hosted a public listening session on February 7, 2023, at which public comments were recorded verbally. Verbal comments collected during a February 18, 2023, public meeting hosted by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation were provided to the department and also added to the record. All public comments received during the comment period are given equal consideration regardless of the avenue of submission. The department will review and consider all comments to inform potential revisions to the draft wolf management plan.

The following is a compiled record of the approximately 3,500 public comments received via all avenues of submission during the public comment period. Of these, approximately 71% of commenters indicated they were Wisconsin residents, 23% indicated they were nonresidents, and 6% did not indicate their residency. Over 72% of comments included a name while the remainder did not. Of those providing a name, approximately 110 individuals submitted more than one comment (most often two similar comments via different avenues of submission). There was no limit on the number of comments an individual could provide.

Note: We have attempted to redact all personal contact information and any inappropriate language within the comments; otherwise, comments are provided verbatim as submitted. Comments received via email attachment and regular mail have been grouped according to the submitter type. Verbal comments included comments provided by tribal representatives, Wisconsin legislators, stakeholder organizations, and individual members of the public; these comments are provided in the order they were given to maintain context with other comments. Finally, comments provided via the online comment tool are shared in chronological order of receipt.

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Bad River Band Of Lake Superior Tribe Of Chippewa Indians

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. Box 39 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

February 27, 2023

Adam Payne
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Comments on the Draft Wolf Management Plan

Dear Mr. Payne,

The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa ("Bad River" or "Band") respectfully submits the following comments to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("WDNR" or "Department") on its Draft Wolf Management Plan issued on November 9, 2022.

The Bad River Band is a federally recognized tribe in Northern Wisconsin, located wholly within the Lake Superior Basin and majority within the sub-basin of the Bad River – Mashkiiziibii – for which our Tribal Nation is named. The Bad River Band and its people maintain a reciprocal relationship with the natural environment. Anishinaabe people see the waters, trees, animals, plants, birds, and even the air as an extension of a large community. This community is at the center of Anishinaabe culture and life. The Band has a solemn responsibility to preserve our homeland, our environment, our culture, our treaty-protected resources, and our distinct lifeways for the coming seven generations.

Ma'iinganag (wolves) are of great significance to the Anishinaabe people. They are a clan animal, and part of the Anishinaabe creation story. Through the creation story we are taught that Ma'iingan and the Original man are brothers, tasked to walk side by side, naming all things. Once completed, the creator told the brothers that they must separate and walk different paths, but that their fates would be forever linked. Both would be feared, respected, and misunderstood by the people that would later join them on earth. It is our responsibility as Anishinaabe to protect Our Brother, Ma'iingan, for what happens to one shall happen to the other. It is for these reasons that the Band objects to the hunting of ma'iingan and has provided comments for the WDNR to review for a more inclusive wolf management plan.

Miigwech,

M. Daniel Wiggins Jr.

Telephone (715) 682-7111

Fax (715) 682-7118

Bad River Band Of Lake Superior Tribe Of Chippewa Indians

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER P.O. Box 39 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Mike Wiggins, Jr.
Bad River Tribal Chairman

Cc: Taylor Parker-Greene, Wildlife Specialist, Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Deptartment
Naomi Tillison, Director, Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Deptartment
Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Kris Goodwill, Tribal Liaison, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Telephone (715) 682-7111 Fax (715) 682-7118

Bad River Band Of Lake Superior Tribe Of Chippewa Indians

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER Box 39 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Position Statement on:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Draft Wolf Management Plan

By Taylor Parker-Greene,
Wildlife Specialist
For the
Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department (MNRD)

To: Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist
WI DNR, 107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501

We would first like to acknowledge and express our gratitude for the efforts involved in updating the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan by all Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) staff, as well as the committee members and tribal representatives who played a role in its contents. Although we believe this draft plan is a step in the right direction towards more acceptable ma'iingan (wolf) stewardship, we the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians (Mashkiiziibii) cannot in good nature support the killing of Our Brother, Ma'iingan.

Wolves are sacred beings and of great importance to the Anishinaabe people. In the Anishinaabe creation story, it is told that ma'iingan and the Original man walked the earth together, naming all things.

> "It is often said they came to be like brothers, [while] others contend that even this powerful bond fails to capture the full nature of the relationship, saying that Wolf and Man were really one being, parts of a greater whole. Thus, it must have come as a surprise or a shock when they completed their travels and returned to the Creator, to be told, 'From this day on, you are to separate your paths. You must go your different ways. What shall happen to one of you will also happen to the other. Each of you will be feared, respected, and misunderstood by the people that will later join you on this Earth' (The Mishomis Book, Edward BentonBanai, 2010). In many ways, this teaching of intertwined fates forms the ultimate foundation for the relationship between Anishinaabeg and ma'iinganag."
>
> (Ma'iingan Relationship Plan 1837/1842 Ceded Territory)

Bad River Band Of Lake Superior Tribe Of Chippewa Indians

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The Bad River Band affirms its wish to engage in technical reviews and adaptations with the State. We believe this communication is vital to the protection of resources for which the Plan acknowledges "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"; a responsibility reflected in this letter. MNRD outlines what we see as successes in the Draft Plan as well as present comments we take issue with and request the State thoroughly analyze and address before a final plan is completed.

MNRD supports these elements of the Draft Wolf Management Plan:

- The decrease in harvest registration reporting time from 24 hours to 8 hours. This decrease in reporting time will increase the WDNR's ability to successfully monitor harvest data, allowing a more timely zone closure.
- Zone-specific licenses, allowing the number of licenses issued to be tailored to each zone dependent on that zone's specific objectives each year.
- The removal of the arbitrary numerical population management goal of 350 Wisconsin wolves.
- The acknowledgement of tribal nation treaty reserved rights in and around our tribal lands and ceded territories regarding wolf stewardship.
- The addition of subzones around tribal reservations. This will help to maintain viable wolf packs on tribal reservations (please see the related caveat in the modifications section below).
- The inclusion of a social science survey released with the Draft Plan – even if public views are omitted or not accurately represented throughout the plan, such as: opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). (Public Opinions Regarding Wolves and Wolf Management in Wisconsin)
- The recognition of the important ecological role wolves play in our ecosystems.
- The continued importance of education and outreach, specifically in regard to wolf conflict and mitigation efforts.

MNRD recommends the following additions and modifications in order to strengthen the Draft Wolf Management Plan:

- MNRD strongly opposes the harvest of Ma'iingan and believes legislative changes should be pursued to revoke Act 169.
    - The department can choose to restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting the quota to zero.

  - Wolves are self-regulating, and do not need to be killed in order to keep their numbers under control.
- If it is the WDNR's attempt to respect tribal nations, then we believe the subzones around tribal reservations should be there to protect residential wolf packs and should be zero-take areas.

  "Mashkiiziibii has sovereignty over the reservation and holds rights to hunt, fish, and gather in the ceded territory, which makes up roughly the northern third of modern-day Wisconsin. Ma'iingan does not recognize human political boundaries. Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan research dating back to 1996 shows that reservation wolves regularly travel off reservation."

  (Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan)

  MNRD staff have put in a great deal of effort over the years to mitigate any potential wolf threat to livestock owners by providing and installing non-lethal methods, such as game cameras, fladry, and flashing lights, in order to protect and safeguard our 4 residential wolf packs within the 6-mile buffer zone surrounding the reservation. This management zone and those around other Wisconsin reservations (which you can find more about in the attached Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan) are recognized, regarded, and in collaboration with agencies such as the WDNR and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services (APHIS-WS). Tribal representatives are to be notified and given the opportunity to investigate any potential depredation event with APHIS-WS professionals and the landowner. This approach best reflects the adaptive management approach that the Draft takes and the chance for meaningful technical reviews and adaptions considering:

  1. Subsistence harvesting resources, especially:
  2. Effects on seasonal uses of resources that are connected with Reservation lands;
  3. Public health, including CWD and transmission paths (see point 6 below); and
  4. Federal trust responsibility and authority to manage land and wildlife consistent with Treaty relationships and authorized management plans.

- Although we recognize the decrease in reporting time from 24 to 8 hours is a step in the right direction, based on current technology, we believe the reporting time should be reduced even further to avoid any potential overtake risk.
- MNRD opposes hunting with hounds. Hounding it is extremely unethical and largely unsupported (64%) by the general public. We believe this practice should be deemed illegal.
  - Hound training season puts undue stress on wolves during rearing season and should be limited to the open wolf harvest season.

  - At a minimum, MNRD believes that hound hunting should be restricted from tribal reservation subzones, as well as national forests.
    - If hounding is not restricted from tribal reservation subzones (1b), a protocol should be put in place for not if, but when hounds inevitably enter reservation boundaries. The tribe should be notified immediately, and there should be repercussions for any wolf harmed within the boundaries of the reservation.
  - There should be no payout to hunters for hounds lost to wolves. Hunters who choose to hunt with hounds do so at their own risk and with the knowledge that they are putting their animals in highly dangerous situations. The state should not be responsible for the reimbursement of a lost hound.
- Consistent with the adaptive management approach of the Draft Plan, a priority in subzone 1 is non – lethal management. The lethal "management" of wolves as an attempt to curb livestock depredation has been largely disproven as an affective measure in scientific literature and this misinformation should not be presented to the public as though it does. Non-lethal preventative measures (e.g., guardian dogs, donkeys, fladry, and flashing lights) have led to greater conflict mitigation results and should be more highly emphasized within the plan (The effectiveness of livestock protection measures against wolves (Canis lupus) and implications for their co-existence with humans, Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods, Carnivore conservation needs evidence based livestock protection).
  - The killing of a wolf in effort to prevent livestock conflict, may actually increase livestock vulnerability as the wolf pack has the potential to become unstable, leading to the pack seeking easier or more accessible and reliable food sources.
  - The state should provide funding to livestock owners in highly populated wolf areas for non-lethal control methods (as suggested above). The state should only reimburse for livestock loss when proper measures have been taken and proof of preventative methods can be verified.
- Wolves play an important role in preventing and controlling the spread of CWD in cervid populations. Waawaashkeshi (deer) are an exceptionally important food source for the Anishinaabe people, and the threat of CWD entering treaty-ceded territories and reservation lands is real. For this reason, we believe that any zone with increasing CWD numbers should result in a no hunt zone for at least 1 year in attempts to control and mitigate the spread of CWD throughout the state.
- Overharvesting and poaching should be taken seriously by WDNR, and we advise that the number of overtake be removed from the following year's harvest numbers.

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- In addition to the current Wolf Management Plan Committee, we believe leading carnivore scientists should be involved in the annual review meetings. We also suggest that current literature be provided to and reviewed by all members prior to meetings.

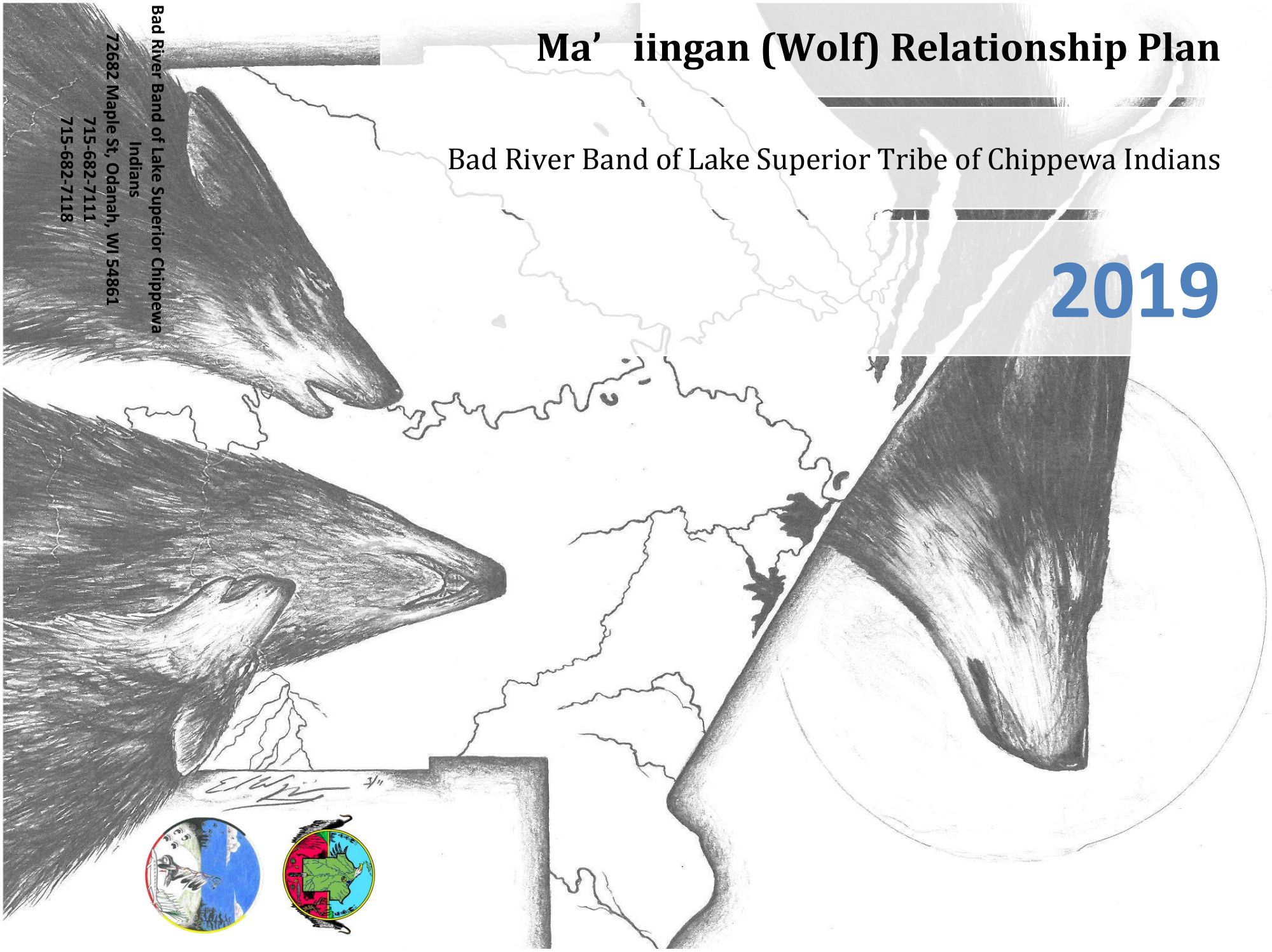
Overall Rating: 6

Mashkiiziibii believes that the Draft Wolf Management Plan needs to be further developed, and the overwhelming number of changes suggested by tribal nations and the general public should be taken into serious consideration before the Plan can be approved.

Ma’ iingan (Wolf) Relationship Plan

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians

2019



Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
72682 Maple St, Odanah, WI 54861
715-682-7111
715-682-7118

Suggested Citation:

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Major Findings and Conclusions

I. Within Mashkiiziibing (Bad River Indian Reservation), including tribal lands on Mooninwaane'akaaning Minis (Madeline Island), Ma'iinganag is listed as a "Tribally Protected Species."

II. Classification of Ma'iingan and the contents of this relationship plan will be revisited by the Tribal Council and Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program (MWP) every 5 years or sooner if deemed an emergency by Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council and MWP.

III. The Mashkiiziibii Wildilfe Program honors Ma'iingan and guides its actions based on Traditional Ecological Knowledge and scientific knowledge.

IV. The Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program will not manage Ma'iinganag at a specific number, but will work with humans in a way that fosters human-wildlife coexistence on and around Mashkiiziibing. MWP has set a minimum Ma'iingan population goal: at least three packs within Mashkiiziibing, as has historically been the case.

V. The Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program will continue to coordinate Ma'iingan conservation activities with tribal, state, and federal agencies as well as private landowners, to ensure the future of Ma'iinganag in Mashkiiziibing, in the state of Wisconsin, and in the Great Lakes Region.

VI. The Mashkiiziibii Tribal Wildlife Specialist is responsible for coordinating livestock or Ma'iingan mortality co-investigations within the exterior boundaries of the reservation and within the six mile buffer zone surrounding Mashkiiziibing.

VII. Any conflicts with Ma'iinganag within Mashkiiziibing or within the buffer area of Mashkiiziibing shall be reported to the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist within 24 hours of occurrence by either the individual involved in the conflict or by the immediate responding agency (WDNR or USDA-WS) dependent on location of incident.

VIII. In the event that a dead Ma'iingan is found anywhere in Mashkiiziibing or within the six mile buffer zone surrounding the reservation, the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist must be notified immediately by

either the individual that found the carcass or by the immediate investigating agency (WDNR or USDA-WS).

IX. If Ma'iingan is incidentally trapped, it shall be released immediately, if alive. If Ma'iingan is found to be dead, it shall be turned in and reported immediately to the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist.

X. The Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist can assist in seeking livestock reimbursement from the state or federal agencies after a loss to a predator and MWP can offer carnivore coexistence consultation and free rental deterrent devices.

XI. MWP and the Bad River Tribal Council have placed a moratorium on collaring Ma'iingan, based on concerns for the ethical, scientific, and cultural appropriateness or lack there of in this research practice. Instead, MWP will work to understand reservation Ma'iinganag through track, scat, howl, and flying surveys as well as reports from tribal members.

Acknowledgements

Miigwech to The Creator for giving us a brother in Ma'iingan. Miigwech to Ma'iingan for teaching and protecting us. Miigwech to Lacey Hill-Kastern for creating the original Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan and for mentoring and training Abi Fergus. Miigwech to the Mashkiiziibii community for helping to shape this plan and for teaching Abi Fergus. Miigwech to Edward Benton-Banai and Joe Rose Sr. for teaching us about Ma'iingan. Miigwech to Edith Leoso, Anthony Corbine, and Stephanie Julian for providing knowledge for this plan. Miigwech to Suzi Smith of the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department for reviewing the plan. Miigwech to Erick Arnold of the Bad River Legal Department for reviewing the plan. Miigwech to Philomena Kebec, Peter David and Travis Bartnick of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Commission for reviewing the plan. Miigwech to Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council for reviewing and approving the plan.

Goal of the Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan

The goal of this Ma'iingan relationship plan is to set a framework of guiding principles for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians to understand and coexist with Ma'iingan and to teach others to do the same. In the 2019, the plan was renamed the Ma'iingan *Relationship* Plan. Ma'iingan is a relative and you don't "manage" a relative, you build a relationship with a relative.

Ma'iingan and Anishinaabe told by Mashkiiziibii Elder Joe Rose

"Maybe I should start by talking about the creation. The great spirit came down to the earth, took dust, took it back to the sky world. Breathed life into the dust of Mother Earth, creating Anishinaabe: spontaneous or original man. And then Gichi Manido lowered Anishinaabe to meet his mother. And so the first steps that he ever took was out of love and honor and respect, because the earth was his mother. And so it was the Great Spirit who sent a companion to travel with Anishinaabe: Ma'iingan."

Ma'iingan and Anishinaabe told by Edward Benton-Banai

Available online: https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/the-mishomis-book

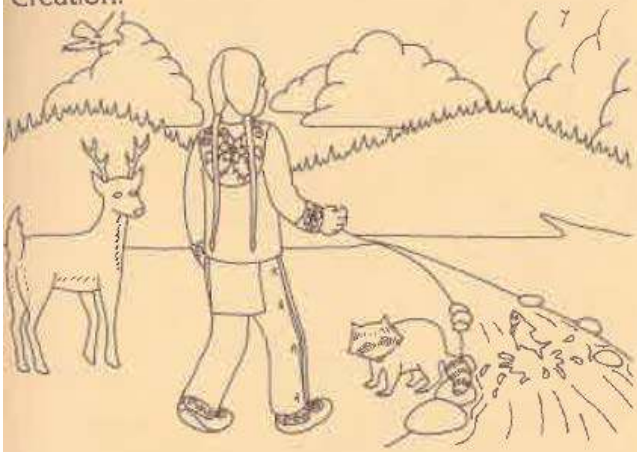
Chapter 2

Original Man Walks The Earth

Boozhoo, I have more Ojibway stories to tell you. These e-ki-na-ma'-di-win' (teachings) have been handed down to me by my Grandfathers. In the last chapter we learned of how Original Man was created and lowered to the Earth by the Creator, Gitchie Manito.

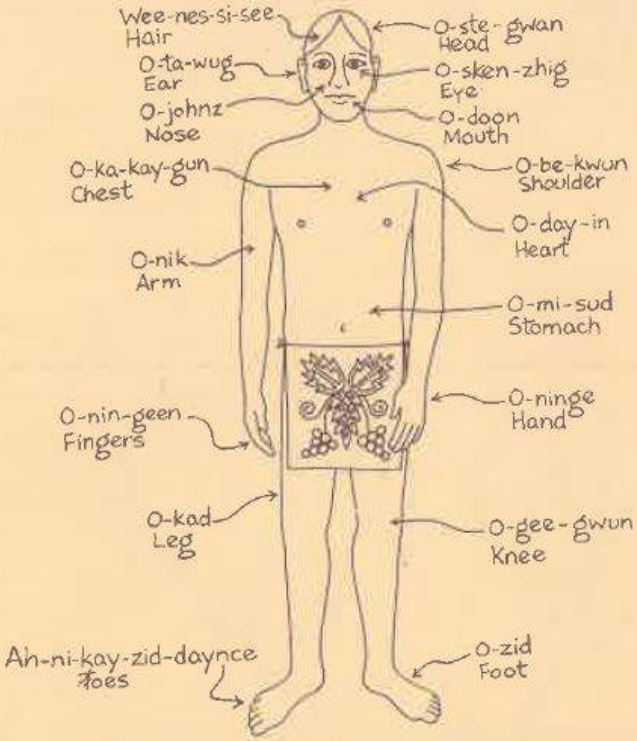
After Original Man was placed on the Earth, he was given instructions by the Creator. He was told to walk this Earth and name all the o-way-se-ug' (animals), the plants, the hills, and the valleys of the Creator's gi-ti-gan' (garden).

Original Man had no name of his own yet. Later, people would refer to him as Anishinabe and, still later, Way-na-boo'-zhoo. But at this early time, he who had no name would name all the Creation.



As Original Man walked the Earth, he named all of the ni-bi' (water). He identified all the rivers, streams, ponds, lakes and oceans. He learned that there were rivers that ran underground. These are the veins of Mother Earth. Water is her life blood. It purifies her and brings food to her.

Original Man also named all the parts of the body. He even named the o-kun-nug' (bones) and organs inside the body.



While Original Man was carrying out the instructions given to him by the Creator, he noticed that the Earth had four seasons. All life was part of a never-ending cycle.

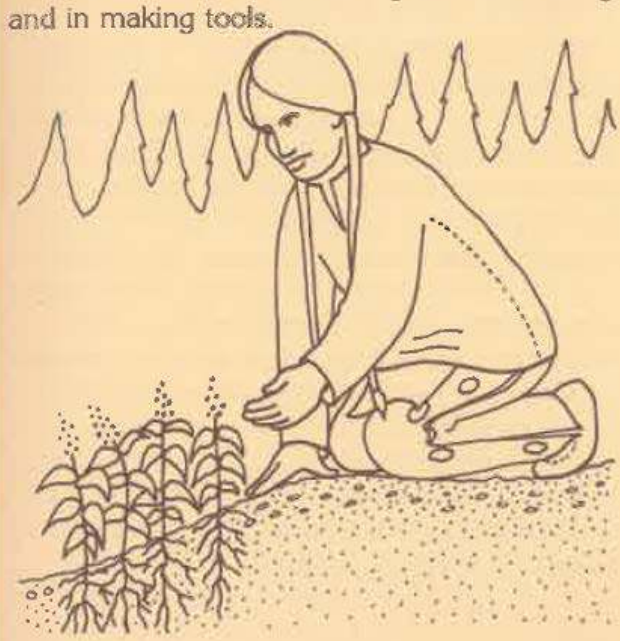
The plants were given new life in the spring. With the coming of summer, they blossomed and bore the seeds for the next generation. Some of the plants produced fruits.

5

In the fall season, the leaves of many of the plants turned from green to many spectacular colors. The leaves gradually fell to the ground as the gee-zhi-gad-doon' (days) got shorter and the dee-bee-kad-doon' (nights) got colder.

In winter, the cold winds of the Gee-way'-din (North) brought the purifying snows that cleansed Mother Earth. Some of the plants died and returned their bodies to their Mother. Other plants fell into a deep sleep and awoke only when Grandfather Sun and the warm winds of the Zha-wa-noong' (South) announced the coming of spring.

As Original Man traveled the Earth, he identified what fruits were good to eat and what was not to be eaten. As he went, he found that some o-gee'-bic-coon' (roots) were good for food. Others were good for mush-kee-ki' (medicine). Some roots could be used to make dyes of different colors and flavorings for food. Other roots could be used as a strong thread in sewing and in making tools.



As he walked, Original Man talked with the animals. He named them as he went. He noted that some animals were good for we-sin'-ni-win' (food) and medicine. He noticed that each type of animal had its own individual kind of wisdom. He did not know what all of these plants and animals would play an important part for all the people that would be coming to live on the Earth at a later time.

Original Man traveled everywhere. There was not one plant, animal, or place that was not touched by him.



In his travels, Original Man began to notice that all the animals came in pairs and they reproduced. And yet, he was alone.

He spoke to his Grandfather the Creator and asked, "Why am I alone? Why are there no other ones like me?"

Gitchie Manito answered, "I will send someone to walk, talk and play with you."

He sent Ma-en'-gun (the wolf).

With Ma-en'-gun by his side, Original Man again spoke to Gitchie Manito, "I have finished what you asked me to do. I have visited and named all the plants, animals, and places of this Earth. What would you now have me to do?"

Gitchie Manito answered Original Man and Ma-en'-gun, "Each of you are to be a brother to the other. Now, both of you are to walk the Earth and visit all its places."

So, Original Man and Ma-en'-gun walked the Earth and came to know all of her. In this journey they became very close to each other. They became like brothers. In their closeness they realized that they were brothers to all of the Creation.

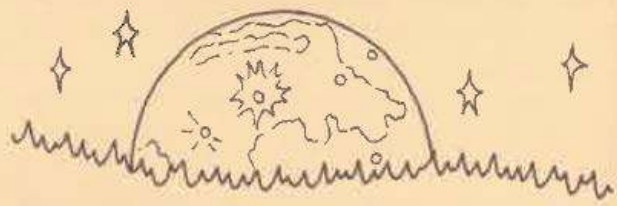


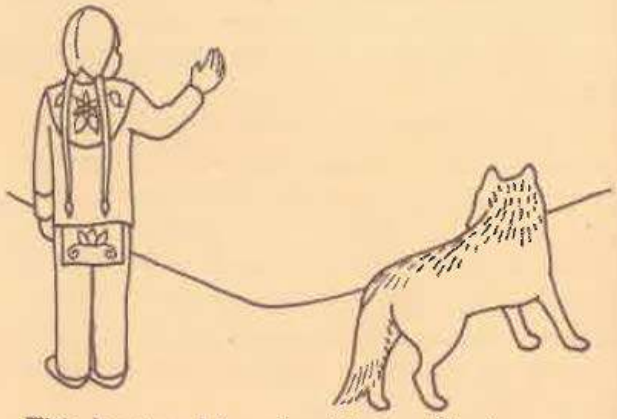
When they had completed the task that Gitchie Manito asked them to do, they talked with the Creator once again.

The Creator said, "From this day on, you are to separate your paths. You must go your different ways.

"What shall happen to one of you will also happen to the other. Each of you will be feared, respected and misunderstood by the people that will later join you on this Earth."

And so Ma-en'-gun and Original Man set off on their different journeys.





This last teaching about the wolf is important for us today. What the Grandfather said to them has come true. Both the Indian and the wolf have come to be alike and have experienced the same thing. Both of them mate for life. Both have a Clan System and a tribe. Both have had their land taken from them. Both have been hunted for their wee-nes'-si-see' (hair). And both have been pushed very close to destruction.

We can tell about our future as Indian people by looking at the wolf. It seems as though the wolf is beginning to come back to this land. Will this prove that Indian people will cease to be the "Vanishing Americans?" Will Indian people emerge to lead the way back to natural living and respect for our Earth Mother?

Background

Coexisting with Ma'iingan is complicated by conflicting relationships that humans have with Ma'iingan. Ma'iingan and Anishinaabe are brothers, but colonization brought a Western mindset of fear and hate toward Ma'iingan to Turtle Island.

Few, if any, Ma'iinganag live their entire life within the boundaries of Mashkiiziibing (Bad River Indian Reservation); because of Ma'iingan's large territory sizes and dispersal characteristics, Ma'iinganag may only spend a short period of their lives within the boundaries of the reservation. In addition, Mashkiiziibing includes not only lands owned by the tribe and tribal members, but also lands owned by private non-tribal individuals and corporations. Contrasting cultural perspectives on Ma'iingan, fragmented ownership of reservation land, and Ma'iingan range sizes underline the complexity of Ma'iingan conservation within and around the reservation and the necessity of coordinating efforts and understanding with the State of Wisconsin.

Introduction

The Mashkiiziibii Tribe is a self-governing entity with which the Federal government relates to on a government-to-government basis. Mashkiiziibii has the sovereignty to develop its own Ma'iingan relationship plan independent of state jurisdiction (Federal Register, 2000).

Mashkiiziibing is located within the Lake Superior Basin and is within the 1842 treaty ceded territory in far northern Wisconsin. The reservation is comprised of 125,000 acres (505 km^2) of land in



Figure 1: Location of the Mashkiiziibing.

Ashland and Iron Counties. Mashkiiziibing is 77% forested, 11% is wetlands and sloughs, and the remainder consists of farmland, residential communities, and roads (Elias, 2001).

Anishinaabeg have a deep spiritual and cultural bond with Ma'iingan. **The purpose of this relationship plan is to foster the lasting presence of Ma'iingan in Mashkiiziibing by supporting coexistence with Ma'iingan.** Due to the research-intensive nature of this plan it is recommended the plan be revisited every five years as new research is made available and as the Mashkiiziibii Reservation continues to change through time.

"Both will be feared, respected, and misunderstood by the people that will later join you on this Earth."

History of Ma'iinganag in Mashkiiziibing and in Wisconsin

Ma'iingan and Anishinaabe

Anishinaabe, the original man, was created to walk the earth and name everything (Benton-Banai, 1988). The Original Man grew lonely and asked the Creator why he was alone. The Creator sent Ma'iingan to Anishinaabe as a companion. They traveled the Earth together as directed by the Creator. Once everything was named, Ma'iingan and Original Man were told they must now travel separate paths, but what would happen to one would happen to the other (Benton-Banai, 1988).

This relationship has held true. Peter David, wildlife biologist for Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC), outlined the relationship in his writings. He illustrated the correlation between populations of Ma'iinganag rising and of Anishinaabeg gaining recognition of treaty rights (David,2009; figure 2).

Many people today view predators, especially Ma'iinganag, as a competitor for Waawaashkeshii (white-tailed deer). Historically, that was not the case. Ma'iinganag in northern Wisconsin depend on deer for survival and it was traditionally believed that if Ma'iingan tracks were found or Ma'iingan howling was heard in an area that the hunting would be fruitful because these signs indicated that the hunters were in deer country (David, 2009).

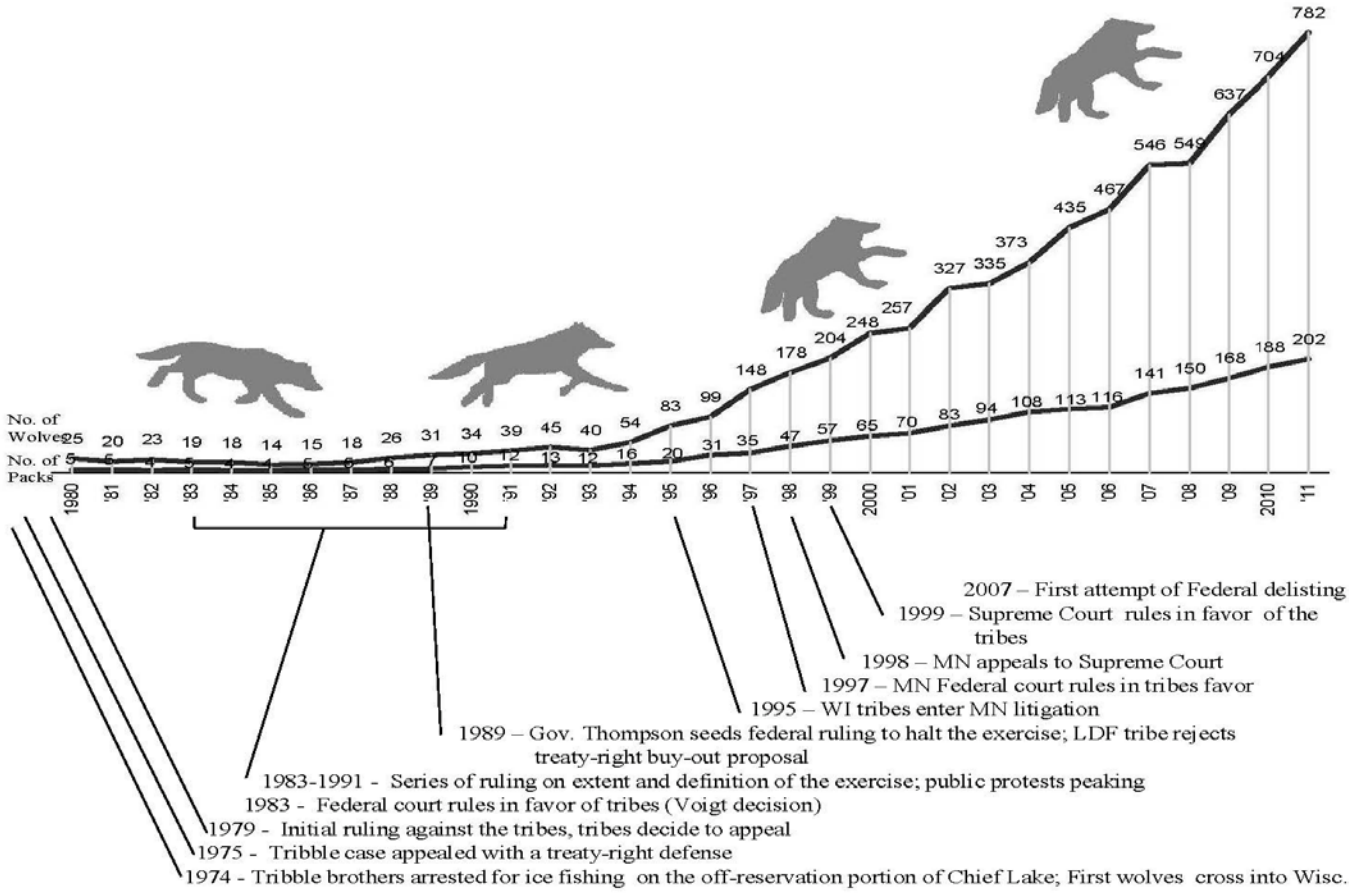


Figure 2: Timeline of battle for Anishinaabe off-reservation treaty rights and the recovery of the Ma'iingan population in Wisconsin provided by Peter David, GLIFWC.

Ma'iingan in Wisconsin

Ma'iinganag were historically present throughout the entire modern State of Wisconsin. Ma'iinganag population estimates for the state ranged from 3,000 to 5,000 individuals before European colonization (Wydeven, 2011). The war against Ma'iinganag in the United States started shortly after Europeans began colonizing the East Coast (Mech and Boitani, 2003). The hatred of Ma'iingan was brought from Europe where humans cleared the habitat of Ma'iingan and Ma'iingan's prey, causing Ma'iinganag to prey on livestock (Linnell and Cretois, 2018). The first Ma'iingan bounty was established in 1630 and by 1700 Ma'iinganag were exterminated from New England (Mech and Boitani, 2003). As colonists moved West, they brought with them their livestock and the war on Ma'iinganag. Mashkode-Bizhiki (American bison; *Bison bison*), Omashkooz (American elk; *Cervus elaphus*), Mooz (Moose; *Alces alces*), Waawaashkeshi (White-tailed deer; *Odocoileus virginianus*), and Adik (Caribou; *Rangifer tarandus*) existed in Wisconsin before European colonization. As Wisconsin was colonized, the land was logged. By 1880, Waawaashkeshiwag were the only large prey species available for Ma'iinganag in Wisconsin (Wydeven, et al. 2009).

The State of Wisconsin first initiated a bounty on Ma'iinganag in 1865 (Thiel, 1993). In 1957, the Wisconsin legislature gave Ma'iingan full protection in the state of Wisconsin (Schanning, 2009). Unfortunately, this was not enough to prevent the last known Ma'iingan in the State from being killed in 1959 (Thiel, 1993). In 1974, Ma'iingan was listed as endangered under the newly adopted federal Endangered Species Act (1973) (USFWS, 1992).

Shortly after federal protections were put into place, Ma'iingan started making a slow comeback in Wisconsin. Ma'iinganag re-entered the state from the remnant Minnesota population. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) developed the 1978 Timber Wolf Recovery Plan, which was last revised in 1992. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) began officially monitoring the state's Ma'iingan population in 1979 when there were an estimated 5 packs in the state (WDNR, 1999). A State Recovery Plan

was created by the WDNR in 1989. Wisconsin adopted a State Wolf Management Plan in 1999 (Wydeven et al, 2009).

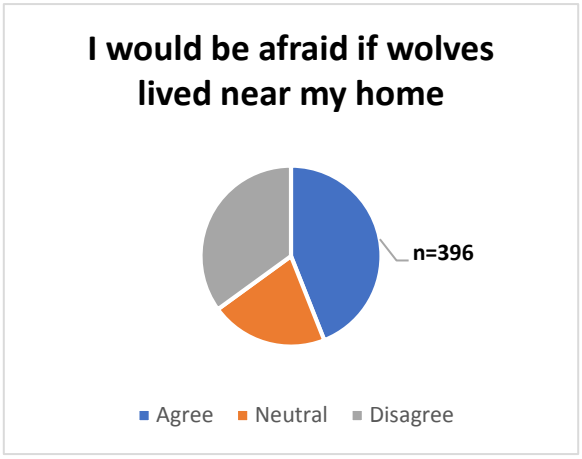
Since the inception of the Endangered Species Act, the listing status of Ma'iingan has changed many times. Ma'iingan have been listed and delisted based in two different regions: Northern Rocky Mountains and Western Great Lakes (Gray Wolf, n.d.). The Service is also involved in the experimental recovery of a sub-species of Ma'iingan, the Mexican Gray Wolf, in New Mexico and Arizona (Mexian Wolf, n.d.). At the time of drafting the 2019 update to the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan, Ma'iingan was delisted in the Northern Rockies and listed as endangered in Wisconsin and Michigan and threatened in Minnesota. The federally listed status of Ma'iingan affects reservation Ma'iingan, because the federal government holds primary conservation responsibility when Ma'iingan is listed as threatened or endangered. When Ma'iingan is delisted, states and tribes hold this sovereignty. Historically, the Service has been sued by groups such as the Humane Association in order to get Ma'iingan re-listed following delistings, because states have not always demonstrated an ability to responsibly conserve Ma'iingan. As of the drafting of this plan revision, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is legally required to hold a harvest of Ma'iingan if Ma'iingan is not federally listed according to Wisconsin State Law, Chapter 29.185 . This law is not scientifically or culturally responsible to Ma'iingan.

As of the 2019 update of the plan, the Fish and Wildlife Service was considering the delisting Ma'iingan across the United States, where they are not already delisted. This proposed delisting received a record number of public comments (1.8 million) and the 5 scientific peer reviews of the proposed delisting largely argued that the population and the Great Lakes States were not ready for the status change (Earthjustice, 2019; Atkins, 2019).

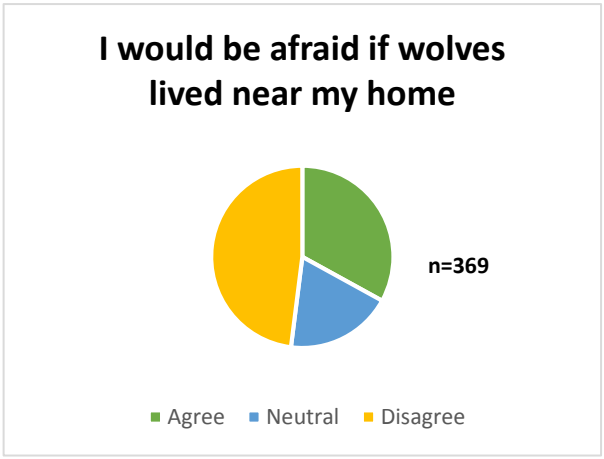
Tribal Views (A Study by Victoria Shelley)

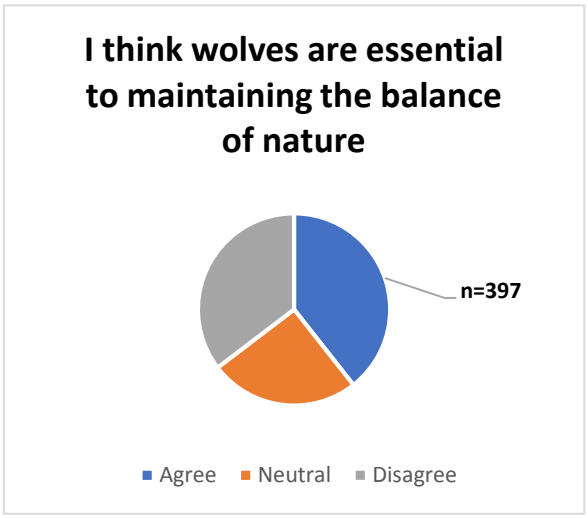
Researchers have been documenting and studying human intolerance of carnivores for many years. Carnivores are often viewed as competition for a food source or as dangerous. In 2009, Victoria Shelley, a graduate student of the Carnivore Coexistence Lab of the University of Wisconsin – Madison, conducted her dissertation research within Mashkiiziibing. Her dissertation was titled, "The Influence of Culture on Attitudes to Wolves and Wolf Policy among Ojibwe Tribal Members and Non-tribal Residents of Wisconsin's Ma'iingan Range" (Shelley, 2011). She completed this study by randomly mailing out questionnaires to Mashkiiziibii Tribal members and randomly selecting non-tribal members that live in Ma'iingan's current range in Northern Wisconsin. A community Ma'iingan Information Meeting was held at the Mashkiiziibii Casino & Convention Center on December 8, 2009 to discuss the study and its results. The study demonstrated that Mashkiiziibii Tribal members were more supportive of protective Ma'iingan policy and less supportive of a proposed Ma'iingan harvest than the non-tribal respondents (figure 3; Shelley, 2011).

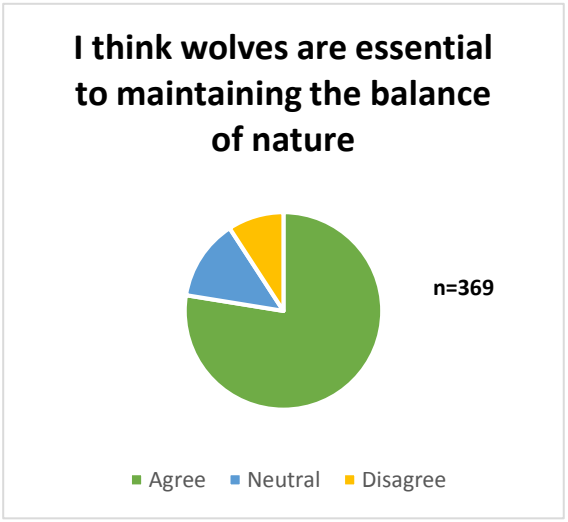
Non Tribal Respondents



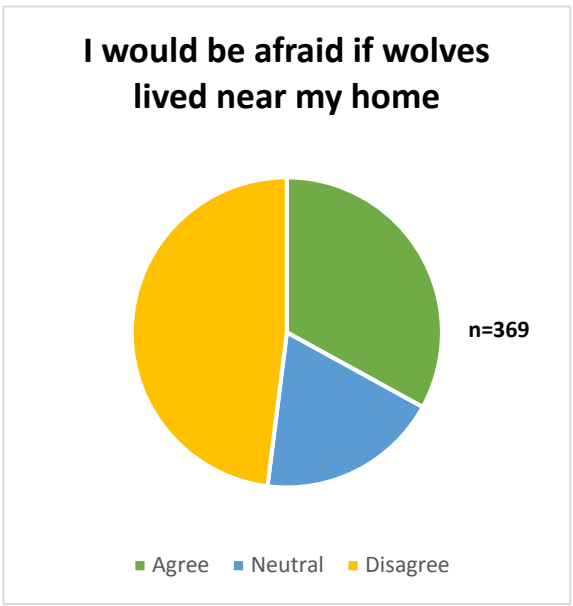
Tribal Respondents







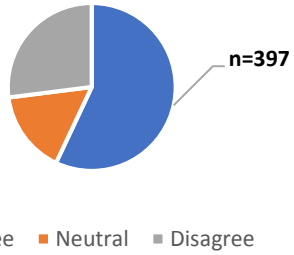




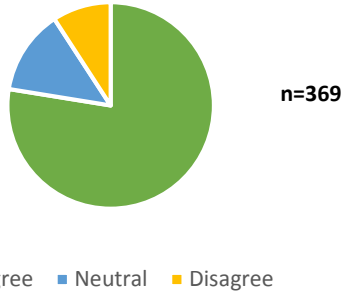
Non Tribal Respondents

Tribal Respondents

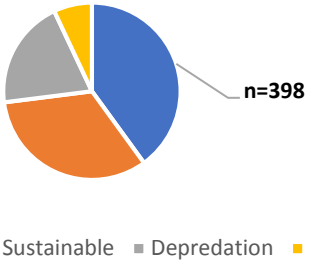
I think Wisconsin's growing wolf population threatens deer hunting opportunities



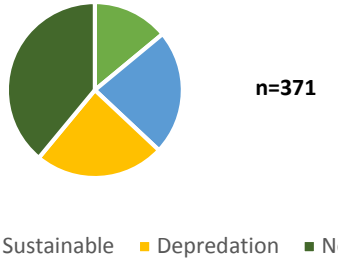
I think wolves are essential to maintaining the balance of nature



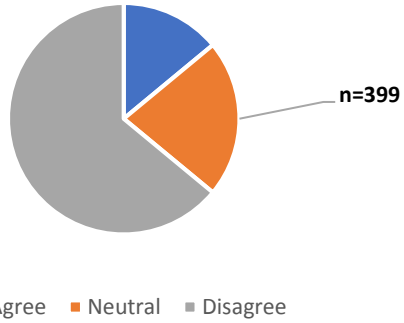
Do you believe there should be public hunting or trapping season on wolves?



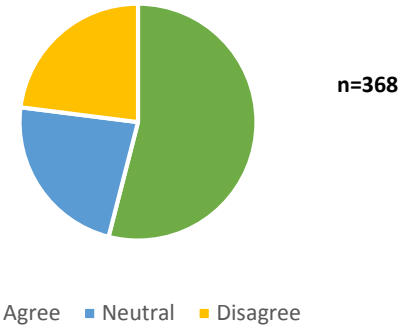
Do you believe there should be public hunting or trapping season on wolves?



Wolves should be protected from hunting and lethal control because of their cultural significance

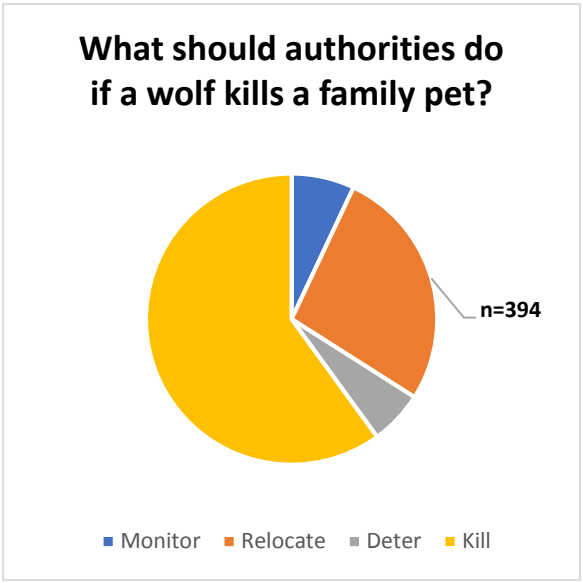


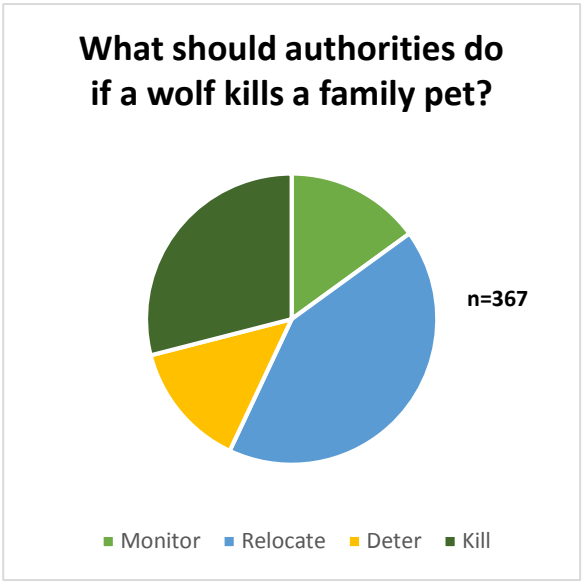
Wolves should be protected from hunting and lethal control because of their cultural significance

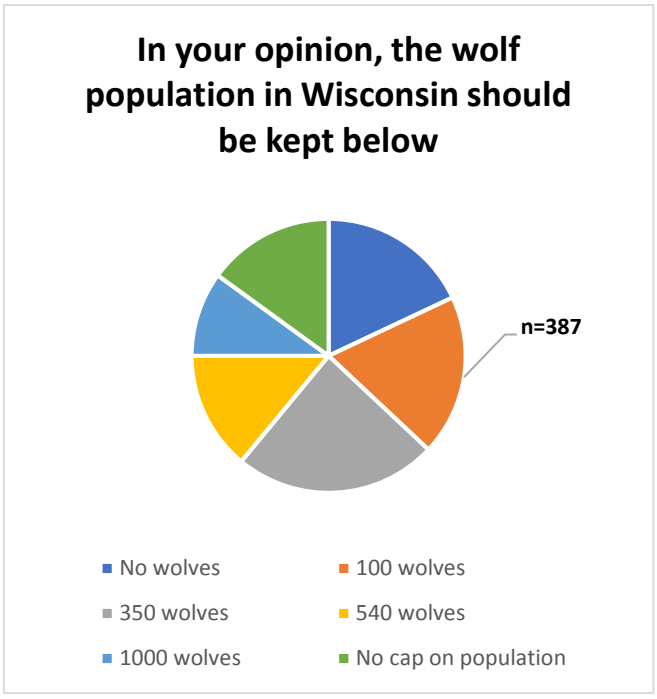


Non Tribal Respondents

Tribal Respondents







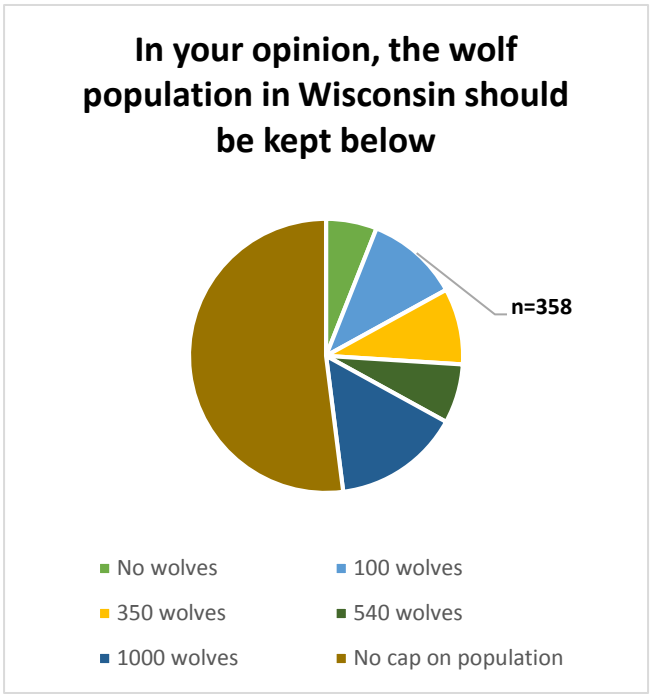


Figure 3: Results from 2009 Victoria Shelley survey of Non Tribal Northwoods residents and Mashkiiziibii Tribal Members

This study showed Mashkiiziibii Tribal members to be more supportive of protective Ma'iingan policy and to have a higher tolerance for Ma'iinganag than non-tribal members (Shelley, 2011). This relationship plan was written to support the strong relationship that Mashkiiziibii tribal members have with Ma'iingan. The Creator told Original Man and Ma'iingan that what happened to one would also happen to the other. Many Mashkiiziibii members believe that the recovery of Ma'iingan and that changing attitudes directly reflect the recovery and treatment of Anishinaabeg.

Livestock Owner, Tribal Member, and Wolf Biologist Views (A Study by Abi Fergus)

A small study of attitudes was also conducted in the summer of 2017 regarding Ma'iingan and the Tribe's Ma'iingan Management Plan. Abi Fergus was a senior at Alma College working as an intern for the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program at the time, and sought input from wolf biologists, tribal members, and non-tribal farmers to be considered for the 2019 update of the Ma'iingan Management Plan (Fergus, 2017).

Out of 30 farming operations contacted, three owners gave interviews on their sentiments regarding gray wolves and their conservation. Local wolf biologists were contacted once and all individuals except a representative with the WI DNR responded for an interview. This resulted in four scientists being interviewed. An official count of tribal members offered an interview in person was not kept. Around 1,800 tribal members live on the reservation and every member encountered at the tribal offices and at the daily elder lunch was offered an interview resulting in four members interviewed. A Facebook post detailing the study and providing population information on reservation Ma'iingan was also shared by the former Chief Tribal Warden and the former Tribal Wildlife Specialist as an attempt to gain more interviewees. Many members explained that they felt they were not the right person to speak on Ma'iingan. All but one interviewee had seen a wolf at least once, even if briefly. Most respondents, despite their self-reported attitude, described the event of seeing a wolf as a unique and interesting experience (Fergus, 2017).

Respondents seemed to have the most trouble answering questions relating to how the depredation of pets, livestock, and hunting dogs should be handled. It appeared that interviewees would initially answer

one way if looking at the three categories of animals in an emotional manner and then another way when processing the question with the owner's responsibility to take care of the animal or the owners' financial loss in mind. Costs to government and the historical handling of depredations by government were also discussed in responses by interviewees. Often, the interviewees came to the conclusion that s/he wasn't sure how depredation situations should be handled (Fergus, 2017).

When asked how pet, hunting dog, and livestock owners should protect against wolves killing their animals, answers varied including the following responses (Fergus, 2017):

- Animal owners shouldn't be expected to prevent depredations
- Animal owners can't prevent depredations
- Animal owners should keep animals under control with leashes/fencing
- Animal owners should guard animals with dogs/donkeys/range riders
- Animal owners should use deterrents such as fladry (flagging) and flashing lights
- Animal owners should keep animals near the house, and they should provide a small amount of food for wolves so that they are not tempted by the live animals

In addition to addressing depredations, respondents identified the key aspects of wolf management as being education, communication, wolf monitoring, habitat preservation, effective policy, hands off methods, and understanding the connection between Ma'iingan and Anishinaabeg. A number of wolf scientists, in particular, raised the need to diversify sources of wolf management funding in order to prevent disproportionate control in the issue by a stakeholder group such as hunters, who often pay for conservation via the purchase of hunting tags. Several respondents across stakeholder groups offered applying for grants, fundraising, taxing outdoor hobbyist supplies, collecting donations, finding cheaper management methods, and using funds from special license plates as venues to achieve broader funding (Fergus, 2017).

History of Ma'iingan in Mashkiiziibing

The MWP first began conducting Ma'iingan research within Mashkiiziibing in 1996. The Tribe determined that it was imperative to gain more knowledge on the movements and behavior of Ma'iingan, such as where Ma'iingan dens and rendezvous sites were located, in the face of timber sales, home development, and snowmobile trail establishment on the reservation. In 1996, the MWP determined three Ma'iingan packs spent time within Mashkiiziibing boundaries. These packs became known as the Potato River, West Firelane, and Morrison Creek (or Little's Girls Point Packs in Michigan). Later on, the Kakagon Sloughs pack was also identified within the reservation (Doolittle, 2001).



Figure 4: Photograph of tracking Ma'iinganag using radio telemetry from an airplane, provided by Lacey Hill-Kastern.

Since 1999, MWP has put radio collars on 10 Ma'iingan in order to learn about their habitat use, denning and rendezvous patterns, mortality causes, total population, and pack distribution on the reservation. In 2019, the Wildlife Program put an indefinite moratorium on collaring Ma'iingan, unless it can clearly be determined that collaring Ma'iingan will have direct benefits for Ma'iingan that outweigh the burden and risks that VHF and GPS collars pose. The MWP continues its historical use of howl surveys and track surveys to understand reservation Ma'iingan.

Ma'iingan Biology and Ecology

Description

At first glance, some may mistake a large Ma'iingan for a large Animosh (domestic dog; *Canis lupus familiaris*). Ma'iinganag are the largest members of Canidae (dog family), in North America. They can stand 26 to 38 inches (66 to 96 cm) high at the shoulder, with a body length of 40 to 58 inches (101 to 147 cm) long, and weight of 60 to 100 pounds (27 to 45 kg) (Busch, 1995). Ma'iinganag differ from Animoshag in several ways. Ma'iingan differs from a domestic dog in that it has longer legs, larger feet, a narrower chest, a straight tail, and tufts of hair on the sides of his or her face extending from below the ear (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003).

Other members of the dog family that are found in Mashkiiziibing include Wiisagi-Ma'iingan (coyote; *Canis latrans), Waagosh* (red fox; *Vulpes vulpes*), and the gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoaryenteus*). Ma'iinganag are much larger than any of these species. Wiisagi-Ma'iingan has a narrower face and pointier ears than Ma'iingan. Ma'iinganag may be mistaken for Waawaashkeshi due to their long legs. Ma'iingan's eyes are golden brown, and when you shine the eyes at night, they appear greenish-orange in color and appear closer together than Waawaashkeshki eyes do (Busch, 1995).

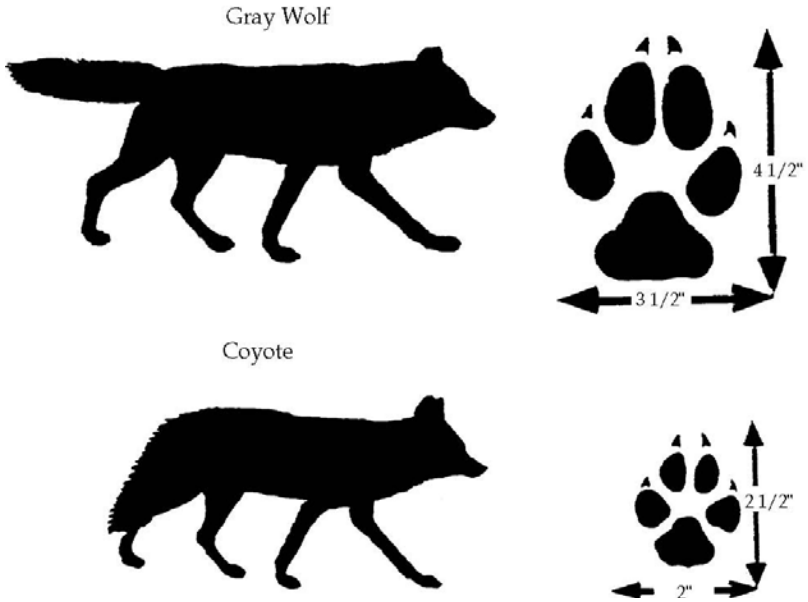


Figure 5: Ma'iingan and Wiisagi-Ma'iingan silhouettes and tracks (Paul and Gibson, 1994).

Ma'iinganag can be various shades of gray, tan, brown, white, and even all black. Each of these colorations have been observed and documented among the various packs on the reservation. Black Ma'iinganag are more common in the northern part of their range and can comprise up to one-third of the northern Ma'iingan population (Busch, 1995).

Track and Scat Identification

Ma'iingan tracks looks similar to those of Animosh. Each track consists of a pad, four toe prints, and 4 indentations above the toe pads (marks left by claws). Ma'iingan's track size is typically 4.5 to 5.5 inches (11 to 14 cm) in length and 3.5 to 5 inches (8 to 12.5 cm) in width, which is an unmistakably large paw print (Forrest, 1988). The print of Wiisagi-Ma'iingan is substantially smaller, typically 2.5 to 3.5 inches (6 to 9 cm) in length and 2 to 2.8 inches (5 to 7 cm) in width (Forrest, 1988) (Fig 5). Some Animosh breeds can leave a track similar in size to Ma'iingan. Animosh's toes point slightly outward, whereas Ma'iinganag toes will point straight ahead (Busch, 1995). Ma'iinganag also have more direct paths of travel and their tracks will often appear in a straight line versus Animosh, which will tend to wander.

Ma'iingan scat may appear similar to that of Animosh in size, but Ma'iingan scat is mostly comprised of hair and bone fragments. The feces are 0.5 to 6 inches (1 to 15.25 cm) in length and 1 to 1.5 inches (2.5 to 4 cm) in diameter and have tapering ends (Busch, 1995; Forrest, 1988). Wiisagi-Ma'iingan scat may appear similar, but is rarely over 4 inches (7.6 cm) in length or 1 inch (2.5 cm) in diameter (Forrest, 1988) (Fig 6).

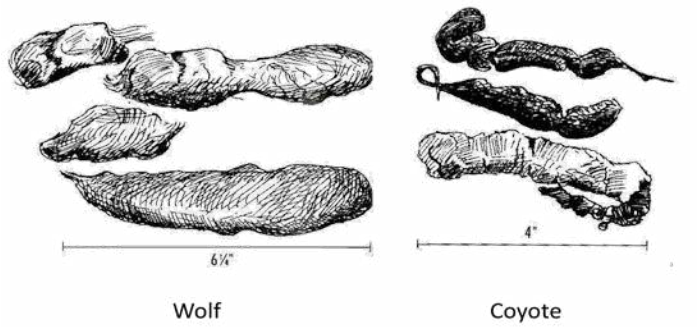


Figure 6: Ma'iingan vs Wiisagi-Ma'iingan scat (Paul and Gibson, 1994)

Mashkiiziibii's first Wildlife Specialist, Tom Doolittle, gathered habitat use data from the first three Ma'iingan to be collared and tracked on the reservation in the late 90s and early 2000s. Pack structures on the

reservation have changed since his writing, but Doolittle offers insight into reservation Ma'iingan's tie to waterways.

> "Regardless of the agency gathering relocation data from the air, all but four of 46 points were within riparian zones as defined by the IRMP set of buffers. Reservation GIS vegetation data also supports use within 200m of wetland types. Home ranges included 90% of the described vegetation types on the reservation. Sixty percent of air observations of wolves on the ground had a coniferous component in their respective habitat. Wolves avoided agricultural areas, main State highways and entered the reservation in the southeast quadrant of the reservation." (Doolittle, 2001).

Ma'iinganag are considered to be "habitat generalists" and can survive in a variety of habitat types, dependent on prey availability (Gehring and Potter, 2005; Mladenoff et al., 1999). Ma'iinganag require large tracts of land with adequate prey populations. Ma'iingan's diet has not been studied in Wisconsin since the 1980s, when Ma'iingan was first returning to Wisconsin after being extirpated. At the time of the master's dissertation study, Ma'iingan was found to be primarily eating Waawaashkeshiwag and secondarily preying on Amik (American beaver; *Castor canadensis*) with some Waabooz (snowshoe hare; *Lepus americanus*) in the diet (Mandernack, 1983). Ma'iingan's population and habits in the ceded territory have changed since this diet study, and it is a goal of the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program to study the diet of reservation Ma'iinganag. In more modern studies that took place elsewhere in North America, Ma'iinganag have been known to supplement their diet with rodents, birds, eggs, fish, berries, carrion, and other carnivores such as bears and river otters (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003; Chavez and Gese, 2006; Gable et al., 2019; Gable et al, 2018). A study out of Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota found that one Ma'iingan pack ate 38-42 percent of Amikwag within the pack's home range (Gable and Windels, 2017).

Ma'iinganag, as apex predators, can influence more evenly dispersed grazing by ungulates (Ripple and Beschta, 2012). Not only does this have the potential effect of preventing all individuals of a plant species from

existing only in disease-susceptible clusters, but it also can establish critical habitat. The even spread of ungulate browsing due to predation pressure from wolves may bring other benefits. For example, the woody plants that have been found to grow more successfully after wolves reoccupied Yellowstone provide shade over rivers, which cools water. This phenomenon supports cold water fish such as trout (Wilmers et al., 2012). This theory of how wolves shape an ecosystem, called top-down trophic cascades, needs to be further researched in geographical locations outside of Yellowstone, but it is an influence that various large predators around the world seem to have on their respective ecosystems (Dyer and Letourneau, 2002; Pace et al, 1999; Ripple and Beschta, 2012).

Despite the common belief that wolves are competing with people for venison, they can be beneficial for prey populations (Burt, 1952; DelGiudice, 2010; Wilmers et al., 2012). Wolves cull the old, sick, and very young from the herd, which can stimulate productivity by freeing more food and cover to support a healthy population of deer (Kurta, 1995). Various studies have shown conditions in which wolves act as compensatory predators, killing prey that would have otherwise died from causes such as disease or age (Griffin et al., 2011; Sand et al., 2012; Wright et al., 2010). Humans don't usually hunt in this way. Waawaashkeshi fawns are important prey for Ma'iinganag in the summer. Research conducted in Minnesota found that nine fawns are eaten per adult Ma'iingan and each Ma'iingan has an estimated kill rate of eighteen Waawaashkeshiwag per year (DelGiudice, 2010). However, the kill rate is not universal and is dependent on location, winter severity, and a number of other factors (DelGiudice,2010; Metz et al., 2012). Ma'iinganag are not efficient hunters of Waawaashkeshi and studies have shown that most hunts are brief and unsuccessful (Stark, 2009).

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and Ma'iingan

Ma'iingan may play a part in controlling disease within prey species. One example is chronic wasting disease (CWD), an illness that degrades the brains of cervids (deer species) and leads to certain mortality (Geist et al., 2017). CWD has been a growing issue for Cervidae, such as Waawaashkeshiwag and

Omashkoozwag in North America. Similar to mad cow disease, CWD is understood to be caused by the misfolding of a protein (called a prion) and can be transferred directly between infected individuals and indirectly from contaminated habitat where the individual browsed, defecated, or died. This prion disease is classified as transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE), which means it can be spread between individuals and causes holes in the nervous tissue. The contagions can then remain in the environment for years. Human hunting of contaminated cervids is not as likely to reduce the prevalence or spread of CWD as Ma'iingan predation is, because humans cannot visually detect a CWD-infected deer unless it is in the late clinical stages of the disease. Humans are not likely to control CWD because we tend to harvest the healthiest individuals rather than the young, old, or sick individuals. Current trends in CWD prevalence seem to be unaffected by human hunting practices once the disease has become established on the landscape. The disease is contagious before its symptoms in infected animals are apparent to humans. Within weeks of infection, a cervid individual may become contagious, but signs of clinical-stage infection visible to humans do not manifest until 6 to 11 months after the initial infection. The disease takes 18 to 36 months to run its course, ending with the death of the cervid (Wild et al., 2011).

Ma'iinganag may be able to pick up on CWD disease cues earlier than humans, because prey individuals that carry disease or parasites often are conspicuous to non-human predators. If Ma'iingnag were to selectively prey on Waawaashkeshiwag with CWD, this could contribute to a more stable cervid population. This is because mortality would be more consistent if caused largely by predation rather than by disease. Even if Ma'iinganag do not actually have the capability of early disease detection, Ma'iingan predation on cervid populations might CWD in check by reducing population density and thus the spread of disease. Predation behavior research, however, indicates that Ma'iinganag prefer preying on young, old, and diseased individuals and this indicates that they may be capable of detecting CWD. Canines seem to break down the CWD prion within the digestive tract rather than take up the disease or continue its spread (Wild et al., 2011).

One model projects Ma'iingan, rather than humans, having a superior ability to suppress the disease within a population of cervids. This is based on the condition that Ma'iinganag remove 15 percent of the deer

population per year. This study was by no means perfect. Future research should model the risk of CWD spread from cervid carcasses, in addition to live Waawaashkeshiwag, as an indicator for the prevalence of the disease in an environment (Wild et al., 2011). In another study that took place in Spain, cattle and wild boar within Ma'iingan range were found to have less prevalence of tuberculosis (Tanner et al., 2019). Modeling showed that if Ma'iingan populations remained stable, that tuberculosis would remain controlled, but if the Ma'iingan population crashed the disease would rebound (Tanner et al., 2019).

In a closed population of Omashkooz (American elk; *Cervus elaphus*) within Rocky Mountains National Park (which is comparable in size to the Bad River Reservation), one researcher's modelingg showed that wolves could eradicate CWD in elk within 19 years (Hobbs, 2016). Omashkoozwag seem to have a slower transmission rate than Waawaashkeshkiwag and CWD seems to transfer more through indirect means such as scat (Hobbs, 2016). Still, this study is helpful to consider as Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program has a goal to return Omashkoozwag to Mashkiiziibing, and their relationship to CWD is an important consideration. The restoration of Omashkoozwag to Mashkiiziibing may even cause a more dispersed Waawaashkeshiwag population on the reservation, and thus reduce the potential for direct transmission between Waawaashkeshkiwag.

The latest estimate of Ma'iingan predation on Waawaashkeshkiwag was done by the WI DNR in 2009 (WDNR, 2009). This study found that Ma'iingan was only preying on about 1.3% of the Waawaashkeshiwag population when the Ma'iingan population in the state was estimated by the WI DNR to be about 626-662 individuals (WDNR, 2009). Though the Ma'iingan population in 2018 was estimated to be about 905-944 individuals, this population would still not reach 15 percent predation on the 2019 estimate of 1.8 million Waawaashkeshiwag in Wisconsin (WDNR, 2009; WDNR, 2019).

Causes of Ma'iingan Mortality

In a given year, approximately 70% of Ma'iingan pups die, while deaths among Ma'iinganag one year or older averages 25% of the population segment (Wydeven et al. 2012). According to Wisconsin's 2018 Year

End Ma'iingan Population Monitoring Summary, 36 adult Ma'iinganag were found dead in the state during the year, 4% of the year end count population of 925-952 Ma'iinganag. Of the 36 dead Ma'iinganag: 39% were killed by vehicles and 19% were illegally shot. Humans caused 72% of 2018's Ma'iingan mortality. More disease caused deaths occurred in 2018 than in the previous two years, with 16% of deaths attributed to disease out of 28% of deaths being attributed to natural causes as a whole (Wiedenhoeft, 2018).

Ma'iinganag are susceptible to many diseases and parasites. Canine distemper, canine parvovirus, lyme disease, and blastomycosis have all been documented in Ma'iinganag in Wisconsin (WDNR, 1999). Sarcoptic mange has also been frequently observed on Ma'iinganag and has been documented in Mashkiiziibing (Jimenez, 2010; Doolittle, 2001). Ma'iinganag are also susceptible to external parasites such as flies, ticks, fleas, mosquitoes, and mites. Historically in Wisconsin, humans are the number one cause of Ma'iingan death via poaching and car accidents (Treves et al., 2019).

Ma'iingan Behavior and Social Structure

Ma'iinganag are social animals and live in family units known as "packs." By definition, a pack always consists of at least a breeding pair (formerly known as an alpha pair). Pack size changes on an annual basis and most often consists of the pups produced that year, the previous year's surviving offspring, and sometimes older offspring that have not dispersed or an unrelated adult that was accepted into the pack. The average ma'iingan pack in Wisconsin has 3 to 4



Figure 7: Gimiwan (it rains), a breeding male reservation ma'iingan, provided by Abi Fergus

members, not including pups (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003).

Ma'iinganag typically mate from January to April. A female is in estrus for five to seven days (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003). Ma'iinganag can become breeders between one to three years of age, but not all will breed. Often, 2-3 year old Ma'iinganag disperse from their packs in order to find breeding opportunities. Ma'iingan can find a mate in a new territory or form its own pack. Ma'iingan can be accepted into a pack and wait for a breeding opportunity, or it can oust a pack breeder and take over that position (Mech, 2003).

Definition:
Tribally Protected Species – *Any species that may or may not exist on the Mashkiiziibii Reservation, that the Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council and Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program determine needs additional protections against hunting and other harms.*

Pups are born from early April to early June after a 62-63 day gestation period (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003). Litter sizes vary from one to eight pups, with an average litter size being six (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003). At four weeks old, pups will begin to leave the den; pups are able to travel

up to a mile from the den at five weeks old (Busch, 1995). Pups are moved to a "rendezvous site" once they are physically able to make the journey. A rendezvous site is an area where the pups stay while the rest of the pack hunts; it can also be referred to as a summer "nursery" site. One pack may have several rendezvous sites in its territory. At 3 months, pups will accompany adults on hunts; by seven to eight months pups actively hunt as a member of the pack (Busch, 2005).

Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Policy

Prior to the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan, the Tribe's Ma'iingan relationship policy had been to follow federal policy and to work cooperatively with the state, USFWS, and GLIFWC. After being delisted, Ma'iinganag were classified as a "*tribally protected species*" by the Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council. This classification, along with the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan, will be revisited every 5 years by the Mashkiiziibii

Tribal Council and MWP. Classification can be revisited sooner if deemed an emergency by Tribal Council and MWP.

MWP will honor the relationship between Ma'iingan and Anishinaabeg. MWP will not work towards a specific Ma'iingan population in and around Mashkiiziibing, but instead will work to ensure the long-term presence of Ma'iingan by supporting coexistence. MWP will work for a minimum ma'iingan population goal of three packs in Mashkiiziibing, as there historically have been three year round packs and one seasonal pack on the reservation. Non-lethal tactics, such as guard animals and deterrent devices, will be used to respond to and prevent conflict between Ma'iingan and domesticated animals. Under this plan, the only legal killing of Ma'iinganag will occur in circumstances where non-lethal methods have not worked or are not deemed feasible by MNRD staff to protect domesticated animals.

MWP will continue to use both traditional ecological knowledge and western science in monitoring the Ma'iingan population in Mashkiiziibing. The tribe will also continue to work with tribal, state, and federal agencies as well as with private landowners to ensure the sustainability of Ma'iinganag in Mashkiiziibing, in the state of Wisconsin, and in the Great Lakes Region.

If the Population Falls Below the Minimum Goal

MWP will not set a population cap on the Ma'iingan population in Mashkiiziibing or in the buffer zone. Since 1996, Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program has monitored three to four Ma'iingan packs utilizing the lands within the reservation. Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program has set a minimum population goal of at least three packs partially occupying the reservation.

If the population falls below this goal, immediate consultation will occur with the United States Fish & Wildlife Services and the WI DNR. Monitoring efforts and a possible reason for the population decline will be evaluated by MWP. MWP will seek to identify any major habitat changes, prey population declines, and/or possible disease outbreaks. The status of Ma'iingan outside of the reservation will also be evaluated.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge

> "In order to be involved with wolf conservation, the State and Federal government need to understand how to take care of wolves. That's what the Anishinaabe have done for years by observing and learning. Conservation of wolves is a part of our history. If we allow them to be killed, we allow ourselves to be killed." – Edith Leoso, 2017

This statement by Tribal Elder and Historic Preservation Officer Edith Leoso underlines the importance of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). TEK is passed down through generations of indigenous peoples (Service et al., 2014). This knowledge is formed over long periods of time in which an indigenous nation lives on a landscape (Adams et al., 2014). Anishinaabeg are believed to have finished the great migration to Mooninwaane'akaaning Minis (known as Madeline Island in English) around 1400 (About Anish:Timeline), but had shared the landscape of modern North America with Ma'iingan for more than 8,000 years (Our Proud History).

Generally, indigenous peoples of North America lived in a sustainable manner before colonization occurred and influenced this way of life (Wood and Wilckers, 2008). Hunter-gatherer lifestyles gave indigenous peoples an intimate knowledge of their dependency on other life, from predators to prey (Wood and Wilckers, 2008). Anishinaabeg have learned skills and morals from Awesiinhyag (animals) and animal Manidoog (spirits) (Benton-Banai, 1988). Anishinaabeg hold a wealth of knowledge in coexisting with Ma'iingan held by tribal members and in traditional stories.

In addition to the Anishinaabe creation story involving Ma'iingan, various other stories involve Ma'iingan teaching lessons to Anishinaabeg (Usik, 2015). These stories often reflect what environmental values Anishinaabeg have traditionally held. The analysis of these stories and the lessons Anishinaabeg gain from them may also help to shed light on how they successfully co-inhabited North America with Ma'iingan. One Anishinaabe value these stories exemplify is that humans are lesser than other members of their ecosystem, because of the dependence humans have on other biota to survive. This contrasts with Western attitudes of dominance over the natural world, which much the scientific community is influenced by.

The wildlife program will pursue TEK on Ma'iingan, value it along with the scientific method, and incorporate it into its conservation work. Thus far, this knowledge has been pursued at elder lunches, community events, and a conversation circle leading up to the 2018 update of the Ma'iingan Management plan. The wildlife program will accept knowledge that may help inform Ma'iingan conservation at any time. Adams et al. (2014) outlines a framework we can use to form research questions based on TEK while using the scientific method so that those who have not yet accepted TEK for its inherent value may accept the same knowledge in the form of scientific results.

Mashkiiziibii's Policy on the Harvest of Ma'iinganag

To Anishinaabeg, the loss of one Ma'iingan is equal to that of a loss of a brother/sister. All ma'iinganag are sacred to Anishinaabeg, therefore the Mashkiiziibii Tribe does not support the killing of Ma'iinganag, but does understand the importance of protecting one's animal companions.

At the Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council meeting on May 9th, 2012, the Tribal Council and the community members present spoke out against the sport killing of Ma'iinganag. At that meeting, the Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council approved an emergency rule prohibiting the harvest of Ma'iinganag within the exterior boundaries of Mashkiiziibing. The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is opposed to the recent State of Wisconsin Ma'iingan hunts and the interpretation of the 350 Ma'iingan population number in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan as being an upper limit on Ma'iingan's population (Appendix A). The Mashkiiziibii Tribe knows that there should be no population cap placed on Ma'iingan and that the State should focus on supporting coexistence with Ma'iingan.

Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program Responsibilities

The Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist will be responsible for the implementation of this plan. The Wildlife Specialist, with the assistance of Tribal Wardens, will also be responsible for co-investigations conducted within the buffer area surrounding the reservation, depredation investigations within the exterior

boundaries of the reservation, the coordination of inter-agency monitoring and conservation activities, and the annual recording of the reservation Ma'iingan population.

The Wildlife Specialist will also be responsible for participating in any state, federal, tribal and regional meetings regarding Ma'iingan. Summaries of these meeting will be kept on file at the MNRD office and updates will be provided to the MNRD Department Director on an annual basis. MWP will continue to provide comments on proposed state and federal Ma'iingan conservation strategies and documents. Routine coordination will occur with federal, state, and surrounding land managers to ensure proper protections for Ma'iinganag are taking place to ensure protection of the local population.

Regulations under this Ma'iingan Relationship Plan will be enforced by Mashkiiziibii Tribal Wardens and necessary coordination with federal, state, and local authorities will occur under the guidelines of this plan.

What makes a Ma'iingan a "Reservation Ma'iingan?"

During the delisting process and the introduction of Wisconsin Act 169 2011, the term "reservation wolf" or "reservation pack" was commonly used. MWP defines a reservation Ma'iingan as a Ma'iingan or pack whose home range is found, at least in part, within the exterior boundaries of Mashkiiziibing. This information has been confirmed by radio collar locations and combined tracking efforts between MNRD and WDNR. These packs shall be protected when they travel off-reservation as well as when they remain on reservation.

Conservation Responsibility in the Buffer Zone

Mashkiiziibii has sovereignty over the reservation and holds rights to hunt, fish, and gather in the ceded territory, which makes up roughly the northern third of modern-day Wisconsin. Ma'iingan does not recognize human political boundaries. Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan research dating back to 1996 shows that reservation wolves regularly travel off reservation. The following map of a collared Ma'iingan demonstrates how reservation Ma'iinganag travel throughout the six mile buffer of Mashkiiziibing.

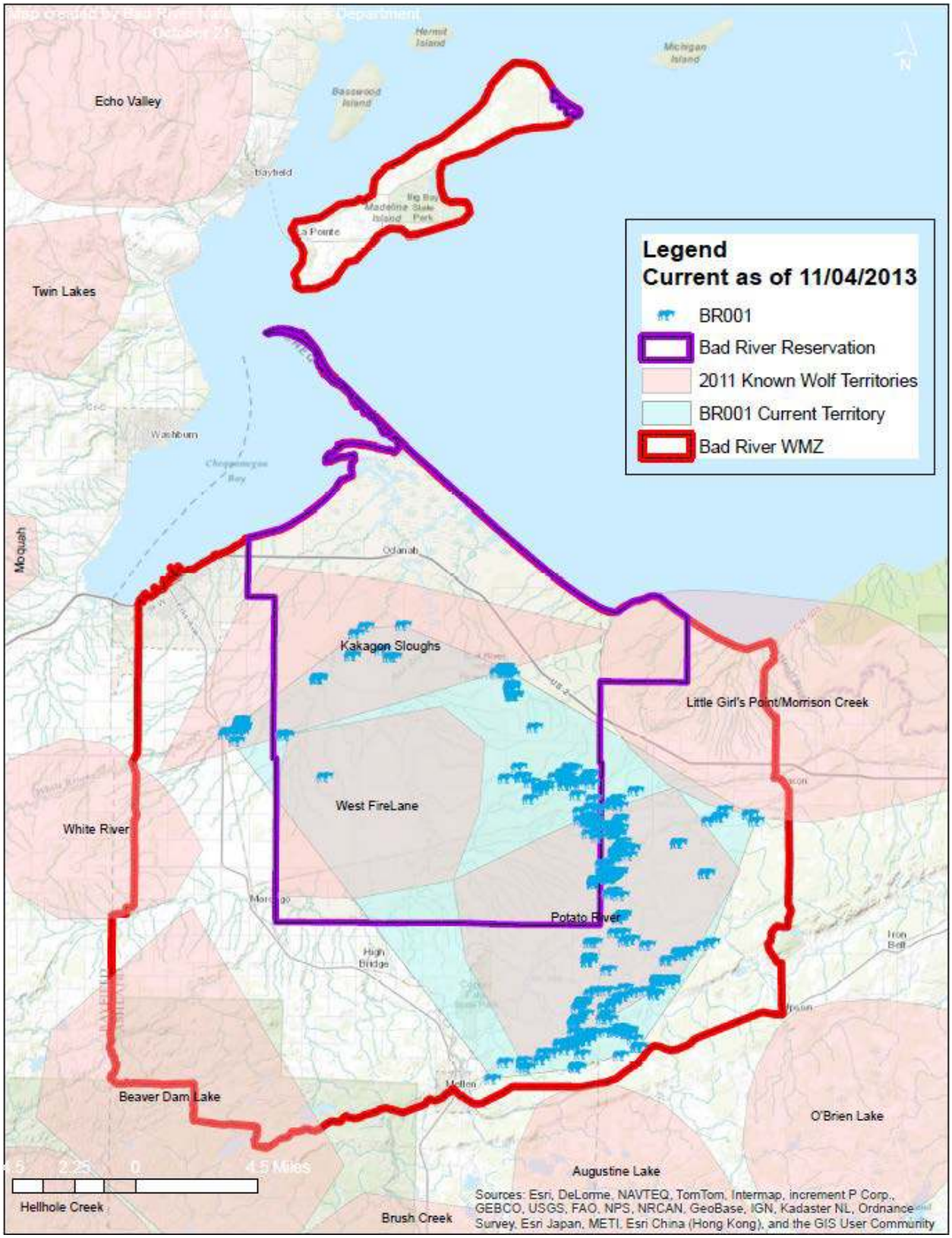


Figure 8: Movement of a formerly radio collared ma'iingan on the Mashkiiziibii reservation

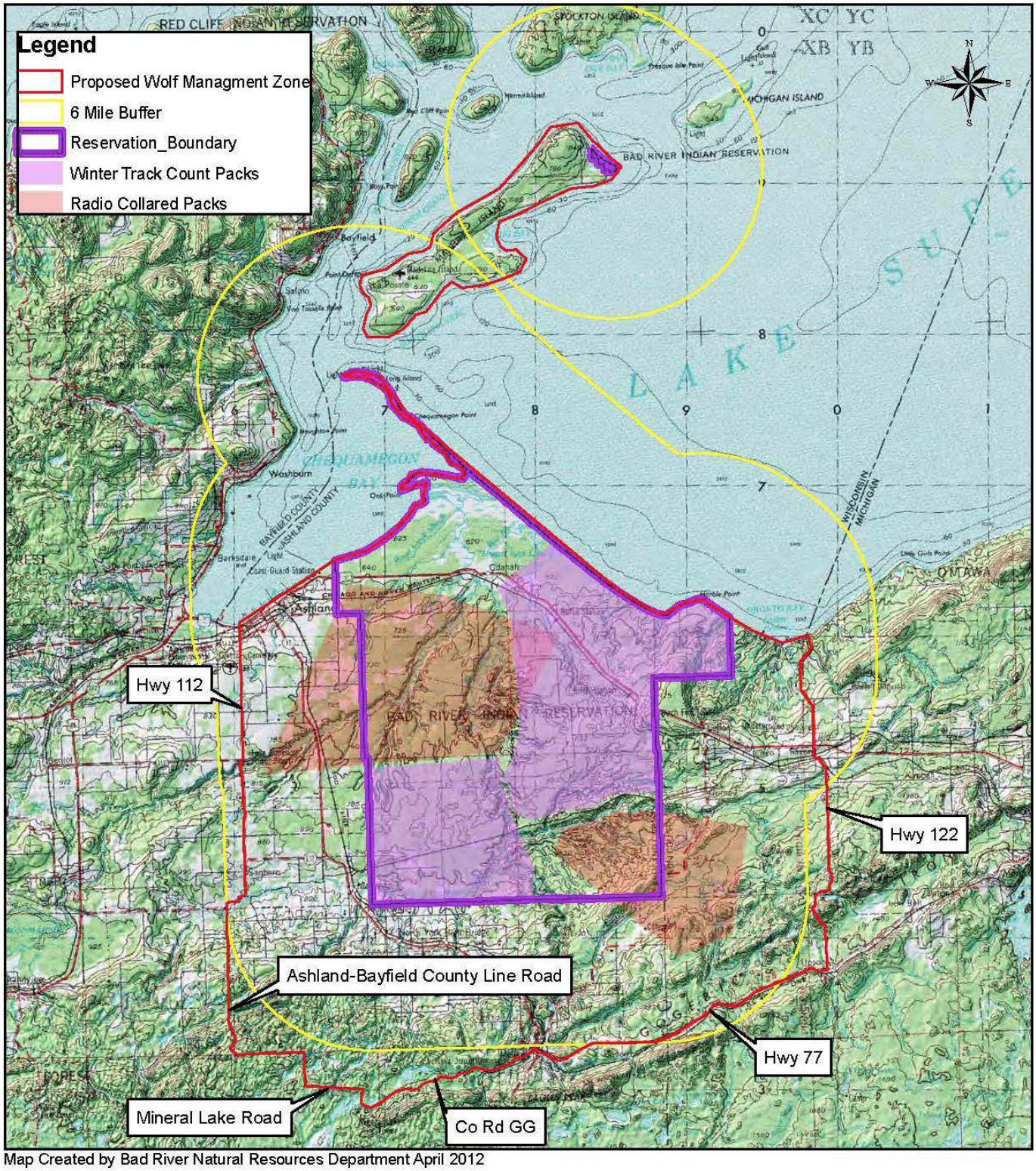
For Mashkiiziibii's sovereignty to be honored, extended protections for reservation Ma'iingan must be recognized by the state. Mashkiiziibii has been advocating to the State of Wisconsin for the protection of reservation wolves, which also travel off reservation, at least since the early 2000s (when Ma'iingan was temporarily federally delisted) (Doolittle, 2001).

In the State of Wisconsin, the WDNR, APHIS-WS, and tribes with large reservations have been working cooperatively on reservations, within a six mile buffer of the reservations, and within the ceded territories. If there is a conflict between people and Ma'iinganag within six miles of a reservation (Bad River, Red Cliff, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac Du Flambeau, Menominee, Stockbridge-Munsee), tribal representatives are to be notified and to be given the opportunity to investigate the scene with APHIS-WS professionals. At an investigation, a reactive depredation control method is discussed with all parties including the landowner.

The Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan extends beyond the reservation's boundaries, encompassing six miles around the reservation's borders (Figure 9). The buffer zone boundary runs along easily distinguishable roads to reduce possible confusion. The unit runs from Chequamegon Bay along Hwy 112, to Ashland-Bayfield County Line Road, to Mineral Lake Road, to Co Rd GG, to Hwy 77, then back along Hwy 122, and ends at the Wisconsin-Michigan border. A portion of Mashkiiziibing is located on Mooninwaane'akaaning Minis (Madeline Island). Ma'iingan is not currently known to live on Mooninwaane'akaaning Minis, but Ma'iingan has been document on Stockton Island (the largest of the Apostle Islands) and the buffer zone extends around the reservation land on Mooninwaane'akaaning Minis (Allen et al., 2016). Within this zone, there shall be a zero quota for public harvest. The Tribe does recognize the importance of private landowners and their need to protect their domesticated animals. Therefore, the tribe is understanding of the issuance of an individual landowner permit to kill Ma'iingan **as a last resort**, as long as the following circumstances apply:

- Domesticated animal depredations have occurred within the last six months and there was tribal representation on the investigation
- Other non-lethal abatement methods were tried and documented but found unsuccessful
- Multiple domesticated animal damages (adverse health effects or death resulting from a verified ma'iingan attack) have occurred and have been verified to have been caused by ma'iingan by co-investigations with tribal staff
- After co-investigations with APHIS-WS and MNRD, it has been determined that lethal methods are appropriate

MWP understands that there are diverse, non-lethal tactics to coexist with Ma'iingan and which are ethically, scientifically, and culturally better options than lethal action. The Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist needs to be involved in depredation investigations within the buffer zone. Because of the small number of Ma'iinganag associated with Mashkiiziibing and their frequent use of both on and off-reservation lands, the impact of depredation control is significant.



Map Created by Bad River Natural Resources Department April 2012

*Red polygons are Minimum Convex Polygons created from location data collected on radio collared individual by the WDNR.
Purple polygons are packs known to exist from winter track counts, observations, and other infomation collected by staff.
More data needs to be collected outside of the exterior boundary of the reservation to complete polygons.

1 in = 5 miles

Figure 9: Map of buffer zone and reservation packs

Ma'iingan and Livestock

In the most recent 5 year report from the USDA on cattle mortality, a historic trend continued in which predators accounted only for a small percentage of cattle deaths (Figure 10; USDA, 2017).

Figure 10: USDA data on cause of cattle mortality

More than 30 livestock operations surround the reservation within the buffer zone (Figure 9), making Ma'iingan-livestock conflict an area of concern in Ma'iingan conservation. Many factors go into whether a population of Ma'iinganag shows a preference for livestock or for their natural prey. In some cases, high populations of a single natural prey species are less appealing to Ma'iinganag than livestock predation, but multiple and smaller populations of native ungulates will draw Ma'iingan more than farm animals will (Treves et al., 2004; Meriggi and Lovari, 1996). One reason for this predation trend may be that a single species experiencing constant predation from Ma'iingnag may learn more quickly how to evade the predator. For example, Waawaashkeshi retain instinctual responses to lower their vulnerability to predation (Nelson and Mech, 1994). Domesticated animals, though, have lost their ancestor's natural defenses against predation, thanks to selective breeding (Smith-Thomas, 2016). This presents an argument for returning historically native cervids, such as Omashkooz (American elk; *Cervus elaphus*), to Mashkiiziibing.

A three-year Minnesota study of Ma'iingan movements showed that the majority of instances of the animal on pasture lands were by chance passing (Chavez and Gese, 2006). These results were based on comparisons to simulations of what random activity would look like in Ma'iingan movement. Not all Ma'iingan visits to livestock in entailed a case of depredation. During the three years of the study, eight young or vulnerable farm animals were killed by Ma'iingnag (Chavez and Gese, 2006). Chance passing of livestock land in the pursuit of natural prey, though, can result in livestock depredation due to the fact that they are an easier meal for Ma'iingan (Amirkhiz et al., 2018).

Habitat variables and secondary prey may influence whether Ma'iingan pursues livestock or natural prey. There have been studies that both show Ma'iingan to prey more heavily on livestock despite a healthy availability of natural prey (Treves et al., 2004) and show Ma'iingan to prey more heavily on natural, secondary prey despite livestock being more readily available (Chavez and Gese, 2005). In the first study, the reason for heavy livestock predation was hypothesized to be due to the landscape consisting largely of pasture rather than being intermingled with forest, wetlands and open water (Treves et al., 2004; Treves et al., 2011). In the second study Wazhashk (Muskrat; *Ondatra zibethicus*) made up the second largest percentage of Ma'iingan's

diet, which may indicate that presence of secondary prey helps to reduce livestock predation (Chavez and Gese, 2005). More research is needed to understand wolf predation on livestock, its influencing variables, and its prevention. Still, it seems that conserving biodiversity, and thus giving Ma'iingan varied prey options, may help to prevent Ma'iingan conflict with livestock.

It's also important to note that Ma'iingan predation on livestock and native prey may be overemphasized by those who have bad feelings toward Ma'iingan. Depending on the location, Makwag may prey on just as many Waawaashkeshi fawns as Ma'iingan does (Kunkel and Mech, 1994). Wiisagi-Ma'iingan are known to be a significant cause of sheep and goat depredation (Mitchell, Jaeger, and Barret, 2004).

Coexistence

Encouraging coexistence with Ma'iingan is essential to an effective relationship plan, because human caused mortality is the number one killer of Ma'iingan in Wisconsin (Treves et al., 2019). Additionally, Ma'iinganag and other predators can kill and eat domestic animals, including sheep, cows, chickens, and dogs. It doesn't happen often, but it can have great impacts to the individual experiencing the loss. Any conflicts with Ma'iinganag or other predators in Mashkiiziibing or within the buffer zone surrounding the reservation shall be reported to the MNRD Wildlife Specialist (see appendix for contact information) within 24 hours of the occurrence by either the individual or the immediate responding agency.

In order for conflict investigations to remain consistent, MNRD will follow the verification procedures provided by APHIS-WS and the WDNR and will ensure all parties are notified of predator-livestock conflict in a timely manner. Authority to make reactive decisions after Ma'iingan conflict in Wisconsin (outside of reservations) is held by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Authority to make reactive decisions after Ma'iingan conflict on Mashkiiziibii lands is held by the MNRD. On private lands within the exterior boundaries of Mashkiiziibing and within the designated buffer area surrounding the reservation, authority shall be shared between the State and MNRD.

If a depredation does occur, all traffic in the vicinity must be kept to a minimum and the depredated animal must be covered with a tarp until designated staff are able to arrive and complete a thorough investigation. Photos shall be taken of the incident and an incident report shall be completed and kept on file at the MNRD. Copies of these reports shall also be provided to all parties involved in the conflict, and copies of reports from other agencies shall also be collected and placed on file at the MNRD.

If Ma'iinganag are again delisted federally, private landowners will have the right to shoot and kill Ma'iinganag in the act of killing, wounding, or biting a person's domesticated animals on their own private property as stated by Wisconsin NR code 10.02(1)(b). In this event, the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist and appropriate staff from WDNR and APHIS-WS must be notified immediately by the landowner or current caretaker of the property where damage has occurred to investigate the scene. See Appendix D for contact information. Any Ma'iinganag killed for the above listed reasons shall not be kept by the responsible party. All Ma'iinganag shall be respectfully handled by the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist and/or the MNRD Tribal Game Wardens.

The Tribe does not provide financial assistance for animals lost to or injured by Ma'iinganag. The MNRD can offer assistance and education on prevention tactics and on state and federal reimbursement programs. Conflict issues will be dealt with on a case by case basis. As a federal agency, APHIS-WS will co-investigate any depredation occurring within the exterior boundaries of the reservation as well as any occurring within the designated buffer area surrounding the reservation with the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist.

Preventing and Responding to Depredations on Livestock

A goal of MWP is to help identify non-lethal solutions to prevent predator-livestock conflict. The killing of individual animals that may have caused a depredation can lead to more issues, instead of effectively protecting livestock (Treves et al., 2015). Ma'iingan packs may break up if a member, especially the breeding

female, is killed (Treves et al., 2015). The breakup of a Ma'iingan pack can lead to young, dispersing Ma'iinganag or to wisagi-ma'iingan replacing the pack's niche. Young, dispersing Ma'iinganag have been shown to be more likely to go after livestock (Vucetich et al., 2013). A more promising solution is to understand the individual predators we share the landscape with and to establish an understanding with them that livestock are not acceptable prey items. This can be done with a menu of husbandry and deterrent practices.

The key to determining a long term, non-lethal solution is to determine the mechanism that is driving these depredations to occur. The impact that Ma'iinganag have on farms across Ma'iingan country is minimal compared to other negative impacts, but to one farm that has repeated depredations by Ma'iinganag, it can be emotionally and financially devasting (Breck and Meier, 2004). After an investigation has occurred in cooperation with MWP, APHIS-WS, and WDNR, the cooperating agencies will work with the landowner on site to develop a Depredation Prevention Plan with a list of recommendations to reduce the future risks of depredations. Recommendations will vary depending on the landowner and the circumstances. The Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist is also available for depredation prevention consultation before and incident has occurred. This may entail signing an agreement between MWP and the livestock owner to lend out deterrents such as light makers and noise makers when available, free of charge.

In 2019, Abi Fergus began her master's education at University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Nelson Institute and Carnivore Coexistence Lab. She studied the potential of non-lethal deterrents to keep Ma'iingan and other predators away from livestock operations surrounding the reservation. By the 2023 update of the Ma'iingan Plan, findings from our research will be available to inform future carnivore-livestock coexistence on the reservation and in the buffer zone.

Disturbance Protection

Studies have shown that Ma'iinganag do not tolerate human activity around den sites (Paquet and Carbyn, 2003). MWP will establish a 1.5 mile (2.4 km) buffer around known, active Ma'iingan den locations from March 1st to July 1st. Since pups are more mobile later in summer, and since packs usually have multiple rendezvous sites, there will be no human disturbance restrictions on rendezvous sites. The buffer area around den sites will be considered when MNRD staff reviews proposed timber sales, development proposals, and certain access permits.

Incidental Ma'iingan Capture or Mortality

In the event of a trapper incidentally catching Ma'iingan, it shall be immediately released or the aid of Mashkiiziibii wardens and wildlife specialist is to be immediately requested. In the event that a dead Ma'iingan is found anywhere in Mashkiiziibing or within the buffer area surrounding the reservation, the MNRD Wildlife Specialist must be notified immediately by the party that found Ma'iingan or by the immediate investigating agency, whether it be APHIS-WS or WDNR. Depending on the location of Ma'iingan, other authorities may also need to be notified. Upon notification, the scene will be investigated by the proper authorities and Ma'iingan's remains will be handled respectfully by MWP.

Any Ma'iinganag found deceased in Mashkiiziibing shall be handled in a respectful way by MWP. Samples may be taken from individuals if deemed necessary for biological studies or law enforcement investigations. MWP will cooperate with a certified lab for necropsies and biological sampling of individuals. Some furs and skulls may be kept for educational and cultural purposes.

How to Obtain a Ma'iingan Fur

Each year, a number of Ma'iinganag are obtained by the WDNR. These Ma'iinganag are either found dead (during periods of delisting) or taken legally by lethal abatement methods conducted by APHIS-WS or private landowners off-reservation. These Ma'iinganag can be made available for educational or cultural uses.

Mashkiiziibii members interested in obtaining Ma'iingan's fur or any parts of Ma'iingan should contact the Maskiiziibii Wildlife Specialist. Distributions of Ma'iingan's fur shall happen on a first come first serve basis and will ultimately need to be approved by the Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council.

Education and Outreach

MNRD shall use a variety of media to help keep the community informed about Ma'iingan in and outside of Mashkiiziibing. These media will include information at public events held by MNRD, updates in the MNRD quarterly newsletter, and information on the Tribe's website. Changes to the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan will also include at least one public meeting to enable the community to comment on the proposed changes (Appendix E). To stay updated on reservation Ma'iingan visit the wildlife website at http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wildlife/, read Common Ground (http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/news/) the department's quarterly publication, or contact the Wildlife Specialist.

Research and Monitoring of Ma'iinganag in Mashkiiziibing

MWP has been monitoring the Ma'iingan population on the reservation since 1996. The Tribe has worked cooperatively in this effort with the WDNR, USFWS, and APHIS-WS. Methods MWP currently uses are as follows: winter track surveys, howling surveys, scat surveys, and keeping a Ma'iingan observations log book.

Winter track surveys and howling surveys are valuable tools for monitoring the reservation's Ma'iingan population. MWP follows similar winter track survey and howling survey protocols established by the WDNR, which helps in our joint effort to monitor Ma'iinganag both on and off reservation. The protocols for these surveys can be found in Appendix C and the department welcomes any Mashkiiziibii member to participate in these surveys independently or along with the Wildlife Specialist. This data collected by MWP is shared with WDNR and other cooperating agencies to help paint the full picture of how the Ma'iingan population is doing in the Great Lakes region.

MWP also keeps a Ma'iingan observation log. When people report a Ma'iingan sighting on the reservation, the department obtains information on the location, number of animals, color, and size. Following a reported sighting, the Tribal Wildlife Specialist or a Tribal Warden will investigate the sighting and obtain information that can be used to help estimate the reservation's Ma'iingan population. MWP also collects trail cam photos from hunters on the reservation to document Ma'iingan sightings. Photos can be emailed to the Wildlife Specialist at wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov or delivered to the MNRD office in the Chief Blackbird Building.

Scat is collected by MNRD Wildlife program staff when found anywhere on the reservation. This scat can be used to monitor Ma'iingan population health by examining it for viruses, parasite levels, diet, and inbreeding. MWP will coordinate with a certified lab for the analysis of the samples if/when funding is available.

Future Ma'iingan Program Needs

MWP will continue to work with state and federal agencies as well as neighboring landowners in the monitoring of and relationship building with the local Ma'iingan population. MWP will put a continued effort into building a citizen monitoring network to aid MWP in acquiring more knowledge about the resident Ma'iingan packs. Conducting howl surveys is a great opportunity for the community to connect with brother Ma'iingan and citizen monitoring would help relieve the wildlife program to diversify its wildlife monitoring work. Citizen monitoring can also be used as an education/outreach tool for children and local school groups. There is a continued need to study Ma'iingan's local diet by analyzing how many Amikwag and Waawaashkeshiwag Ma'iingan is eating from season to season. Unnatural sources of food such as bait piles and livestock carcass pits have been documented on or near the reservation, further justifying the importance of a diet analysis. Ma'iingan diets have not been studied in Wisconsin since 1980, when the population had not begun its large climb in the 1990s.

With this update to the relationship plan, MWP is moving away from putting GPS and VHF collars on brother Ma'iingan. This is an important time to demonstrate how we can come to understand Ma'iingan with tracks, scat, howls, and trail camera pictures, rather than by using invasive monitoring methods that entail some risk to Ma'iingan. Potential research partners who honor the Anishinaabe value of reciprocity are encouraged to reach out the MWP with proposals for collaborative research.

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Appendix A. Overview of ESA status and state and tribal Ma'iingan conservation

ESA: Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment of Gray Wolves

As of the 2019 update of this plan, Ma'iinganag in the Great Lakes Region were federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. When Ma'iingan is delisted, it is the responsibility of states and of tribes to conserve Ma'iingan cooperatively.



Figure 11: Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment

Summary Wisconsin's Ma'iingan Relationship Plan (1999)

In 1999, the WDNR developed a Wolf Management Plan to help formalize Ma'iingan relationship in the state. Many components of the plan could not be implemented until after federal delisting occurred. Ma'iinganag in Wisconsin were briefly delisted in both 2008 and 2009, but subsequently relisted following legal challenges, before delisting again in 2012 and then relisting in 2014.

The WDNR chose to use management zones as part of the state-wide Wolf Management Plan. There are currently four wolf management zones in the state of Wisconsin: Zone 1 – The Northern Forest Zone, Zone 2 – The Central Forest Zone, Zone 3 – The wolf buffer area, and Zone 4 – southern area that the State presumes has little to no opportunity for colonization by Ma'iingan packs. Mashkiiziibing is located in Zone 1. Zone 1 includes 634 square miles of Indian reservations, which, in most cases, will remain as protective areas

for Ma'iinganag. Zone 1 is considered to have the most suitable Ma'iingan habitat in the state, because it is a mostly forested landscape with few agricultural and urban areas.

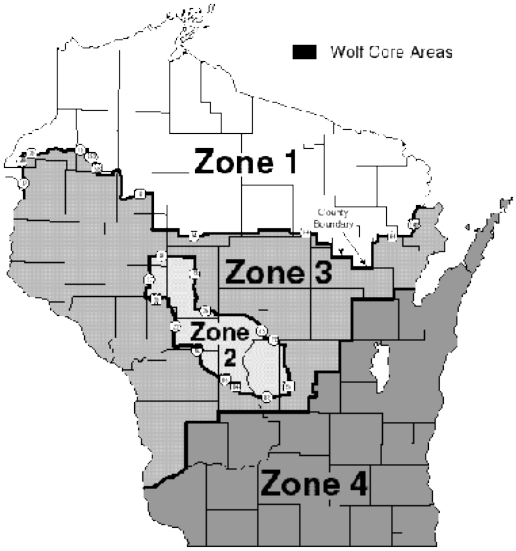


Figure 12: Wolf management zones as documented in 1999 Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

From 2012 to 2014, when Ma'iingan was delisted in the Great Lakes region, the WI DNR primarily used lethal control at what the agency confirmed as depredation locations. Control of depredating Ma'iinganag can be done by landowners/occupants acting on private land under WDNR permit or by government trappers; landowners can also kill Ma'iinganag that are in the act of attacking pets or livestock on their land under NR 10.02(1)(b).

The WDNR's minimum population goal for the state is 350 Ma'iinganag. Ma'iinganag will be relisted as threatened by the state if the population falls below 250 Ma'iinganag for three years, and as endangered if they fall below eighty. As long as the state's Ma'iingan population remains above target levels, lethal management will continue in areas with a history of depredating Ma'iinganag or a high probability of Livestock-Ma'iingan conflict.

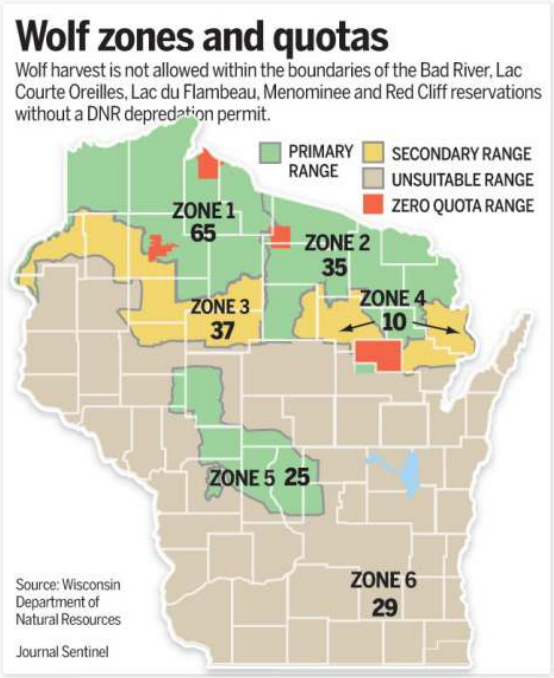


Figure13: 2012 WDNR Proposed Ma'iingan Harvest Zones and Quotas. The quotas are subject to change on an annual basis.

A Ma'iingan Season in Wisconsin

On January 31st, 2012 Senate Bill 411 was introduced by Senators Moulton, Holperin, and Lasee. The bill was related to the hunting and trapping of Ma'iinganag in Wisconsin. On March 30th, 2012 the bill was

presented to the Governor Scott Walker. The bill is now known as 2011 Wisconsin Act 169 which was published on April 16th, 2012. On October 15th, 2012, Ma'iingan hunting and trapping began under a permit/quota system with the exception that the following reservations were closed to harvesting: Mashkiiziibii, Red Cliff, Lac Courte Orielles, Lac du Flambeau, Menominee, and Stockbridge-Munsee.

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board (NRB) chose a total harvest quota for the 2012 season to be 201 individuals. This quota predicted a reduction in the state Ma'iingan population by 14%. WDNR divided the state into six zones excluding the six reservations previously mentioned, and set there harvest goals for each zone. Twenty percent of the known minimum Ma'iingan population in zones one, two, and five would be harvested, forty percent of zones three and four, and seventy five percent of zone six would be harvested. The percentage was set high for zone six because this is deemed as unsuitable Ma'iingan habitat by the state of Wisconsin due to probability for human-Ma'iingan conflict.

The WDNR then took the quota of 201 individuals and subtracted half of the harvest quota in the ceded territories for the tribes to claim based on the LCO vs. Voigt case requirements. Half of the ceded territory quota amounted to 85 leaving the final 2012 Ma'iingan season quota at 116 individuals. The quota of 116 animals established for state harvesters was reached by December 23rd, 2012; no WI tribe allowed on or off-reservation Ma'iingan seasons for their members in 2012.

The total known human caused mortality of Ma'iinganag for 2012 was 243 individuals. There were 117 killed under the 2012 Ma'iingan hunt, 76 under depredation controls (including landowner permits), 24 documented vehicle collision, 21 known illegal kills, and 5 unknown mortalities. The minimum population count for the 2011-2012 tracking season ranged from 815-880. The midpoint of this would leave use with a minimum population estimate of 847, which would leave us with a 29% human caused mortality of the 2012 minimum population count. Now keep in mind that is a minimum count and does not include pups that were born in the spring of 2012.

Following similar hunts that took place in the modern State of Michigan, a number of well-respected ma'iingan researchers collaborated on a review of the lack of scientific or ethical justification behind the way in which the Michigan Ma'iingan hunts were conducted (which is similar to what occurred in Wisconsin). The Michigan Department of Natural Resources explained that the purpose behind its 2013 Ma'iingan Harvest season was to reduce the potential of conflict between Ma'iingan and livestock or Ma'iingan and humans. The MI DNR did not substantiate its harvest plan with any scientific evaluation. Employing scientific research, the authors of the paper pointed out issues in the reasoning behind and execution of the Michigan Harvest Season. The researchers concluded:

- Hunting Ma'iingan doesn't teach other Ma'iinganag not to visit farms
- In order to reduce the amount of depredations that occur on farms, an unacceptable 20% of the Ma'iingan population would have needed to be hunted
- The Michigan Harvest Plan does not include adaptive management language to change the plan in response to how the hunt would affect the Ma'iingan population

Wisconsin Landowner Ma'iingan Control Permits

When Ma'iingan is delisted in the Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment, the WDNR has had authority to issue permits for the shooting or trapping of Ma'iinganag on privately owned property. The criteria for obtaining a Ma'iingan control permit are as follows:

- At least one verified depredation has occurred within the last 2 years on owned or leased land;
- A verified depredation has occurred within one mile of the applicant's property with vulnerable animals within the current calendar year;

- Human safety concern from Ma'iinganag exists on the property as determined by U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services or WDNR; or
- Harassment of livestock is occurring and based on the judgment of Wildlife Service's a permit should be issued.

Permits are usually valid for 90 days after issuance and can be renewed by the WDNR. Hunting and trapping of Ma'iinganag is allowed under these permits, often with no limit to the number of animals to be removed or destroyed. The following are additional permit conditions:

- Authorized participants are the permittee and resident family members. Up to two additional persons may be designated at the time of permit issuance to assist with the removal of Ma'iinganag. Assistants must be listed on permit.
- Shooting hours will be normal hunting hours, unless Ma'iinganag are in the act of killing or attacking domestic animals.
- Baiting is not allowed. All livestock that is killed must be disposed of pursuant to Section 95.50, Wisconsin Statutes.
- Shooting and trapping will only be permitted on land owned or leased by the permittee.
- All Ma'iinganag shot or trapped must be reported within 24 hours and turned over to the Department.
- A trapping license is required for trapping of Ma'iinganag as are specific trapping techniques and equipment which will be conditions of any trapping permits issued.

As a result, the MWP works with the state and APHIS to investigate reports of potential Ma'iingan depredation both within the reservation's exterior boundary, and within the surrounding buffer zone. While lethal depredation control may be permitted when depredation is verified and non-lethal

methods are considered un-effective, it may also not be approved if the impacts to local packs is deemed exclusive.

Appendix B. Ma'iingan Survey Protocols and Forms

Winter Carnivore Tracking Survey Form and Protocol

Developed using standardized survey methods provided by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

(Wydeven, A., et. al. 2004. Guidelines for Carnivore Tracking During Winter in Wisconsin. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/mammals/volunteer/pdfs/tracking_guidelines.pdf)

Introduction

Since wildlife does not know our political boundaries, it is important to work in cooperation with neighboring agencies to better monitor and assess population trends. To standardize survey methods, the tribal survey methodology was modeled after the already existing guidelines provided by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. However, some of the guidelines have been modified to better suit the need of the reservation.

Tools Needed

- Tracking guide book(s)
- Detailed map of the survey area
- Data sheet, clipboard, and pencils
- 6 in ruler and tape measure
- Camera
- GPS

Completing the Data Forms

-Please make sure forms are ***completely*** filled out. If you have any questions pertaining to the forms please call the wildlife specialist @ 715-685-7840 ext 1554

Surveyor(s): Names of people conducting track survey

Date: Month/Day/Year track survey was completed

Survey Block ID: See attached map for survey block ID's.

Survey Start Time: Time survey began.

End Time: Time Survey ended that day.

Temperature: Temperature at the beginning of the survey.

Time of Last Snow Fall: If it snowed within the last 48 hours, write down how many hours it has been since the last snowfall. If it hasn't snowed for more than 48 hours record the number of days since last snowfall.

Snow depth: Record the total snow depth in inches. Avoid areas of plowed, drifted, or under trees were snow depth is affected.

New Snow Depth on Road: Record amount of snow present on the road of survey in inches. This may change as you move onto new roads make sure to record this in the comments section.

Amount of snow from last snowfall: Record in inches how much snow was received our last snowfall.

Percent Cloud Cover: Circle percentage nearest to the amount of cloud cover.

Rate Track Conditions:

Poor: It is snowing heavily, hasn't snowed in a while, heavy crust on snow layer impacting amount of tracks present.
OK: Tracks are visible but lack detail near road, need to follow off road a little ways to identify.
Good: Tracks register well in the snow. Some lack details necessary to distinguish between similar species.
Excellent: Tracks register well and show a good amount of detail. Tracks are easily distinguishable.

When you Encounter Tracks

1) Consult your tracking guide to identify the species that made the tracks.
    a. Some species tracks may look similar so make sure to pay close attention to the gait pattern (sequence of foot movements).
    b. Sometimes it may be necessary to follow the tracks into the woods a short distance to find a better track that is more easily identifiable.
2) When Ma'iingan tracks are encountered follow the protocols in the Ma'iingan tracking guidelines (see attached). A photo of the track next to the ruler should be taken as well as a GPS location.
3) If rare species such as: Elk, Moose, Cougar, Canada Lynx, or wolverines are identified. A GPS location should be taken at the site. (See below for GPS location protocol)
4) For all species but Ma'iinganag, all tracks encountered within 0.3 s of each other should be recorded as one animal.
    a. For Ma'iinganag follow tracks backward and forward until you can get a good count of the number of animals present. Ma'iinganag will often loop around and follow portions of a route more than once, so what appears to be the tracks of four animals may only be two Ma'iinganag.
5) Record any other related sign encountered while tracking. (Carcasses killed or scavenged by carnivores, signs of urinations (raised leg urination or squat urination), evidence of blood in the urine, scat…)

6) If you are uncertain about a track record UNK on the data sheet, record the location, and take a few photographs and ask the Wildlife Specialist about it.

Key Points to Remember

- Canines (dog family) vs. Felines (cat family)
  - To distinguish the difference between these tracks check for claw marks. Members of the cat family have retractable claws and rarely show claw marks in the snow. If they do they appear thin and knifelike.
  - The heel pad on a cat will be asymmetrical and have 3 similar sized lobes on the bottom of the track. A dog's heel pad will be symmetrical, the lobes on the bottom will not be similar in size, and the top of the pad will be more round and pointed.
- Measure any small fisher tracks to make sure they are not marten tracks. Fisher tracks will generally be at least 1.6 inches long and 1.5 inches wide.

Winter Track Survey Form

Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department
Questions Contact:
Lacey Hill, Wildlife/GIS Specialist
715-682-7123

Surveyor(s):_____ Date:
Survey Block ID: _____ Survey Start time:_____ End time:
Weather and Tracking Conditions:
Temperature: _____Time of last snow fall (in hours if less than 48 otherwise days**):_____**
Snow Depth (inches): _____New Snow Depth on Road: _____
Amount of Snow from last snowfall (inches): _____
Percent Cloud Cover (circle one): 0% 25% 50% 75% 100%
Rate Tracking Conditions (circle one): Poor OK Good Excellent

Species Key:

Canids: CY = Coyote, D = Dog, F = Fox, W = Ma'iingan **Mustelids:** B = Badger, FI = Fisher, O = Otter, S = Skunk, PM = Pine Martin, OW = Other Weasel **Felids:** BC = Bobcat, CT = Cat, L = Lynx, CO = Cougar **Other:** BR = Bear, BV = Beaver, P = Porcupine, R = Raccoon, WTD = White-tailed deer

Road(s) and Direction(s) of Travel	Mileage	Canids	Mustelids	Felids	Other	Notes and Comments

Ma'iingan Howling Survey Form and Protocol

HOWL SURVEYS FOR MA'IINGANAG IN WISCONSIN

By Adrian P. Wydeven

Howling surveys are conducted to determine general location, home site locations, general abundance and pup production in Ma'iingan packs. Use the article by Harrington and Mech (1982, J. Wildl. Manage. 46: 686-693) as a general guide on doing Ma'iingan howling surveys.

Surveys usually should be done from June 20 through October, with July and August being the best period. Time of day should be from ½ hour after sunset until 1:00 or 2:00 a.m. Areas to be covered should consist of a series of roads that traverse or surround the likely territory of Ma'iinganag. Howl attempts should be made at about 1.5 mile intervals, but can be modified by 0.2 to 0.3 miles to avoid hollows, occupied residences or noisy stream edge, and to take advantage of higher elevations. Also, make special attempts to howl from most intersections.

At each stop, walk about 100 feet from your vehicle. Start off with 4-5 quiet howls for about 25-30 seconds. Wait 90 seconds for a response. If no response, give 4-5 loud howls for 25-30 seconds. Again, wait 90 seconds for a response. Give a second series of loud howls followed by 90 seconds of waiting time if no response occurs. If no responses after this third howling attempt, drive to your next stop.

Use of the Howl Survey Form

General Location: List area being covered, especially the county and pack name.

Start Location: Write the legal description of the first howl attempt stop.

End Location: Write the legal description of the last howl attempt stop.

Date: Date of survey; remember that if you go past midnight the date will change.

Temp: Temperature at start of survey.

Skies: List percentage of cloud cover.

Precip: Indicate any precipitation falling; if moderate to heavy rain occurs, stop survey.

Wind: Indicate approximate wind speed; if winds exceed 8 miles/hr. stop survey.

Previous Day(s) Weather: List high and low of survey day and any precipitation that occurred

Observer(s): List all persons taking part in the survey.

Road Name: Write the name of each road you are surveying and give the odometer reading when you first enter a road.

Other Columns: At each stop, write the odometer reading and time when you initiate the howling attempt. If you get a response from Ma'iinganag write down the time when Ma'iinganag respond to your howling attempt, number of Ma'iinganag responding, direction of response, exact location (legal description) of response, and any comments. Generally the number of Ma'iinganag recorded should be 1, 2 or 2+ adults and/or 1, 2 or 2+ pups; beyond 2 adults or 2 pups it is impossible to accurately count the Ma'iinganag unless you actually get to see them. When you get no responses, under "Time Response" write "none". You may want to record responses from other animals such as owls or coyotes under "Comments". If you are not sure whether you are hearing coyotes or Ma'iinganag, write down that you are not sure.

Totals: List the total miles from the first to last stop; list the total number of stops at which you attempted howls; list the total number of responses you received under "Time Response"; and list the estimated number of Ma'iinganag responding under "Ma'iingan No.".

Equipment

Pen or pencil, clipboard, data sheet(s), watch, flashlight, compass, map of study area at scale of 1:150,000 or larger, and tape recorder with empty tape and Ma'iingan tape (optional).

Do's and Don'ts

Avoid using brights when driving through open country.

Don't attempt to shine flashlights at Ma'iinganag that may approach you.

Attempt to be as quiet and inconspicuous as possible.

Turn off all lights and avoid using flashlights when you arrive at your stops.

Never attempt to walk into an area from where you hear howling.

Don't take a large number of people with you; limit the number of people on the survey to 4 or less.

Generally only one person should do the howling, but you can trade off so no one person needs to do all the howling.

Generally no more than one survey per week per territory should be conducted; unless there is need to gather additional data.

When you have received a response, don't stay at a site too long, and do not keep howling at the same group.

Avoid disclosing exact locations of howling responses to people outside of your survey group.

Ma'iingan Howl Survey ***EXAMPLE***

General Location: *Chequamegon N.F., Sawyer Co., Log Creek Area*

Start Location: Section *25* T *40* N, R *3* E or W

End Location: Section *6* T *39* N, R *3* E or W

Date *July 10, 1992* Temp *60-65°* Skies *Clear* Precip *None* Wind *<2mph*

Previous day(s) weather *Warm, high 80° low 55°; clear skies, light wind*

Observer(s) *Jane Brown and John Smith*

Road Name	Odometer	Time Howl	Time Response	Ma'iingan No.	Direction	Comments and Estimated Location, Sec., T, & R
Co. EE & FR 161	*00.0*	----				*Going N on FR 161*
FR 161	*01.5*	*2200*	*none*			
FR 161	*03.0*	*2215*	*none*			
FR 161	*04.5*	*2230*	*none*			
FR 161	*06.0*	*2245*	*2248*	*2A 2+P*	*20°E of N*	*Probably in Sec. 2, T40N R3E*
FR 161	*07.5*	*2300*	*none*			
FR 161 & FR 162	*08.5*	*2315*	*none*			
FR 162	*10.0*	*2330*	*none*			
FR 162	*11.5*	*2345*	*none*			
FR 162	*13.0*	*2400*	*none*			
FR 162	*14.5*	*2415*	*none*			*Stop survey.*
TOTALS	*14.5 miles*	*9 stops*	*1 response*	*4+*		

Appendix C. Websites and Additional Information

For more information about Ma'iingan delisting and the USFWS go to: www.fws.gov/midwest/Ma'iingan/

For more information on the Wisconsin's State Ma'iingan Relationship Plan go to: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/publications/Ma'iinganplan/toc.htm.

For more information on Land Owner permits you can visit this website: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/Ma'iingan/permit.html.

2011 Wisconsin Act 169: https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/related/acts/169

Federal Register Delisting the Gray Ma'iingan in the Western Great Lakes: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Ma'iingan/delisting/pdf/FR_grwoWGLDelist28Dec2011.pdf

Mashkiiziibii Tribe Wildlife Program Website: http://badriver-nsn.gov/natural-resources/wildlife-program

Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission Website: http://glifwc.org/

Appendix D. Mashkiiziibii Carnivore Coexistence Program

The following work initiation document is used when farmers enter into an agreement with the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program to promote carnivore coexistence with the use of deterrents and evaluation of husbandry to protect both domesticated animals and wild predators.

Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program Work Initiation Document for Predator Deterrent Deployment	Work Initiation Document Number 1.	Date 2.

3. Cooperator's name:
4. Cooperator's address:
5. Location of work to be performed:

I, the undersigned cooperator or cooperator's representative, do hereby give my consent and concurrence to the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program (to include its employees) to use at the site described in 5 the following methods and devices (owned by Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program):

I, the cooperator or cooperator's representative, have been informed of the methods and the manner in which the devices listed in the above section will be used, and of the possible hazards associated with their use. I understand that Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program (to include its employees) will: exercise reasonable precautions to prevent injury to animal life; guard against the mishandling of devices and materials; and exercise due caution and proper judgement in all wildlife coexistence operations. I understand that Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program will provide copies of records or record information promptly upon the property owner's or cooperator's request. I understand that Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program may collect Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates, predator presence, and deterrent effectiveness data at the project site as part of anonymized research. I understand that Mashkiiziibii holds insurance for its employees which will cover any accident that may occur on the property outlined in line 5, leaving me with no liability for the potential injury of a Mashkiiziibii employee.

In consideration of these understandings and of the benefits to be derived, I, the cooperator or cooperator's representative assume responsibility for injury to my property under my control, when said injury is not the result of negligence on the part of Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program; and to give adequate warning of possible hazards to persons I authorize to enter onto my land. Further, in recognition of the benefits to be derived from the use of specified methods and devices authorized by this Work Initiation Document, I, the cooperator or cooperator's representative, agree not to concurrently use or allow to be used upon lands covered by this Work Initiation Document lethal methods. This will allow for the collection of data on the effects of non-lethal deterrents alone. As part of this agreement, the cooperator agrees to provide Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program a brief review of whether they found the deterrent to be beneficial, based on the impact or lack of impact they saw on their domesticated animals and on predators, within a month of the removal of deterrents.

Special Considerations:

Signature and title (Landowner, lessee, administrator)	Telephone Number	Address	Date
Signature and title (Mashkiiziibii representative)	Telephone Number	Address	Date

Appendix E. Public Comment opportunities for 2019 Update

The first update of the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan was delayed by a year, partially due to a staffing turnover in the wildlife program. Efforts were made to gain community knowledge and input for the update of this plan through the following events:

In November of 2018, former Wildlife Specialist Lacey Hill-Kastern opened a call for public comments for the update of the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan from November 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018.

On October 23, 2018 the Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program hosted an event at the Casino to gather input for the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan and to discuss a response to Chronic Wasting Disease. Thirteen community members attended this event and mentioned Ma'iingan possibly defending the reservation against Chronic Wasting Disease, but the community members were largely focused on gaining an understanding of Chronic Wasting Disease at this meeting.

From July to August, 2017 current wildlife specialist Abi Fergus worked for Mashkiiziibii as an intern for the wildlife program to collect input for and scientifically review the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan. Fergus interviewed local wolf biologists, livestock owners within the reservation and buffer zone, and tribal members- particularly elders. Fergus has regularly attended elder lunches since this internship to gain insight from Mashkiiziibii elders. Fergus provided a report of her findings to former wildlife specialist Lacey Hill-Kastern as well as her senior thesis, which was written based on her recommended changes to the plan.

Appendix G. Mashkiiziibii Tribal Council Resolution Approving Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan

BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O.Box 39 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Resolution No. 12-17-19-248

Approval of the 2019 update to the Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan

WHEREAS, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian tribe with a Constitution enacted pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C. Sec. 476; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 1(a) of the Constitution authorizes the Tribal Council to negotiate with Federal, State, and local government on behalf of the Band; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 1(n) of the Constitution directs the Tribal Council to encourage and foster the arts, crafts, traditions, culture, wildlife, and natural resources of the Band, which necessarily includes enhancement and protection of the water resources within the boundaries of the Reservation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby adopts the 2019 update to the Mashkiiziibii Ma'iingan Relationship Plan

Certification

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, an Indian Tribe organized under Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of seven members, of whom 7 members, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting hereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 17th day of December, 2019; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 7 members; 0 against; and 0 abstaining, and that the said resolution has not been rescinded or amended.

Jay McFee

Jay McFee, Secretary
Bad River Tribal Council

Telephone (715) 682-7123 *Natural Resources Department* Fax (715) 682-7118

Appendix F. Contact Information

USDA-WS Ma'iingan Depredation Hotline: 1-800-228-1368

Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Specialist, Abi Fergus: 715-685-7840 x1554

Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department: 1-715-682-7123

Mashkiiziibii Tribal Game Wardens:

Gerald White: 715-292-7822

Brad Bigboy: 715-979-1181

Megan Mihalko: 715-292-1902

GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION

P.O. Box 9 • Odanah, WI 54861 • 715-682-6619 • FAX 715-682-9294
www.glifwc.org

• MEMBER TRIBES •

MICHIGAN	WISCONSIN		MINNESOTA
Bay Mills Community	Bad River Band	Red Cliff Band	Fond du Lac Band
Keweenaw Bay Community	Lac Courte Oreilles Band	St. Croix Chippewa	Mille Lacs Band
Lac Vieux Desert Band	Lac du Flambeau Band	Sokaogon Chippewa	



February 8, 2023

Adam Payne
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

Dear Mr. Payne:

The Voigt Intertribal Task Force (Task Force) of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) submits these comments on the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan (Plan). These comments have been prepared by GLIFWC staff on behalf of the Task Force and are submitted from an intertribal, ceded territory perspective for the areas subject to the Treaties of 1837 and 1854 and are not intended to preclude comments by individual tribal governments. Moreover, notwithstanding any authority the Wisconsin DNR may exercise, these comments in no way intend or should be construed to imply a diminishment of any sovereign authority or responsibility of GLIFWC's member tribes to determine and undertake any appropriate course of action regarding Ma'iinganag (wolves) according to Anishinaabe teachings and traditions.

Wolves are beings of great significance to the Anishinaabe people. Ma'iingan is a clan animal, sacred in Anishinaabe beliefs. In the Anishinaabe creation story, we are taught that Ma'iingan is a brother to Original man. The two traveled together throughout the earth naming all things. When this task was completed, the creator said that the two had to take separate paths but indicated that whatever happened to one would happen to the other. Each would be feared, respected, and misunderstood by the people that would later join them on earth. We thus learn that the survival of the Anishinaabeg as a people is tied to that of Ma'iingan – as goes the fate of one, goes the fate of the other.

Consequently, in addressing this matter on behalf of the Anishinaabe communities that they serve, the Task Force must do no less than fully support efforts to protect, promote tolerance, and ensure healthy and abundant populations of wolves for it is the future of those communities that they also are considering.

The Task Force offers the following additional comments:

1. The Biological Services Division and the Division of Intergovernmental Affairs wish to acknowledge the time and effort put in by the DNR in meeting with and attempting to reach consensus on several important topics including discussion of tribal subzones and subzone limits.

2. The Task Force supports the Plan's goal of ensuring a sustainable wolf population that fulfills its ecological role. The adoption of a non-numeric population goal for wolves, rather than an arbitrary limit to their population, is more consistent with the tribes' relationship with Ma'iingan.

3. The Task Force recommends that western Taylor County be retained as core wolf range (zone 1) with the primary objective to ensure a healthy wolf population to fulfill its ecological role. This region was previously designated as core wolf range and provides ample habitat and public lands that support wolves while minimizing conflict.

4. The Plan follows an adaptive management framework. This will require monitoring accomplishments as well as shortcomings of the Plan's goals and objectives to evaluate their success and adjust as necessary. Adequate resources need to be devoted to this aspect of the Plan's implementation to be successful.

5. The Plan includes appropriate goals and objectives for education outreach efforts. However, falsehoods and misunderstandings continue to cloud wolf stewardship. Educational activities identified in the Plan must be a priority for implementation, should be adequately funded, and should include tribal perspectives.

6. The Task Force appreciates references to the *1837/1842 Ceded Territory Ma'iingan Relationship Plan*, which provides guidance for a reciprocal relationship with Ma'iingan that is consistent with GLIFWC-member tribes' cultural teachings. Additional information is provided in *Ojibwe perspectives toward proper wolf stewardship and Wisconsin's February 2021 wolf hunting season* (Gilbert et al. 2011, attached), which should also be cited in The Plan for its cultural perspective. These references and others provided in the Tribal Perspectives section of the Plan should also appear in the Literature Cited section of the Plan.

7. The Task Force opposes harvest of Ma'iingan. Legislative changes should be pursued to revoke Act 169 which limits WDNR management authority in the Plan. Nevertheless, the Task Force supports efforts in the Plan which aim to prevent harvest which exceeds established quotas and protect packs on tribal lands.

    a. The use of zone-specific permits and shortening the registration window to 8 hours will provide better control over harvest rates, making it easier to close areas to harvest before the state's quota is exceeded. The Task Force further recommends adoption of a "pulse rule" with respect to wolves - if wolf harvest exceeds the quota within a zone for two consecutive years, no harvest may occur in that zone in year three.

    b. The establishment of tribal subzones is a positive step towards acknowledging the tribes' sovereignty with respect to protecting wolves that reside on tribal lands. The Task force recommends the subzone limit for subzone 1B be set at 1 wolf. The recommended limit of 4 wolves is equivalent to the average pack size in the ceded territory and could allow for an entire pack to be harvested. The Task force further recommends that any lethal control of wolves within subzone 1B be applied toward the subzone limit for that year.

8. The training period for hounds should be limited to zones that are open for harvest to prevent unnecessary conflict between hunting hounds and wolves.

9. The ecological role of wolves in limiting the prevalence of CWD in Wisconsin's white-tailed deer and elk herds should be a research priority. However, uncertainty about the relationships between wolves and CWD prevalence should not preclude prudent stewardship. Wolf harvest should be limited where new CWD detections have occurred within wolf range, and along the southern edge of wolf range where CWD has not yet been detected to take advantage of this ecological service and research opportunity.

10. The Plan should respect how tribes may wish to handle any potential quota allocations if harvest is authorized by the state (see attached letter from Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary, USDOI – Indian Affairs).

11. The Task Force strongly recommends reinstating two committees to advise wolf stewardship and keeping the technical committee restricted to technical experts from tribal, state, and federal agencies.

The Task Force and GLIFWC staff stand ready to assist in any way they can as Wisconsin DNR implements the Wolf Management Plan. We hope that Wisconsin DNR will maintain relationships with tribal representatives as the final Plan is implemented. To this end, the Task Force extends a standing invitation to Wisconsin DNR to discuss these issues at any Task Force meeting, which generally are held on the first Thursday of every month. Please let us know and we will assist with the necessary arrangements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. If you have any questions, would like additional information, or would like to attend an upcoming Task Force meeting, please contact Miles Falck of our staff at (715) 682-6619 ext. 2124 or miles@glifwc.org.

Sincerely,

James Thannum
Acting Executive Administrator

Attachments:
1837/1842 Ceded Territory Ma'iingan Relationship Plan
Ojibwe perspectives toward proper wolf stewardship and Wisconsin's February 2021 wolf hunting season.
Letter from Bryan Newland to Preston Cole, January 25, 2022.

cc: Voigt Intertribal Task Force
Ann McCammon-Soltis, Director, Division of Intergovernmental Affairs
Jonathan Gilbert, Biological Services Director
Miles Falck, Wildlife Section Leader
Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Kris Goodwill, Tribal Liaison, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Ma’iingan Relationship Plan

1837/1842 Ceded Territory

Version 1.0

August 2022

Peter David



Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Tribal Elders: Miigwech to Joe Rose Sr., Marvin Defoe, Wayne LaBine, Robert VanZile Jr. and the many other tribal elders and leaders who helped to inform the development of this document.

Reviewers: Jonathan Gilbert Ph.D., Miles Falck, Tanya Aldred and Ann McCammon-Soltis reviewed earlier versions of this document.

Preferred Citation: David, P. 2022. Ma'iingan Relationship Plan: 1837/1842 Ceded Territory. Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Odanah, Wisconsin.

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THE RELATIONSHIP WITH MA'IINGAN

This document will attempt to describe the appropriate relationship between the Anishinaabeg and ma'iinganag (wolves) in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories.

Of all the beings with whom the Anishinaabeg share Aki, there is no other with whom the people share a greater connection, and no other with whom the Ojibwe directly share a common and intertwined fate. As such, the long-term health of the People can only be assured when the ma'iingan population is healthy and vibrant as well.

The goals that are outlined in this plan were informed by a triad of understandings of ma'iingan: 1) traditional Ojibwe teachings; 2) Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) that the Ojibwe have gained over countless generations of co-existing with ma'iingan; and 3) contemporary ecological, biological and social science. It is the intent of the Voigt Intertribal Task Force, who approved this document, that it be transparent about the underlying justifications for the goals it contains. As such, it is appropriate to begin with a summary of some of the primary teachings which informed these goals.

A Teaching: The Creation Story

"After plants, Kitche Manitou created animal beings, conferring on each special powers and natures."
Basil Johnston, Ojibwe Heritage

Ma'iinganag, like all animal beings, are part of the third order of creation. The rock, water, fire, and wind created in the first order needed to exist to create the places where the second order of creation, the plant beings, could grow and thrive. The lush and complex world created by the plant beings in turn made it possible for the earth to welcome the third order - the animal beings – that depend directly or indirectly on the plant beings for their own survival. Ma'iinganag are part of this third order, and are dependent upon all that came before or with them for their own chance at health and abundance.

Finally, in the fourth and final order of creation, the original human was lowered to the earth. This being was last because he was and remains the most dependent being of all, unable to survive without the gifts of the beings – often referred to as the more-than-human beings – that came before him.

The Creator directed Original Man to give names to all of the parts of creation. As Original Man did this, he learned much about creation, including the beauty, benefits, and interconnections of the beings. He also noticed that many of the animals had partners and were part of communities, while he was alone, and felt a loneliness in his spirit. When Original Man shared these observations with the Creator, the Creator responded by providing a ma'iingan for Original Man to walk and talk and play with, and he tasked Man and Wolf with visiting all the Earth's places together.

As Original Man and ma'iingan worked together to complete this formidable task they grew very close, as they came to understand the unique relationship they shared. It is often said they came to be like brothers, but others contend that even this powerful bond fails to capture the full nature of the relationship, saying that Wolf and Man were really one being, parts of a greater whole.

Thus, it must have come as a surprise or a shock when they completed their travels and returned to the Creator, to be told, "From this day on, you are to separate your paths. You must go your different ways. What shall happen to one of you will also happen to the other. Each of you will be feared, respected, and misunderstood by the people that will later join you on this Earth" (The Mishomis Book, Edward Benton-Banai, 2010). In many ways, this teaching of intertwined fates forms the ultimate foundation for the relationship between Anishinaabeg and ma'iinganag.

> *"And so, you Anishinaabe, if your brother ma'iingan passes out of existence you'll soon follow. You will die of great loneliness of spirit."*
>
> *Joe Rose Sr., Bad River*

A Teaching: The Original Treaties

When Anishinaabe people speak of the Original Treaties, they are talking about the treaties they made with the more-than-human beings they depend upon for survival. The early Anishinaabe people understood their dependency upon the earlier orders of creation. While those beings were not dependent upon humans, the People could not survive without the gifts the other beings provided. Fortunately, the more-than-human beings took pity on the humans and agreed to provide for them, but certain things were expected from the humans in return.

> *"And all the animals stepped forward and said what they would give to the people, and they did it out of love for the people that wanted to come live in the universe."*
>
> *Chairman Robert VanZile, Sokaogon Tribe*

Ma'iingan assumed many responsibilities, including teaching the Ojibwe how to survive on an often-harsh landscape; how to hunt; how to build stamina and work cooperatively; and importantly, how to raise young in extended family groups. They would also work to keep the deer herd healthy and help protect populations of plant beings important to the Ojibwe from over-browsing by deer. The Ojibwe responsibilities were to view ma'iingan as their relative, to treat them with respect, to think of their best interests, and to be appreciative and humble in accepting the benefits that wolves provide. And, as in the other treaties made with the more-than-human beings, the Ojibwe recognized that the proper relationship with all these beings demanded reciprocity and responsibility. Since treaties are recognized as "supreme law," these tenets have never changed. The Ojibwe not only still respect these treaties, but many tribes have joined other indigenous nations in reaffirming their commitment to them (Global Indigenous Council Wolf Treaty, Appendix 1; Figure 1). And in this context, it is important to acknowledge that wolves hold treaty rights, just like their Ojibwe brothers.



Figure 1. Winona LaDuke and Paul Demain with the Global Indigenous Council Wolf Treaty.

Co-existence with Ma'iingan

While these cultural teachings underlie the primary tenets of this plan, the application of those teachings is also informed by the TEK that the Ojibwe gained from sharing the land with ma'iinganag. Like Original Man, generations of Ojibwe learned about - and from - ma'iingan. Wolf recovery has allowed this learning to start anew in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories; tribal members and tribal biologists are again being gifted by wolves, as they tell us more about themselves and provide new lessons on living in a good way.

The Ojibwe's successful co-existence with wolves provides an important contrast with the prevailing perspective brought to Turtle Island by Europeans, whose primary interest in wolves was eradication – something at which they proved very adept. While those interests are changing among many in the non-tribal public today, some still carry old biases toward ma'iingan and cling to unfounded myths about the nature and ecological roles of wolves. Of greater concern is that many of the most misinformed retain the greatest influence on state natural resource agencies, whose funding is generally derived from only a small portion (primarily hunters, trappers, and fishers) of the public they are supposed to represent.

Co-existence with wolves can yield understanding and appreciation. A deer hunter holding an overly-simplistic belief that since wolves eat deer, wolves are bad for the deer herd, may only see wolves in a negative light, while a hunter who understands the wolf's role in maintaining the long-term health of the deer herd by selectively preying upon the weak, injured, and diseased may appreciate the benefits wolves provide the herd – especially in the face of diseases like chronic wasting disease. A person only focused on the losses some livestock producers experience from wolves may not understand that most wolves do not kill livestock, or that hunting wolves offers few tangible benefits to Midwest ranchers. A person who is highly fearful of wolves may struggle to understand the minimal actual danger ma'iinganag pose to them and may not be aware that wolves may be reducing his or her chance of hitting a deer on the highway or getting a tick-borne disease. When the Ojibwe share their nuanced and complex relationship with ma'iingan, and illuminate it with new understandings, others may come to see wolves in a different light as well and learn that a healthy relationship with ma'iingan is good not only for wolves, but for humans.

> *"We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then and have known ever since that there was something new to me in those eyes, something known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view."*
>
> *Aldo Leopold, Sand County Almanac*

Finally, in addition to the insights provided by the traditional teachings and TEK discussed above, this plan is further enlightened by the inclusion of understandings gained from contemporary science. Those understandings can offer insights on the myths often applied to wolves and re-enforce both the traditional teachings and TEK. This triad – cultural teachings, TEK, and contemporary science – all inform and support what follows in this plan.

GOALS FOR THE MA'IINGAN POPULATION

While the Ojibwes' goals for the ma'iingan population can be as numerous and detailed as the goals for their own communities, a small number of primary goals can capture the overarching desires for the ma'iingan population in the ceded territories. In very brief, this may be stated as having a healthy and ecologically functional ma'iingan population occupying all areas of suitable habitat. And while this plan is focused upon the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories, the tribes' hopes for the ma'iingan community do not stop at the ceded territory boundary.

Unlike state wolf management plans, which often attempt to use humans' objectives to define or limit what they consider suitable wolf habitat, this document recognizes that ma'iinganag themselves are best at determining what habitat and range is suitable for them. Thus, at a landscape level, ma'iinganag should be allowed to determine their range and population level. Only this goal allows ma'iinganag to completely fulfill their treaty with the Anishinaabe, for only at this level can they fully provide the cultural and ecological benefits the tribes depend upon, over the greatest area.

This goal also recognizes that ma'iinganag are only able to fulfill their responsibilities when the wolf population is healthy. In the Ojibwe world view, determining the health of the ma'iingan population involves much more than simply determining the number that exist. Like human communities, the demographics of the population are also important, as social structure is critical in wolf packs, so that wolves, like their human relatives, can pass down teachings and properly raise their young. Thus, demographics like wolf density and pack size should again be determined by wolves themselves, and not be altered by negative human influences.

Individual ma'iinganag should also be healthy, and not exposed to dangerous levels of environmental contaminants, or be subject to unnatural levels of diseases or parasites because of human activity.

The recreational harvest of wolves is both culturally abhorrent and incompatible with the goal of a healthy wolf population. In the Original Treaties, the Ojibwe agreed to take only what was needed, and most non-tribal hunters maintain a similar ethical code that contends that killing any animal should only be done for a legitimate reason. As is discussed later in this document, the reasons most often given for wolf seasons (human health and safety, impacts on the livestock or the deer herd, or to keep the population from growing "out of control") are not supported scientifically, and killing an animal to simply experience the act or gain a "trophy" runs counter to both the Ojibwe world view, and to most in the non-tribal community.

The tribes recognize that wolves – like other relatives – sometimes negatively impact some in the human community. While the tribes encourage efforts to reduce and address the losses some livestock producers incur, Ojibwe understanding necessitates preventative and non-lethal programs as a primary response in these situations. Lethal control should only be taken as a last resort, in a timely and targeted manner, in cases where evidence is clear that ma'iinganag were at fault and where non-lethal efforts are ineffective or unworkable. (For greater detail, see *Livestock and Pet Depredations*, below).

Should a state in the ceded territory nevertheless initiate recreational hunting and trapping seasons for wolves, there are several steps which must be taken by the state, including:

- Recognizing that ma'iingan living within reservation boundaries should be stewarded under the authority of the respective Tribe.
- Coordinating off-reservation depredation control efforts with individual tribes if they occur within 6 miles of a reservation or within an alternate buffer area established through consultation with an individual tribe.
- Monitoring wolf populations with a high level of precision and accuracy.
- Consulting and attempting to reach consensus with tribes on harvest quotas. Quotas must recognize the considerable uncertainty associated with population estimates. Quotas must be applied to all state-sanctioned taking, including depredation kill, otherwise lethal depredation control reduces the tribes' share of the quota. Harvest must not reduce the distribution or ecological function of wolves on the landscape. Finally, harvest quotas must not be exceeded, and the tribal portion must be respected.
- Closing public lands to wolf harvest until the state wolf harvest can be adequately controlled to meet these requirements and ensure protection of tribal interests.

In addition, ceded territory wolves should be stewarded as a part of a larger regional population. Ceded territory ma'iingan should connect healthy populations in Minnesota, Michigan, and the central sands region of Wisconsin.

Ma'iingan Population Trends

Ma'iingan is the Ojibwe name for the animal known in English as the wolf. Wolves in the Great Lakes region are sometimes commonly referred to as timber wolves, but this term is falling out of use, as it neither has specific meaning, nor accurately describes the habitat requirements of this being.

Western science also applies a unique Latin name to this being. However, the scientific classification of ma'iinganag in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territory has varied over time and is likely to continue to do so as new genetic analyses are developed and applied, and new understanding is gained and interpreted. Currently, wolves in the region are generally considered to be gray wolves, or *Canis lupus*, in the Latin nomenclature. For the purposes of this document, all wolves found in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territory are considered simply ma'iingan, without further differentiation.

Historical Distribution

The population and range of ma'iinganag in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories has exhibited marked variability over the last two centuries. Wolves in this area were originally part of a much larger population that covered much of North America, including most of what is now the Lower 48 of the US (Figure 2), and the history of ma'iinganag from the region surrounding the ceded territories provides perspective on the history of wolves within them.



Figure 2. Historic gray wolf range before European settlement (U.S.F.W.S, 2009).

Prior to European contact, ma'iinganag ranged not only throughout the entire 1837 and 1842 ceded territories, but the entire area that would come to make up the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and

Michigan. However, wolves were heavily persecuted by European settlers who generally viewed them as threats to livestock, abundant populations of wild game, and humans. In Wisconsin, intensive efforts to eradicate wolves under nearly a century (1865-1957) of state-funded bounty programs ultimately met their goal, and by 1959 wolves were extirpated from the state for the first time since they originally inhabited the landscape (Theil, 1993). Similar efforts in Michigan yielded similar results, although it is thought that a very small numbers of wolves – measurable by a single digit – may have persisted in remote areas of the 1842 ceded territory in the Upper Peninsula (Michigan Wolf Management Plan, 2008).

In Minnesota, wolves were also heavily persecuted and were considered eliminated from most of the state, including all of the 1837 ceded territory, by the early 1950s (Minnesota Wolf Management Plan, 2001). However, remote areas in northern and northeastern Minnesota provided a bit of a haven for wolves, and a modest population maintained itself there – the only place in the lower 48 states where wolves were not eradicated by human persecution. The Minnesota population, which remained contiguous with wolves in Ontario, is thought to have bottomed out at roughly 350-700 animals in the mid-1960s.

Recovery

After the implementation of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973, the remnant Minnesota population began to increase, likely due to an increasing deer herd as well as ESA protection (Minnesota Wolf Management Plan, 2001).

While lone wolves likely occasionally dispersed through the 1837 Minnesota ceded territory after they were eradicated from the area, it is not clear exactly when packs became reestablished there. A wolf population survey conducted in 1988-89 documented range expansion toward the ceded territory compared to a previous survey conducted in 1978-79, but it was not until a 1997-98 survey was completed that some northern portions of the Minnesota 1837 ceded were considered wolf range. Range in the state has continued to expand; by the spring of 2018, about 3 quarters of the 1837 ceded territory in Minnesota was considered “wolf range,” although only about half of that area was believed to be occupied by wolf packs (John Erb, personal communication). The state is expected to make its next effort to estimate range over the winter of 2022-2023.

More intensive monitoring in the state of Wisconsin provides a more precise picture of ma’iingan recovery in that state. In the winter of 1974-75, after being absent from the state for a decade and a half, a pack was discovered near the Minnesota/Wisconsin border south of Duluth/Superior, near the boundary between the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories. By 1980, the Wisconsin population had grown to include 4 packs in the same general region, while a single pack (of uncertain origin) was discovered in Lincoln County, over 125 miles to the southeast (Thiel, 1993; Wydeven et al. 1995). All five of these packs were located within the 1837 or 1842 ceded territories.

Over the 1980s and early 1990s, these few ma’iingan packs did little but maintain themselves numerically, but they may have helped a new cohort of wolves to become established in the western Upper Peninsula (UP) of Michigan, in the 1842 ceded territory. It is thought that wolves may have also entered the UP from the east, making winter immigrations across the ice from Ontario, and entered the 1836 ceded territory (Jensen et al. 1986). The first contemporary documentation of breeding in Michigan occurred 1989, when a single pair was confirmed in the 1842 ceded territory in north Dickinson County in the central UP (Beyer et al., 2009).

From 1970 to 2004, the Minnesota wolf population displayed marked growth, reaching a level of approximately 3000 animals by the end of this period. Most of this population growth was north of the 1837 ceded territory, although a modest number of wolves had become established in the northern portions of the Minnesota 1837 ceded territory by 1997-98. It is noteworthy that the growth in Minnesota occurred despite an active lethal depredation control program which removed an average of 140 wolves from the population annually from 1992 to 2004 (Ruid et al., 2009). (Lethal control was legal in Minnesota because the Minnesota population was classified as Threatened rather than Endangered under the Endangered Species Act; it has primarily only been legal in Wisconsin and Michigan during periods of delisting, such as from 2012-2014, because wolves in those states have been listed as endangered while under the Act's protection.)

Since 2004, the Minnesota population displayed some years with substantial decline, followed by some recovery in the most recent years. The lowest estimates, from 2013-2016, seem to be associated with both years of relatively low deer abundance (resulting from intentional MnDNR management actions), and the 3-year (2012-2014) period of delisting, during which recreational killing occurred. Over the past four years for which estimates are available (2017-2020), the population has been very stable, ranging from 2,655 to 2,856 wolves, estimates which are not statistically different.

A Note on Contemporary Population Data:

Recent wolf population data has been gathered and summarized at the state level. Each of the 3 states in the ceded territory uses similar but unique methodologies to estimate wolf populations, typically incorporating radio collar data, direct observations, and track surveys. Techniques now used in all 3 states estimate the population level in late winter/early spring, when it is at its lowest point in the annual cycle.

Currently, each state estimates the total wolf population within its borders. However, until 2007 in Michigan and 2021 in Wisconsin, those states attempted to census the wolf population, generating a minimum population count, as opposed to a total population estimate. As a result, population figures made after the change in methodology are not directly comparable with those made before. More detailed descriptions of state monitoring methodologies can be found in the respective state management plans.

The growth in the Minnesota population over time seemed to initiate marked population growth in Wisconsin and Michigan, particularly within the ceded territories, beginning in the mid-1990s. The recovery in Wisconsin occurred in concert with the reaffirmation of off-reservation treaty rights in the state (David, 2009). After displaying little population growth in the 1980's (the Wisconsin population only grew from 25 individuals in 1980 to 31 in 1989), the growth in the 1990's resulted in the Wisconsin wolf population expanding to approximately 250 animals by the end of the century, with most of these animals being found in the ceded territory. Appreciable annual growth continued for more than another decade, with the population reaching approximately 850 animals in the spring of 2012 (WDNR data).

Growth in the Wisconsin ma'iingan population was interrupted in 2013 and 2014 after wolves in the Western Great Lakes region were federally delisted in the spring of 2012. Delisting resulted in two substantial new forms of human-induced mortality in Wisconsin: lethal depredation control and recreational killing (see Mortality section). The latter was forced upon the state when the Republican-controlled legislature quickly passed a law requiring a recreational hunting and trapping season whenever wolves were not on the federal or state Endangered Species lists (2011 Wisconsin Act 169).

The state wolf population began to rebound after the state reduced the harvest quota for the 2014 season, and growth continued when a successful legal challenge to the 2012 delisting returned Endangered Species Act protections to ma'iingan in the western Great Lakes region in December 2014. The Wisconsin population continued to grow until 2017, then showed little change for 2 years before again showing an increase in 2020.

In 2021, the state ceased conducting an annual minimum count of wolves and began estimating the population solely by the use an occupancy model (OM). The OM had been tested over the 3 previous years (2018-2020); during this period the OM generated a population estimate that was about 14.5% higher than the annual minimum count produced. The spring 2021 population estimate, state-wide, was 1,126 wolves, with a 95% credible interval of 937-1,364. This figure included about 41 wolves living primarily within reservation boundaries. About 84% of the Wisconsin population lived within the ceded territories. This is the most recent population estimate available at the time this document was written. However, this figure applied to the population prior to a devastating sport season that took place in February of 2021 (see Mortality section). While uncertain at this time, it has been estimated that that season, coupled with other forms of mortality and reduced recruitment resulting from the February season, could have reduced the population by approximately 30% (Treves et al. 2021).

Ma'iingan population growth in Michigan followed a similar numeric trajectory as was seen in Wisconsin, with Michigan population estimates frequently lagging Wisconsin numbers by about a year. However, the Michigan population, all located in the UP, stopped growing in 2011. Since 2011, the MiDNR has generally made population estimates every other year. Since 2011, the estimated population has ranged from 618 to 695, and averaged 653 ma'iinganag. The Michigan wolf population did not appear to be appreciably affected by the 2012-2014 delisting period (see Mortality section) due to very low levels of lethal depredation control, and minimal take during a 2013 harvest season limited to areas with above-average livestock depredation levels. (While the northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan has appreciable areas of suitable habitat, to date ma'iinganag have not successfully established a sustaining population in that area.)

Approximate Three-State, And Ceded Territory Population Estimate

While the Minnesota wolf population is the largest of the 3 states, the portion of the 1837 ceded territory which extends into what is now Minnesota is south of the state's primary wolf range, and thus this state contributes the fewest wolves to the ceded territory count. Of the estimated 2,696 ma'iinganag estimated to inhabit the state in spring of 2020, about 173 are estimated to live within the 1837 ceded territory, based on the portion of the area occupied by packs (about 4,623 km2) and average territory size and pack size that year (J. Erb, personal communication).

Unlike Minnesota, most Wisconsin's wolves are found in the ceded territory, with the primary exception being those ma'iinganag that have re-colonized the central sands portion of the state. Of the state-wide population estimate for spring 2021 (before the February hunt) of 1,126, about 952 resided within the ceded territory, including about 41 wolves living primarily within tribal reservations.

Wolves have been documented in every county in Michigan's UP (where the entire Michigan population currently resides (exclusive of wolves on Isle Royale)), but wolf density currently is about 1.8 times higher in the 1842 ceded territory than in the 1836 UP ceded territory. As a result, about 64% of the Michigan population is in the 1842 ceded territory (B. Roell, personal communication). This suggests that of the spring 2020 population estimate of 695 wolves, about 445 reside in the 1842 ceded territory.

Thus, prior to Wisconsin's February 2021 recreational killing season, the total ma'iingan population in the 3 states likely numbered about 4,500 animals, with over a third of this figure (about 1,570) residing in the 1837 or 1842 ceded territories. While many concerns about the future health of the ma'iingan population remain, there has nevertheless been a remarkable recovery of ma'iinganag since 1970, when the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories were devoid of wolves. Today, Ojibwe people may potentially encounter their brother in nearly any part of the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories, and ma'iingan and the Ojibwe may again fulfill their obligations to each other, if the population is properly stewarded for the generations yet to come (Figure 3).

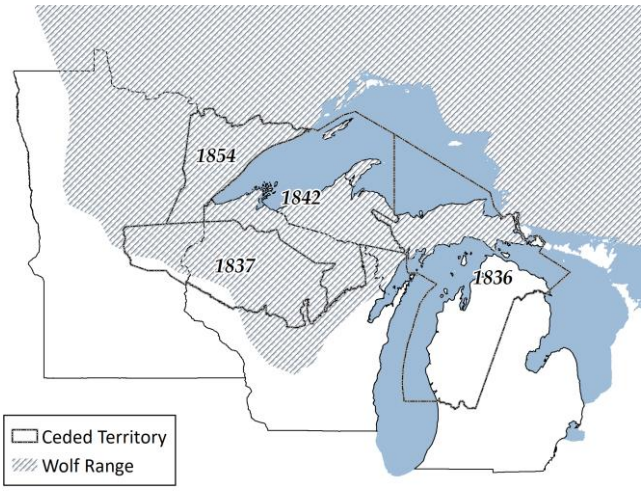


Figure 3. Current range of the gray wolf in the ceded territories of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan (IUCN, 2022).

Ma'iingan's Natural Level: The Ceded Territories Potential Biological Carrying Capacity

One measure of the health of the ma'iingan population is how close the population is relative to its "natural level" on the landscape. While this level is not a specific, fixed number – the number of any species will vary over time with changes in weather, diseases, food availability and other factors – wolf populations that are not subject to hunting tend to show only modest year-to-year variation once this level is reached. This level is referred to in ecological science as the biological carrying capacity, or "K." This level is also important because the benefits (often call "ecological services" in scientific literature) which ma'iinganag provide are maximized when wolves reach and maintain this level.

It can be difficult to determine K for any species, especially one that is introduced to a new area or may still be recovering from earlier extirpation. Models have been developed and used to predict K for ma'iinganag in particular areas, but models inherently include assumptions that may or may not prove sound. Early estimates of K for ma'iingan in Wisconsin, for example, estimated K at about 500 animals, or less than the half of the recent population estimate for the state, due to faulty assumptions about the suitability of habitat.

Determining K for wolves is complicated by the fact that human-induced mortality – particularly legal and illegal killing – can greatly influence the number of wolves on the landscape. While models can be improved over time, and biologists certainly have learned much over the past 20 years that have helped refine models used to estimate K, the truest determination of K would come from minimizing human-induced mortality and allowing ma'iinganag to determine their own level on the land.

Because of their highly territorial behavior and normally limited prey availability, wolf populations at K are typically at very modest levels compared to most other species. In Wisconsin, for example, the black bear population is more than 20x higher than the peak estimates of the wolf population. In addition, wolf populations do not normally appreciable exceed K for even short periods of time (unlike some species). When human-induced mortality is low, and wolves approach K, interspecific (wolf-on-wolf)

mortality often becomes the predominate cause of death in ma'iingan populations, serving to maintain the population at a level appropriate for the environment.

The relative stabilization of the Minnesota wolf population – which has not been hunted since 2014 - suggests that K has been reached in that state and is in the range of 2500-3000 animals. (This assumes that current levels of human-induced mortality, primarily poaching and lethal depredation control, are not significant enough to be maintaining the population below K.) The actual number of wolves on the landscape currently appears to vary from year-to-year primarily in response to changes in the deer population which result from human management or weather impacts.

Similarly, the plateau in population estimates for the Michigan's UP suggest that the wolves may have reached K there as well. This population has not been subject to appreciable levels of sport harvest since recovery, and relatively few animals are taken under lethal depredation control each year. However, the level the population has plateaued at is well below the level of K predicted by some models. A habitat suitability model developed by Mladenoff et al. (2009) developed for the 3-state region suggests that Wisconsin and the UP have about half (52% and 51%, respectively) as much quality wolf habitat (defined as the area with a greater than 51% probability of being occupied) as Minnesota, so K in these states is likely considerably smaller than in Minnesota. While this figure alone is not sufficient to make an estimate of K, the disparity between the population levels in Michigan versus the other 2 states has some biologists concerned that illegal kill in the state may be high enough to impact current population levels. On the other hand, it may be that heavier average snow fall levels in the UP make the area less suitable for both deer and wolves.

While the rate of population growth in Wisconsin appeared to be slowing prior to the February 2021 season, the population has not yet clearly plateaued. Stenglein et al. (2015) estimated K for Wisconsin to be 1242 wolves, a level only about 10% higher than the figure estimated by the WDNR's occupancy model for the population prior to the February 2021 recreational season. That season, and possible future seasons in the state, could prevent wolves from establishing their own level on the landscape.

In short, while the precise level of K in the ceded territory remains uncertain, it appears that the wolf populations in all 3 states of the ceded territory may have been approaching K in the spring of 2021 before Wisconsin had its February season.

MA'IINGAN BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY: A SUMMARY

A full summary of ma'iingan biology is beyond the scope of this document. However, a basic summary of biological characteristics can be informative for some readers, while providing biological support for certain stewardship actions or policy positions.

Individual Ma'iingan

Wolves are the largest member of the Canid or dog family, which also includes (in the treaty territories) coyotes and foxes, as well as domesticated dogs. They can be differentiated from coyotes by several characteristics including their calls, height, and weight (coyotes weigh about half as much as wolves), and foot size. Facial features also differ, with wolf ears being shorter and rounder than the longer and more pointed ears of a coyote; wolves also have a broader face and snout, which are narrower in coyotes. Nevertheless, with the brief glimpses often gained under field conditions it can be difficult to identify between the two without physical evidence such at tracks. Coyote tracks are typically less than 3 inches long, wolf more than 4 (including nails). However, it can be difficult to differentiate between the tracks of large dogs and wolves.

The table below lists weights for adult wolves in each of the three states in the treaty territory as reported in respective state management plans. In comparison, average weights reported for German Shepherds are 66-88 pounds for males and 49-71 pounds for females.

Table 1. Weights of adult wolves in the Great Lakes region.

Gender	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Michigan*
Males	70-110 lbs	57-102 lbs (ave: 77 lbs)	Ave: 87 lbs
Females	50-85 lbs	46-75 lbs (ave: 62 lbs)	Ave: 76 lbs

* Michigan also reported a weight range of 58-112 pounds, both sexes combined.

Life Span

While wolves in zoos have lived up to 20 years, wild ma'iinganag have challenging lives, and generally are not long-lived. The International Wolf Center (Ely MN) website reports that "many pups don't make it through the first winter of their lives. Those that survive the first two years have a pretty good chance of living another two to four years if they can avoid fatal injury and if they can get enough to eat. Some wild wolves do live to be 9 or 10, and there are verified records of a few living into their early teens."

Social Structure: Life in the Pack

Ma'iinganag are highly social animals, and most wolves spend their lives living in packs, which are analogous to family groups. Pack size can range from a mated pair to a dozen or more animals, but averages about 4.1 individuals in Wisconsin, 4.7 in Michigan and 5.1 in Minnesota (see respective state wolf plans). Packs typically consist of the breeding pair (previously often referred to as the Alpha pair), surviving offspring from the previous year, and the current year's pups, but older offspring or unrelated animals may also be members of a pack. While these reported pack sizes are smaller than many in the public expect, it is in part because of when and how wolves are usually counted: population estimates (including pack size) are generally made in the late winter/early spring, when both packs and the population are typically at their lowest. In addition, a breeding pair of animals is considered a pack, even before pups are born. At other times of the year, and under certain circumstances, wolf packs can be much larger; the Druid Peak pack in Yellowstone National Park once included more than 30 individuals, but large packs are fairly rare in the treaty territories and may split into 2 packs when they do occur. Pack sizes in the treaty territories may also be smaller than in some other areas because white-tailed deer are the primary prey in this area; pack sizes tend to be higher in areas where the primary prey specie is larger, such as moose, elk, or bison.

Wolves in a pack – especially yearlings approaching their second birthday – often face a choice to either remain in the pack in hopes of someday achieving breeding status or dispersing out in hopes of finding a mate and vacant (or assumable) territory as they approach sexual maturity. It is difficult to estimate the number of "lone wolves" that may exist in an area at any time, and the number undoubtedly varies with time of year, availability of vacant habitat and other factors. Estimates tend to fall in the 10-15% range, (Fuller, et al., 2003). However, these estimates are often surmised, or based limited data, and the percentage may be lower when population data is typically gathered than at other times of the year. With the development of GPS tracking collars, some lone wolves have been documented making

remarkable journeys – sometimes of hundreds and even thousands of travel miles, in efforts to find a suitable partner and place to settle. It Is quite possible that a single lone wolf could be counted in multiple survey areas as it moves across the land.

Territoriality

While ma'iinganag are highly social within their pack, they are also highly territorial beings, and will strongly defend their pack's territory from other wolves. Ma'iingan territories in the 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories average about 65-70 square miles in size but may vary over time in response to changes in the availability of vulnerable prey and other factors. Since wolves will usually attempt to exclude other wolves from their territory, wolf population growth becomes self-limiting as suitable habitat is occupied. In areas where human-induced mortality is low and wolf populations are well established, wolf-on-wolf mortality is often a leading cause of death. As a result, wolf populations never reach very high densities compared to most species of animals.

Reproduction

Growth in wolf populations is highly influenced by several factors, including their social structure. Wolves are sexually mature at 22 months, but in most cases reproduction within a pack is limited to a single breeding pair. In the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories, breeding generally takes place between late January and early March; with a gestation period lasting 60-63 days, most pups are born in April. Litter size is typically 4-8. Pups are kept at the den site for 6-8 weeks, but by mid-June are moved to the first rendezvous site, an area they occupy while adults are seeking food. Over the summer, 2-3 rendezvous sites will be used. By September/October, the pups have grown enough to begin traveling with adults, and the pack becomes more nomadic over its territory. Pup survival is highly variable, but on average only about 3 out of 10 pups will survive their first year. In addition, various factors, including food scarcity and hunting seasons, can result in a pack failing to produce pups at all.

Diet

Ma'iinganag have primarily a carnivorous diet, eating many of the same beings that Ojibwe people eat. Within the 1837 and 1842 treaty territories, the most important animal in the diet is the white-tailed deer, followed by beaver. Studies suggest that a wolf consumes about 16-19 deer a year, and perhaps 10-25 beaver (varying by location, season and even the hunting practices of individual wolves; one wolf in Voyageurs National Park killed and ate 36 beavers in a single year). Wolves also eat smaller animals such as snow-shoe hares, birds and even rodents. Interestingly, we are still learning more about ma'iingan's diet; recently, wolves in northern Minnesota have been documented catching fish, an activity not previously documented on inland waterways. They have also been shown to seasonally consume significant amounts of blueberries, both for their own nutrition, and - by gorging on them and regurgitating them back at the rendezvous site - for the pups (Homkes et al., 2020).

Ma'iingan's Relationship with Prey: White-Tailed Deer

> *"Our Reservation home has a healthy deer herd and healthy wolves."*
>
> *Chairman Mike Wiggens Jr., Bad River*

Because ma'iingan in the ceded territories feed primarily on deer, many people contend that ma'iinganag must reduce the deer population, and so wolves should be killed so there can be more deer. However, neither traditional Ojibwe nor western science support this contention. Wolves and deer have co-evolved over countless generations, and healthy deer are well equipped to avoid being preyed upon. Unlike human deer hunters, wolves select old,

weak, injured, or diseased individuals, contributing to the long-term health of the deer herd. The numeric impact on the deer herd is also lessened in other ways. For example, wolves will feed on deer killed by cars, or killed but not retrieved by hunters. There also are probably at least two forms of compensation for some of the take that does occur: wolves will reduce the number of coyotes in an area, and thus fewer deer are taken by that being in areas occupied by wolves, and a recent study also found that wolves alter deer behavior, reducing the time they spend on roads. This not only saves humans' money by reducing the number of deer/vehicle accidents which occur (estimated at 63x the costs of verified wolf depredations on livestock), but it reduces the number of deer that are killed by cars (Raynor et al., 2021).

> *"Where there is the ma'iingan, the Anishinaabe know that there will be good hunting."*
>
> *Marvin DeFoe, Red Cliff*

Wolves (and other predators) likely play an important role limiting the spread and prevalence of infectious diseases in deer and elk, including Chronic Wasting Disease (Wild et al., 2011, Brandell et al. 2022). It may take 1.5-2.5 years (or longer) for an infected deer to reach the clinical stage of infection, where humans would be able to observe physical changes in the deer's appearance and behavior. Ma'iingan's sense of smell is extraordinary; by having 50x as many olfactory receptors than humans, the accuracy of their sense of smell is 10,000 – 100,000x better than our own (Vucetich, 2021). As a result, they likely can detect infected animals long before humans observe the behavior changes brought about by the disease. A study of cougars suggested that they select for CWD infected prey (Krumm et al., 2009), and another study found that when captive cougars were fed meat spiked with CWD prions, more than 96% of the prions were destroyed by passing through cougars' digestive system (Baune et al., 2021). While these findings have not yet been confirmed in wolves, both are likely to hold true; in fact, ma'iingan are believed to be more selective for diseased (and injured or weak) animals than cougars because wolves predominantly track, chase, and select ungulate prey, rather than ambush them as cougars do.

In addition, the deer population is impacted by many other factors, including winter severity, habitat quality, human harvest (which is far greater), losses to other predators like bear, coyotes and even bobcats (on fawns), vehicle collisions, and disease (Sitar, K and B. Roell, 2021). Losses to ma'iinganag alone simply are not great enough to be a primary factor determining the number of deer on the landscape. Generally, the number of deer on the landscape greatly influences the number of wolves an area can support, rather than wolves determining the number of deer.

However, wolves will affect the distribution and behavior of deer at a very local level. While many sport hunters consistently push for very high deer numbers, over-abundant deer populations can have many negative ecological and social impacts, including crop damage, car accidents, and impacts on wild plant communities (Callan et al., 2013; Sabo et al. 2017). One result of this is that plant communities tend to be more diverse and have a greater abundance of the species which deer prefer where wolves are present. Some of the plants which benefit from this have important uses to tribal members as food or medicines; others are important for the health and abundance of other animal beings.

> *"Ma'iingan serves an important purpose - to balance the ecosystem."*
>
> *Conrad St. John, St. Croix Tribe*

Ma'iingan's Relationship with Prey: Elk

Both ma'iinganag and omashkoozoog are beings that were native to and then eliminated from the ceded territories. These beings have only relatively recently reestablished populations in portions of their former range within the ceded territories, and time will tell how their relationship will evolve.

There are many similarities in the ecological relationship between ma'iinganag and waawaashkeshiwag and the relationship between ma'iinganag and omashkoozoog. As another member of the deer family, elk are a prey species for wolves. However, elk are much larger than deer, which may serve to their advantage. Their longer legs can allow them to travel more efficiently through deeper snow than deer, meaning they may be able to avoid predation under certain snow conditions. This advantage only lasts until the deep snow develops a hard crust, switching the advantage to being more in favor of wolves.

Omashkooz (elk) were once abundant throughout much of the western Great Lakes region, including portions of the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories. However, as European settlement expanded westward, elk in the ceded territories were extirpated by the mid-1800s due to unregulated hunting and loss of habitat. In 1995, an elk reintroduction program was started when 25 elk were released near Clam Lake, WI. Additional elk were translocated to the Clam Lake herd between 2015 and 2019 to increase genetic diversity, increase the number of breeding age females, and to expand the distribution of elk throughout the designated elk range. An additional elk reintroduction site was established in the central part of Wisconsin (outside of the ceded territory) in 2015. In 2018, the Clam Lake elk herd had grown to over 200 elk, which, by state rule, triggered the first managed, conservative, bull-only elk hunt. By 2021, the post-calving population estimate was approximately 332 (296-365, 95% CI) elk. This remains the only elk population in the ceded territory; the population goal for omashkoozoog in the Clam Lake elk range is currently 1,400 elk. One of the current primary objectives for the elk herd is to maximize herd growth to reach that population goal.

Over the duration of the elk reintroduction program, the elk within the herd experienced many causes of mortality. Since many of these elk were fitted with radio tracking collars, biologists were able to investigate and determine the causes of mortality of some, but not all of the elk that died. Of those sources of mortality that were investigated, biologists confirmed that wolf predation accounted for 122 of 377 known mortalities between 1995 and 2020, or about 5 elk per year. Additional sources of mortality included vehicle car collisions, bacterial diseases, bear predation (primarily of calves), legal and illegal harvest, and drowning, among others. Despite wolf predation being the primary source of confirmed mortality in the Clam Lake elk herd, the rate of wolf predation does not appear to be having a significant impact on the growth of the herd. Like deer, the growth of the elk herd can be influenced by several factors, such as winter severity, habitat, and hunter intensity.

Like deer, elk are also susceptible to chronic wasting disease (CWD), but as of early 2022, no wild elk in Wisconsin have tested positive for the disease. The northern and central herds are in areas adjacent to where CWD has been detected in wild deer, so the risk to wild elk is an ongoing concern. As was described in the ma'iingan-deer section above, large predators like ma'iinganag may play an important role in mitigating the spread and/or prevalence of CWD on the landscape. Efforts are currently underway to design and implement scientific field research on the wolf-prey-CWD relationship.

Ma'iingan's Relationship with Prey: Moose

The only established moose population in the 1837/1842 ceded territories can be found near the northeast edge of the 1842 ceded territory, primarily in what is now part of Marquette, Baraga, and Iron counties in Michigan. This population, while small, has demonstrated slow but overall positive growth since it was re-established by air-lifting moose in from Ontario in 1985 and 1987. The most recent survey of this population, conducted in 2019, estimated the population at a little over 500 moose. (A smaller population, not surveyed but believed to number less than 100 animals, also exists further east in the UP in the 1836 ceded territory, in the vicinity of the Seney Wildlife Area.)

As with many other beings, ma'iingan's relationship with moose likely varies depending on the location, habitat, and a host of other factors, and one may need to use caution on applying findings from one area to another. For example, fascinating insights have been gained from one of the longest predator/prey studies in history, which has focused on moose/wolf relationships on Isle Royale, but the unique conditions which exist on the island may have limited application on mainland populations of either species.

Unlike with white-tailed deer, there has been relatively little public concern expressed about possible negative effects of ma'iinganag on the Michigan moose population. This may be because the population has been slowly building over time - while moose populations in many areas on the southern edge of their range have been in decline - or because hunters hold less interest because this population has never been subject to a harvest season.

While some people blame wolves for moose population declines in other areas, it appears that other factors associated with habitat changes and climate change may be underlying moose decline, as moose have also declined in areas without wolves. High populations of white-tailed deer pose another threat, as a brain worm that has little impact on deer can be fatal in moose. A recent study in northeast Minnesota found that wolves may mitigate this problem to a degree, by acting to separate deer and moose populations, reducing transmission (Oliveira-Santos et al., 2021).

Ma'iingan's Relationship with Prey: Beavers

Ma'iingan's relationship with beavers is complex, and likely varies markedly in different landscapes and with different beaver densities and even the behavior of individual wolves. Beavers are likely the second-most important food for wolves in the ceded territories, but the impact wolves have on beaver populations are not well understood here. In Yellowstone, where beavers were quite rare, wolf reintroduction appeared to increase beaver numbers by triggering a trophic cascade – a "discovery" consistent with TEK teachings about the interconnectedness of all life. In this instance, it was brought about by wolves impacting elk feeding behavior, which encouraged tree regeneration in river valleys, which provided habitat for beaver. In Voyageurs National Park, where beavers are abundant, beaver seem to be an important spring and summer food source but appear to have little impact on beaver population levels (Gable et al., 2020). And on Isle Royale, an increase in beaver populations seemed to be associated with a period of low wolf numbers. Collectively, these findings suggest caution when assuming the impacts of ma'iingan on beaver in particular areas.

However, all these studies also suggest that wolves can indirectly impact hydrology in an area by impacting beaver presence and activity, as well as impacting plant communities which may in turn affect hydrology. Gable et al. (2020) summarized it by stating "By affecting where and when beavers engineer

ecosystems, wolves alter all of the ecological processes (e.g., water storage, nutrient cycling, and forest succession) that occur due to beaver-created impoundments," another reminder of complexity and interconnectedness of natural communities.

Ma'iingan's Relationship with Prey: Hares and Small Rodents

While wolves will eat many different animals at times, the proportion of their annual diet that does not consist of deer and beaver is relatively small, and given the relatively small number of wolves on the landscape even when their population is at carrying capacity, the direct impacts of ma'iinganag on the populations of other prey species is likely negligible.

However, as a top-level predator, wolves may affect rodents - and many plant and animal species - indirectly, through other examples of trophic cascades The indirect impacts of wolves on plants, by altering deer behavior, is discussed above. A similar chain is thought to exist regarding wolves, other Canids, rodents, and ticks. Computer modeling suggests this cascade work as follows: Wolves reduce the abundance of coyotes in an area, which allows the population of fox to increase. Fox are the most efficient predators of small rodents which can be important transmitters of ticks, and thus tick-borne diseases (Levi et al., 2012). Thus, healthy wolf populations may ultimately reduce human exposure to tick-borne diseases such as Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and ehrlichiosis, all of which have a significant presence in the ceded territory.

Ma'iingan's Relationship with Scavengers, Including Ravens

Wolves often are not able to completely consume their larger prey in a single feeding event, and thus many species have been observed utilizing the carcasses of wolf-killed animals, including ravens, eagles, bears, coyotes, fox, and many others. It has been noted that these "subsidies" from wolves are more important to scavenger populations than the remains left by hunters because they are available year-round (Wilmers et al., 2003). In Yellowstone, this provisioning was found to help stabilize the raven population by providing a regular food supply, regardless of winter severity (Walker et al., 2018). The hair left behind at kill sites can be used by small mammals and birds for nest building (Seward et al. 2004). If the prey was a mature male elk or deer, the antlers can provide minerals and nutrients for porcupines, squirrels, rabbits, and various other small mammals. Decomposers, such as invertebrates, bacteria, and fungi can also benefit from the remains of the carcass. Eventually, when the remains of a wolf-killed elk, deer, or moose fully decompose, the various nutrients and minerals enter the soil, which can influence tree reproduction. These biogeochemical "hotspots" in the herbaceous layer of the forest at wolf prey carcass sites may also influence plant biodiversity (Bump et al. 2009). This, in turn, can be one additional factor contributing to healthier forest ecosystems, sustaining life for all beings within the forest. While the subsidy provided to scavengers may be less in the ceded territories than in areas where wolf prey species are commonly larger (like elk), there is little doubt many species in the ceded territories besides humans benefit from having wolves in the ecosystem.

Naturalists and wildlife watchers have recorded many observations of wolf and raven interactions. An unattributed "Native American saying" is that the wolf acts as the raven's tooth and the raven as the wolf's eye. There are many reported observations of ravens attracting wolves to animal carcasses through loud calling; the ravens later benefit by having wolves open the carcass, making parts available for the ravens to scavenge. There are also reports of ravens playing with wolf pups, including playing "tug of war" with them using sticks.

John Vucetich (2021) has even hypothesized that ravens may be part of the reason that wolves hunt in packs, suggesting that packs allow wolves to lose less of the kill to ravens, as more of the kill can be immediately consumed.

These ecological influences of the wolf-prey relationship illustrate not only the importance of large predators like ma'iingan, but also emphasizes the interconnectivity of everything.

Mortality

Natural mortality in wolves can take many forms, including disease, starvation, injury/accident related, and predation, especially intra-specific (wolf on wolf) predation. Human-induced mortality also takes several forms. Non-intentional forms include vehicle accidents, wolves accidentally shot when mistaken for legal game, and wounding loss during recreational killing seasons. Intentional human mortality includes government-authorized killing such as hunting and trapping seasons, lethal control in response to livestock depredations (and rarely pet depredation or human safety concerns), and poaching. Mortality levels can vary significantly from year-to-year. Mortality rates can leap when wolves are delisted from federal protection, particularly in Wisconsin, where a state law requires a recreational killing season to take place (with its associated wounding loss), and lethal depredation control also occurs when wolves' federal status changes from Endangered to unlisted. In addition, research suggests that illegal killing of wolves increases when federal protections are removed (Santiago-Ávila et al., 2020).

While natal year mortality is typically high at about 70%, mortality for wolves 1-year-old and older averages about 35% in stable populations and can be considerably less in populations that are growing, particularly when protected from hunting, trapping and depredation removal. This relatively modest rate of adult mortality is significant because it limits how much the population can compensate for other sources of mortality, including depredation control and recreational harvest.

In Wisconsin, where more than half of the ceded territory wolves live, mortality from illegal and accidental kill is thought to be in the range of 10-19% of the adult population (Stenglein and Van Deelen, personal communication). Estimates of illegal kill in the Minnesota or Michigan are not available, but some biologists are concerned that the relatively low level the Michigan ma'iingan population has plateaued at suggests illegal kill may be even higher in that state.

Lethal depredation control has been on-going in Minnesota, where ma'iingan have always been listed as Threatened, rather than Endangered, when ESA protections are in place. It is also important to note that while lethal removal of depredating animals has been greatest in Wisconsin and Michigan during the periods of delisting which occurred from 2012-2014 and again since January of 2021, lower levels of lethal depredation control also occurred during many other years under special rules (Table 1).

Recreational wolf killing occurred in Minnesota from 2012-2014; in Wisconsin from 2012-2014 and in 2021, and in Michigan only in 2013. Table 2 summarizes the number of wolves killed under state-authorized take in each state since 2010 and shows the great differences between states. Of course, the biological impact of recreational harvest varies not only with the proportion of the population that is killed, but the sex and age of the animals killed. Timing of the killing is also important. For example, when one of the breeding members of a pack is killed in November or December, there may be an opportunity for another animal to fulfill that role before the breeding season arrives in February. Wisconsin's February 2021 wolf season was not comparable to any other wolf season on record by occurring entirely within the middle of ma'iingan's breeding season. There is little doubt that the impact

on the population was greater than just the number of animals killed would suggest, but no post-kill population estimate was available at the time this document was written.

Table 2. Number of ma'iingan killed, by state, through lethal control or recreational killings, 2010 -2021. Number killed is reported by calendar year for lethal control; recreational kill is reported by the year which the killing season began or would have normally began (see footnote). Lethal control primarily consists of killing in response to livestock depredations, but also includes small numbers of wolves killed in response to pet depredations or human safety concerns. Most lethal control is done by USDA – APHIS Wildlife Services staff, but some was conducted by state representatives, or landowners during periods of delisting. Data compiled from various sources including USDA-Wildlife Services Reports and annual state DNR harvest season reports. MI data provided by B. Roell. MN data does not include take by private landowners.

State	Kill Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
MN	Dep. Control	192	202	262[a]	114[a]	197[a]	213	183	190	189	166	216	152	2,276
	Sport			413	238	264								915
	Total	192	202	675	352	461	213	183	190	189	166	216	152	3,191
WI	Dep. Control	14	4	76	65	35	1	0	1	0	0	4	69	269
	Sport			117	257	154						218[b]		746
	Total	14	4	193	322	189	1	0	1	0	0	222	69	1,015
MI	Dep. Control	5	4	26	12	15	1	6	1	0	1	0	9	80
	Sport				23									23
	Total	5	4	26	35	15	1	6	1	0	1	0	9	103
Total		211	210	894	709	665	215	189	192	189	167	438	230	4,309

[a] Includes take by USDA-Wildlife Services and state contracted trappers.

[b] Although this killing occurred in February of 2021, the season which would have normally began in 2020 and is shown as such here to make clear it occurred before the 2021 depredation season.

Diseases and Parasites

Ma'iinganag are known to susceptible to a fairly large number of diseases and parasites, including rabies, canine distemper, canine parvovirus, mange, and dozens of different round worms, tape worms, flukes, or other parasites. However, relatively little is understood about the impacts that each may have on wolf populations and learning more about these impacts is challenging. The impact of each likely varies with factors such as the age, condition, and genetics of the infected wolf, as well as previous exposure the population may have had with the negative agent. In addition, since individual wolves often may be subject to more than one disease or parasite at a time, individual effects may be hard to discern, and cumulative effects may be greater than the sum of individual impacts. Although the paper is now nearly 30 years old, one of the most comprehensive summaries of known infectious and parasitic diseases can be found in Brand et al. (1995). In small, isolated, or recently introduced populations, diseases can sometimes have appreciable impacts on wolf populations. An outbreak of distemper in Yellowstone was associated with a 30% decline in the population in 2005 (Almberg et al.,2016), and the introduction of parvovirus to Isle Royale by visitors by dogs resulted caused a crash in the ma'iingan population there (Wilmers et al. 2006), with the population declining from 51 to 14 animals in 2 years.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

To a degree far greater than for most species, ma'iingan's relationship with people has been interwoven with human law. For the Ojibwe, it began with the original treaties - the "Supreme Law of the Land" discussed above - that defined some of the tribes' relationship with, and responsibility towards, ma'iingan. The relationship between non-tribal members and wolves in the US has also frequently been a matter of law, particularly the Endangered Species Act (ESA). There is also some mention of wolves in the court cases associated with re-affirmation of off-reservation treaty rights, but it is quite limited. Finally, legal responsibilities are also woven into the federal government's treaty obligations and trust responsibility to the tribes. Each of these legal constructs not only affects wolves directly but adds complexity to ma'iingan stewardship in the ceded territories.

It is important to note that since ma'iingan is the brother to the Ojibwe, they are considered tribal members. In this understanding, treaty rights which the tribes hold are also held by ma'iingan.

Federal Laws

The most important federal law regarding wolves is the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Wolves were the first species covered by ESA protections. When the ESA was passed, the only wolves remaining in the contiguous 48 states were found in northern Minnesota. As a result, ma'iinganag in Minnesota were listed as Threatened under the Act; in the remainder of the 48 contiguous states, they were listed as Endangered. The most significant practical difference between the two statuses is that in Minnesota, wolves could be killed in response to livestock depredations, but nowhere else; recreational hunting and trapping was not allowed anywhere.

While a full review of the history of ESA protections for wolves in the ceded territory is beyond the scope of this document, it is important to consider the massive swings in state wolf "management" that have occurred when status under the ESA has changed.

In the ceded territories, for example, over the last 2 decades ma'iinganag have been either downlisted (once) or delisted (4 times), with each action eventually being reversed because of legal challenges. The most recent delisting occurred in January of 2021 and led to the disastrous February 2021 Wisconsin hunt. (Another Wisconsin season, planned for the fall of 2021, was blocked by a suit brought in state court.) That delisting was reversed in February of 2022, again reverting wolves to Threatened status in Minnesota and Endangered in Wisconsin and Michigan. Thus, the current federal status of wolves is not consistent across the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories.

The status of ma'iinganag under the ESA is often greatly influenced by their status outside of the "Western Great Lakes" (a term used by the US Fish and Wildlife Service) population. While significant recovery of wolves has occurred in northern Minnesota, northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula, large areas of historic and currently suitable range in the contiguous 48 states remain unrecovered. Nevertheless, federal delistings have consistently included areas well beyond the region where recovery has actually occurred, one of the factors which has led to delisting reversals. It appears likely that swings in wolf status under the ESA will continue to occur, at least in some areas.

One major issue related to delisting is that states have often responded to them by rapidly initiating wolf seasons, often aggressive ones. As noted above, Minnesota and Wisconsin held annual seasons

during the 2012-2014 delisting period, and the Wisconsin DNR was forced to hurriedly implement the February 2021 season – despite opposition from the Department, which recognized it needed more time to adequately prepare for it – because of the state law requiring a season.

Neither Minnesota nor Michigan held seasons in 2021. Instead, both states initiated consultation with their publics and with the tribes, and both conducted social attitude surveys and began updates to their state wolf plans. These thoughtful and measured responses to the most recent delisting hopefully reflect a positive development in wolf conservation in those states.

Federal Trust Responsibility

Regardless of ma'iingan's status under the ESA, the federal government holds treaty obligations and a trust responsibility to the tribes. What this means in practice regarding ma'iingan stewardship has not been clear, and federal agencies have largely seemed unenthused about embracing this responsibility, especially on off-reservation ceded lands, during previous periods of delisting.

Recently however, there have been two encouraging developments which may suggest greater implementation of these obligations going forward.

In November of 2021, the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture issued *Joint Secretarial Order No. 3403, Fulfilling the Trust Responsibility to Indian Tribes in the Stewardship of Federal Lands and Waters*. This order includes provisions regarding the development of agreements with federally recognized tribes for stewardship of federal lands and waters, including wildlife and its habitat. This order could create significant opportunities for ma'iingan stewardship in the ceded territory, primarily because of the large acreage of federal lands, especially National Forests, they contain. Because off-reservation harvesting rights are currently limited to public lands, the health of the ma'iingan population and the benefits they provide, is critical on these lands. Nevertheless, harvest from state wolf seasons is often disproportionally taken from these very lands. For example, while only 28% of the Wisconsin ceded territory is public, 80% of the February 2021 kill was reported on public land. A co-stewardship agreement to protect wolves on National Forests would not only greatly protect tribal interests but would help protect Forest Service interests in forest regeneration and maintaining biological diversity.

Precedents exist for closing federal lands in Wisconsin to wolf hunting. The Apostle Islands National Park does not allow the taking of wolves from its mainland unit, or from Sand or Long Islands, and Fort McCoy is closed to wolf hunting or trapping.

The second encouraging development occurred in January of 2022, when Assistant Secretaries for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Fish and Wildlife and Parks sent a letter to WDNR Secretary Preston Cole recognizing the tribes' rights not only to harvest species, "but to conserve and protect them to ensure healthy populations and protect vital ecosystems that support the exercise of treaty-reserved rights." Furthermore, the letter indicated that it was the Department's view that Wisconsin must "honor the Ojibwe Tribes' reserved rights, including their right to protect rather than take wolves, as it undertakes the next round of planning for gray wolf hunts under Wisconsin State Law."

Hopefully these two actions signal greater implementation of the federal treaty obligations and trust responsibility in the future and will help secure the health of the ceded territory ma'iingan population.

Ma'iingan and the Endangered Species Act

The intersection of the Endangered Species Act and the Ojibwe world view has long highlighted significant differences behind the two respective cultures. The ESA is a non-tribal construct designed to protect beings whose populations are in serious peril, and has often being described as the "emergency room" of western wildlife management. It played a critical role in allowing wolves in the Midwest to recover and again occupy traditional lands in the ceded territory, and the tribes appreciate and are thankful for its existence.

The divergence in perspectives becomes pronounced when wolves (or other species) become delisted. The respect and concern previously given to species can appear to evaporate with the stroke of a pen, as happened in Wisconsin in February of 2021, when over 20% of the wolf population was slaughtered, in the middle of their breeding season, just weeks after being "wheeled out of the emergency room." In the tribal perspective, the relationship with wolves should always be respectful and reciprocal, and so there has often been resistance to delisting, as the protections the ESA provides ma'iinganag are seen as appropriate regardless of their biological status.



Similar perceptions towards wolves certainly exist among many in the non-tribal community – and to a clear majority of the non-tribal community in regard to another being: the Bald Eagle. Eagles are held in high cultural esteem by both cultures. The non-tribal community has expressed its desire to protect bald and golden eagles - regardless of their biological status – by creating special legislation (the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act) that immediately provided critical protections the moment these beings were delisted from the ESA. Similar legislation has been proposed by many environmental groups for other animals, especially large predators like wolves which hold critical environmental roles but often remain persecuted by certain portions of society. If these kinds of protections were in place for ma'iingan, opposition to delisting would likely pass.

Until the day that may happen, it is worth noting that many of the tenets outlined in this plan align closely with the protections provided species that are listed as Threatened under the ESA, including no recreational harvest, and limited, but possible, lethal control in response to livestock and pet depredations or the very rare instances of human health and safety concerns. When the health of ma'iingan populations is looked at across the contiguous 48, a national listing of wolves as Threatened appears to be a highly reasonable approach, but to date the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has not pursued this option.

State Management

When wolves are not under ESA protections, "management" authority shifts from the federal government to the states and tribes. Unfortunately, the impact of state actions typically dwarfs tribal impacts within the ceded territories and can even greatly affect wolves that live primarily within reservation boundaries, because regional reservations are not large enough to contain entire wolf territories.

Wolf management objectives vary by state. Providing recreational harvest opportunity is often an important concern, but this may be changing as some states' policies become more aligned with the desires of their greater constituencies, rather than just the hunting and trapping interests. Within the ceded territories, Michigan has largely avoided recreational hunting; it held only one hunt during the last two delisting periods and attempted to design that season to specifically focus take in areas with depredation issues.

Existing state management plans in the region have not specifically identified maximizing ecological function and non-hunting social benefits as goals. However, as of 2022, each of the three states is in the process of creating new or updated wolf plans. We hope the states will use this opportunity to infuse more holistic approaches to ma'iingan conservation in their plans.

> *"We are fighting for our off-reservation rights all the time."*
>
> *Chairman John Johnson Sr.*
> *Lac du Flambeau Tribe*

While the cases which reaffirmed the existence of off-reservation treaty rights were litigated in federal court, they apply most directly to the relationship between the states and the tribes. However, the cases reaffirming the treaty rights in the Wisconsin and Minnesota portions of the ceded territories provide limited guidance on the implementation of the government-to-government relationship in the realm of ma'iingan conservation. Since these cases were between the tribes and the respective states, and since wolves were under ESA protections and federal authority at the time they unfolded, the states held little legal authority regarding wolves at the time. Thus, unlike several species for which extensive management stipulations were created, no ma'iingan management/stewardship stipulation was developed and wolves were minimally addressed.

The relatively small ma'iingan population in the ceded territory at the time of the cases may have also contributed to the lack of attention they were given. In 1991 when the final judgement was entered in the *LCO v. Wisconsin* case, there were just 40 ma'iingan in Wisconsin, and likely no one anticipated the state would eventually have a 4-figure population. In 1999, when the US Supreme Court affirmed the existence of the treaty rights in the 1837 ceded territory, the Minnesota population was much more robust at about 2,500 animals, but ma'iinganag had only begun to extend their range into the Minnesota portion of the 1837 ceded territory.

The tribes' model conservation codes which were created in the Wisconsin and Minnesota cases do address ma'iinganag in two ways, however. Both codes have provisions which incorporates any plant or animal on the Federal list of Endangered or Threatened species onto the tribal list, and (with very limited exceptions) prohibits the take of these species. During periods of federal delisting, ma'iinganag can still be included on the tribal list of Threatened and Endangered species at each tribes' discretion. Lacking that action, however, both codes also include ma'iinganag among the list of "protected species,"

which no member can hunt or trap. (The code for the Wisconsin ceded territories lists "timber wolves," a common name now falling out of use; the code for the Minnesota Ceded Territory lists the now more commonly accepted "gray wolf.")

The Michigan portion of the 1842 ceded territory has not been litigated in federal court, but tribal codes have extended these protective provisions to the Michigan portion of the ceded territory as well.

Other Court Stipulations

The stipulations from the Wisconsin and Minnesota treaty cases provide additional guidance on the implementation of government-to-government consultation regarding treaty-reserved rights.

In the stipulation from the *LCO v. Wisconsin* case, it was agreed that the DNR "Wolf Committee," (and any DNR committee that is formed to address management issues of any treaty-reserved resource) shall include a recognized tribal representative as an official member. Further, it was agreed that a consensus approach would be used and that the parties would make all reasonable efforts to reach a consensus in all committees or processes outlined in the stipulation.

The Minnesota case created a *Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory Wildlife and Plant Resources Committee* to address coordination of resource stewardship between the state and tribes. While this protocol again does not specifically address wolves because they were federally listed at the time the protocol was developed, it sets clear precedent by: assigning the committee the task of developing recommendations on harvestable surplus levels for other species, indicating that the committee shall strive to reach consensus on all issues, and laying out a detailed process for dispute resolution. The primary protocols involved should be amended to add ma'iingan to the current list of species, which includes bear, deer, turkey, and registered furbearers, to which this language applies.

Ultimately, however, it is likely that the courts will never define the full extent of the treaty right, nor every aspect of the appropriate government-to-government relationship it entails. In the end, the best outcomes for ma'iinganag will be achieved when both parties enter the relationship with respect and commitment, and focus upon the health of the ma'iingan population, rather than upon establishing relative legal authority and satisfying the minimal requirements which the court may establish.

On-Reservation Stewardship & Cooperation with Non-GLIFWC Tribes

While the focus of this plan is ceded lands outside of reservation boundaries, reservation boundaries, like state boundaries, have no significance to ma'iinganag, and some on-reservation stewardship issues inherently extend beyond the reservation border.

It is important that states also maintain appropriate government-to-government relationships with individual tribes to ensure that wolves living both on and off reservations are stewarded cooperatively.

USDA-APHIS WI has long worked cooperatively with tribes when depredations have been reported within a 6-mile buffer around the larger reservations in Wisconsin, including Red Cliff, Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, and Lac du Flambeau (as well as the Menominee/Stockbridge Munsee complex), allowing for joint investigation and decision making.

And while Wisconsin recognized the borders of several reservations and closed them to recreational wolf harvests, similar buffer areas have not been put in during these hunts, leaving ma'iinganag which

live primarily on tribal lands subject to harvest when they step off the reservation. This situation has been even worse in Minnesota and Michigan, which allowed hunting and trapping on non-tribal lands within reservation boundaries when recreational seasons were in place. It is incumbent upon the respective states to work with tribal government to address these issues in a cooperative manner. Failure to do so is only likely to trigger conflict.

Of course, many regional tribes that are not members of GLIFWC share many of the relationship tenets described in this plan and hold similar desires for the wolf population. We welcome opportunities to work cooperatively with these tribes to advance common concerns and promote a healthy and appropriate relationship with ma'iinganag within the ceded territory and beyond.

Finally, GLIFWC staff welcome requests from our member tribes to provide biological advice and expertise related to wolf stewardship as requested.

Livestock And Pet Depredations

Although ma'iinganag only depredate livestock on a small number and percentage of farms in the ceded territory, livestock interests often oppose ma'iingan population goals that are necessary for a healthy and biologically functional wolf population. They also have significant political clout. Depredations can also sometimes cause appreciable hardships for individual livestock raisers. Thus, it will remain important to work with the agricultural industry to gain greater support for healthy wolf populations.

Most agencies charged with responding to livestock depredations use some mix of lethal of and non-lethal responses to depredations. However, in many areas, lethal control (or attempts at it) have often been the primary response, and significant funds have been applied in the process. Surprisingly, studies on the effectiveness of lethal control have been quite mixed in their findings. Results appear to be affected by the scale at which evaluation is conducted, and evaluation can be difficult when wolf populations are growing over the evaluation period, which has often been the case.

Several studies have found that lethal control was ineffective at reducing depredations when examined at regional or state-wide levels (Wielgus and Peebles, 2014; Musiani et al., 2005; Harper et al., 2008) and sometimes were associated with increases in depredations. Harper et al. also looked at local farm clusters and found reduction in future depredations only on sheep farms and when one or more adult male ma'iinganag were removed.

Two papers have shown reductions in subsequent depredations (Bradley et al., 2015, and DeCesare et al., 2018). The effectiveness of lethal control varied with how quickly it was applied, the size of the wolf pack involved, and the number of animals removed. However, both studies were conducted in western states (Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, and Montana, respectively). Livestock rearing practices are very different in those states than in the Midwest. In addition, depredations in those states peak in the fall versus in the spring in the Midwest, and wolf pack sizes also tend to be larger. Collectively, these differences suggest it may be unwise to assume similar results will be found in the ceded territory, and the need for rigorous studies at a local level remains.

Non-lethal and preventative actions also show benefits. Most recently, USDA APHIS in Minnesota reported that in the two years their conflict prevention program has existed (2020-2021), there has

been no verified wolf damage inside turbo fladry-protected areas or where other non-lethal prevention activities have been deployed (USDA-Wildlife Services Report, 2021).

Until the relative effectiveness of lethal, non-lethal and preventative responses to livestock depredations is better understood, all these approaches will likely continue to be used in all three states in the ceded territory. It is notable that the long-term use of lethal control in Minnesota - in the absence of sport harvest - did not prevent that ma'iingan population from growing and expanding into Wisconsin and Michigan.

With these considerations in mind, the Voigt Task Force has supported the role of government agents in verifying wolf depredations and determining the appropriate responses to them. The Task Force supports the use of non-lethal responses wherever reasonable and effective, but has not opposed the limited use of targeted, lethal control in instances of verified wolf depredations as a last resort where non-lethal approaches have proven impractical or ineffective.

This same policy applies to the loss of pet animals, but not to depredations of hunting dogs that occur in in the act of hunting, or training to hunt.

Hunting Dog Depredations

Hunters assume numerous risks when training or hunting with their animals. Dogs may suffer accidents, injure themselves, be hit by vehicles, or be hurt or killed by the animals they are pursuing. These risks are inherent in these recreational activities and must be accepted by the dog owner who voluntarily subjects their dogs to them. Wolves should never be killed in response to depredations on dogs that occur in hunting or training situations.

Of the 3 states included in the ceded territory, dog depredations are highest in Wisconsin. From 2011 to 2018 (years with data available to GLIFWC from both states), dog depredations in Minnesota were 71% lower than in Wisconsin (average of 9.5 per year versus 32.5), despite the ma'iingan population being about 2.5 times higher in Minnesota. A study which compared wolf hunting dog depredations between Wisconsin and Michigan also found the relative risk of depredation to be 2.1–7.2 x greater in Wisconsin than Michigan (Bump et al., 2013).

The high levels of dog depredations in Wisconsin compared to the adjacent states appears to rest on regulatory differences between them. Minnesota does not allow hunting bears with dogs, and bear baiting in Michigan –where dogs can be used to hunt bears - begins nearly 4 months later than in Wisconsin. Bait stations appear to act as focal points which can lead to dog depredation events by putting wolves and hunting dogs in proximity.

The timing of hound dog depredations in Wisconsin is highly seasonal. And most depredations occur during the bear training period, rather than the hunting period (Bump et al. 2013). This is likely because during the training period, wolf pups are less developed and less mobile, and are still living at rendezvous sites. Their immobility makes it difficult for wolves to avoid confrontations with roaming dog packs, and the pups' vulnerability triggers aggressive protection by adults.

Wisconsin also is the only state in the ceded territory where it is legal to hunt wolves with dogs. As the February 2021 season showed, this is a highly effective but poorly regulated method. And it is possible this method may be increasing wolves' hostility towards dogs.

These factors suggest that certain regulatory changes, such as shortening the training or baiting period or banning the use of dogs to hunt bears, could substantially reduce the number of hunting dog depredations that occur in Wisconsin. However, to date hound hunting interests have eschewed restricting their activities in any way, and instead have proposed reducing the wolf population down to biologically unsound levels so they can enjoy their sport with fewer losses.

EDUCATION NEEDS

The need for accurate and effective education regarding ma'iinganag is great, yet it tends to be chronically under-addressed. There are still many people who grew up being taught wolf falsehoods and many anti-wolf organizations continue to advance these myths to advance their agenda. While it can be very difficult to alter the opinions of adults who reject science, youth or individuals with an open mind often come to understand the important ecological role of wolves and the benefits they provide. Social surveys of the general public suggest that educational efforts have been effective in changing attitudes. For example, a recent survey of Minnesota residents (Schroeder et al., 2020) found high levels of support for wolves, with 86% wanting about the same or more wolves in the state, and nearly 89% wanting about the same or more area occupied by wolves. In addition, more residents opposed hunting and trapping seasons than supported them (hunting: 48.9% oppose, 40.5% support, 10.5% neutral; trapping: 58.1% oppose, 30% support, 11.9% neutral). While state DNRs and politicians often remain more responsive to hunters, trappers, and other special interest groups, increasing public support for a sound relationship with ma'iinganag will hopefully eventually result in greater responsiveness to the public, and a greater embracing of science by policy-setters.

Education can take many different forms, and the most effective differ by audience. While the general public remains an important audience, deer hunters may be an especially important group to target. This group may be less imbedded in their opposition to wolves than bear hunters (particularly in Wisconsin) or livestock producers. In addition, while some will resist the idea, at a landscape level, deer hunters directly benefit from wolves' role in maintaining deer herd health, especially regarding diseases such as CWD. Effective education of deer hunters should eventually lead to greater support for wolves from this influential group.

Education is also needed to debunk the falsehoods which have long surrounded wolves. Both TEK and contemporary science can help dispute these falsehoods, and help people understand that many of the reasons given as to why wolves should or need to be hunted are unfounded. While a full review of these arguments and their rebuttals is beyond the scope of this document, it is worthwhile to review some of the primary ones here:

Human Safety Concerns

Many people grow up being taught to fear wolves, but fear, and actual risk of harm, are very different things. While wolves should always be treated in a respectful manner, and people should never habituate wolves to human presence, ma'iingan typically avoid people, and present very little risk. Many other animals and natural events pose far greater risk of harm, including bees, dogs, cattle, and lightning strikes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that nearly 200 Americans die annually from deer/vehicle accidents, while there have only been 2 documented cases of wolves killing humans in North America in modern history, one of which likely involved a wolf that had been

habituated to human presence. Given the recent study which found that wolf presence reduces the frequency of deer/vehicle collisions in Wisconsin (Raynor et al., 2021), wolf presence may overall benefit human safety.

In addition, in the very rare situations in which individual wolves act boldly or threateningly around humans, an immediate and targeted reaction by government agents is an appropriate and effective response. The argument that human safety issues justify a general hunting season is without merit.

Livestock Depredation

The negative impacts of ma'iingan on livestock is often presented as a substantial problem for the industry, and wolves have been documented killing a wide range of livestock ranging from cattle to chickens. Nevertheless, while ma'iingan depredations can be important and painful for some individual ranchers, depredation losses to wolves at an industry level have remained extremely small. For example, the US Department of Agriculture estimated that from 2019-2022, Wisconsin supported about 3.46 million cattle or calves annually, and reported that the average number of cattle or calves slaughtered in the state over 2019 and 2020 was 1.41 million (Tyler Heep, USDA, personal communication). From 2010-2018, the average number of confirmed depredations (killed or injured) of cattle in the state was 47. Thus, the number of confirmed cattle depredations in a year is similar to the number that are slaughtered every 20 minutes. While acknowledging that not every wolf depredation is confirmed and that many of Wisconsin's cattle live outside of primary wolf range, it nevertheless places the level of threat the wolf population creates for the Wisconsin cattle industry into perspective. And this impact is further reduced because unlike for losses to other predators like coyotes and bears, ranchers can be reimbursed for losses caused by wolves. In addition, losses to coyotes are likely reduced in areas occupied by wolves. Thus, while the ranching industry may face many challenges, losses to wolves is clearly not a significant one.

Regardless of the exact level of negative impacts that ma'iinganag may have on livestock producers, there are two related questions that must be considered if one is attempting to justify a hunting season on the basis of depredation losses: 1) does hunting reduce future depredations or not, and 2) do depredation losses outweigh the positive benefits ma'iinganag provide?

Evidence that hunting wolves reduces livestock depredations is extremely limited. A Montana study found that public harvest only reduced the number of statewide depredation events by 6 per year (DeCesare et.al., 2018).

Scientifically defensible data originating within the ceded territory or surrounding states is even more difficult to find, but some insights may be gained from depredation records.

If recreational hunting did reduce future depredations, one would expect fewer depredations would occur in the years which follow years with hunting seasons, versus years without them. Minnesota held hunting seasons from 2012-1014, which would presumably affect the 2013-2015 "depredation years."

While the sample size is very small (3), an average of 19 fewer verified depredations of cattle and poultry were recorded over the 2013-2015 period compared to other years over the 2011 – 2021 period (69 versus 88 confirmations per year) (USDA-Wildlife Services Report, 2021). The lower average was attributable to 2013 and 2014; 92 verified depredations occurred in 2015, slightly higher than the

average for the years not following hunts. The average recreational kill during this period was 305 wolves per year.

One might also expect the number of wolves killed in lethal depredation control to decline in years following years with hunting seasons. Depredation kill was markedly reduced in 2013, but kill was slightly higher than the average of years not following hunts in 2014 and 2015.

Of course, these correlations may be happenstance. Other factors likely also affect depredation levels. Winters which are severe for deer, for example, may make more food available for wolves, and result in fewer livestock depredations. In short, available data is inadequate to draw firm conclusions about the impact that hunting seasons had on livestock depredations in Minnesota.

Attempting to do a similar evaluation for Wisconsin is even less informative, since lethal depredation control also greatly increases during periods of delisting when wolves are also hunted, making it impossible to determine the effects of each. Nevertheless, the hunting seasons from 2012-2014 would be expected to reduce depredations from 2013-2015, and indeed, it initially appeared that this occurred. The record high levels of depredations seen from 2010-2012 (ave. 110) deps/year) fell 27% over the 2013-2015 period (ave. 80 deps/year). However, depredation levels remained low from 2016-2018, when no hunting was occurring (ave. 77 deps/year), and the wolf population was increasing, suggesting the reduction in verified depredations from 2013-2015 was likely not a result of the hunting seasons. Some have hypothesized that the low level of depredations in 2014 was due to the severity of the 2013-2014 winter, which had the highest winter severity index for deer since Wisconsin began collecting data in 1960. Similarly, some have suggested that the greater use of non-lethal responses to depredations in Wisconsin compared to Minnesota may, at least in part, explain why depredations have not increased with the wolf population in Wisconsin. The on-going lethal control of wolves in Minnesota may create voids that are filled by naïve wolves, perpetuating the problem, while Wisconsin wolves may be learning to avoid livestock through the use of non-lethal techniques, and even pass this knowledge on to subsequent generations.

The Wisconsin 2021 February season provides insight on why hunting seasons appear to have little effect on depredation levels. An analysis by Wisconsin's Green Fire (2021) found that of the 218 wolves killed in that season, only 9 (4.1%) were killed within 5 miles of a previous depredation location, 26 (11.9%) between 5 and 10 miles, and the remaining 183 (83.9%) more than 10 miles from the nearest verified depredation. Thus, given typical wolf territory sizes, the vast majority of the ma'iinganag killed were not involved in depredations. A disproportionate amount of the February kill came from public lands. While only 28% of the Wisconsin ceded territory is public, 80% of the February 2021 kill was reported as occurring on public land. Thus 4 out of 5 wolves killed came from the very areas most people consider optimal wolf habitat. This is similar to the findings of DeCesare et. Al., (2018), who found that 83% of livestock depredations, but only 41% of the sport harvest, occurred on private land in Montana.

It is also possible that wolf hunting could lead to increased depredations. Wolves are intelligent beings, and some seem to learn to live near livestock without preying upon them. However, if such a pack is stressed, such as through the loss of important pack members in a hunting season, the remaining animals may be more likely to depredate to survive.

It is difficult to fully measure every negative impact wolves may inflict on livestock, just as it's difficult to quantify every positive impact wolves provide. Undoubtedly not every wolf kill is verified, and non-lethal impacts, such as possible weight loss, are challenging to document and measure. Similarly, while the study of deer/vehicle accidents suggests Wisconsin citizens save $10.9 million a year due to wolves reducing deer presence on roadways, other major economic benefits such as improved tree regeneration, remain unquantified. However, there is scant evidence that recreational harvest seasons, at least as currently conducted, provide meaningful relief to the small number of ranchers experiencing losses, and the benefits of wolves appear to clearly outweigh their negatives. As with public safety concerns, timely and targeted responses by government agents are more likely to effectively address depredations when they occur.

Finally, research and active management to reduce the number of depredations which occur is generally seen by both wolf advocates and livestock interests as the best outcome of all. In 2020, USDA Wildlife Services in Minnesota gained funding that enabled them to substantially expand the non-lethal component of their wolf depredation program. This dedicated funding has "provided the tools and evidence to demonstrate to livestock producers and others that non-lethal preventative activities can be used to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts before damage has occurred in Minnesota" (USDA-Wildlife Services Report, 2021). Future plans for this funding include helping ranchers with proper carcass disposal, which is frequently a challenge in winter months, so that these carcasses don't attract wolves to livestock operations. Clearly, non-lethal tools can be an important component of livestock depredation management.

Population Control

Some individuals contend that the wolf population will grow "out of control" if not hunted. This is simply false. As noted above, ma'iinganag are highly territorial animals, and the combination of that behavior, and the typically limited levels of available (i.e. sick, injured, weakened) prey naturally keep wolf populations at very low levels compared to other wildlife species (or to people). Wolf populations have plateaued at modest levels in Minnesota and Michigan and were likely very close to doing so in Wisconsin prior to the February 2021 season. (The most recent population model (Stenglein et al., 2015) estimated carrying capacity in Wisconsin at 1242, including ma'iinganag living primarily within tribal reservations.)

It can also be helpful to place wolf numbers into context by comparing them to other species in the region. In Wisconsin, for example, the highest estimated wolf population in the state since recovery has occurred was about 1,126 wolves, counted at the low point in their annual cycle. Trumpeter Swans, still considered uncommon in the state, now number about 6,000. WDNR estimates the black bear population is over than 24,000, and it was believed to be over 28,000 in the mid 2010's. And the estimated deer population, *after* the 2020 hunt, was over 1.6 million, and about a half million higher than the post hunt estimate from just 6 years earlier. Of course, all these figures are dwarfed by the human population. The 2022 estimated human population for Wisconsin was 5.9 million; since 1980, the Wisconsin ma'iingan population has increased by 1,100; the human population by 1.2 million.

Wolf Impacts to the Deer Population

It is perhaps both surprising and not surprising that the myth of wolves reducing deer abundance has endured as long as it has. Many people assume that since ma'iinganag eat deer, they must reduce the deer population, but natural ecosystems cannot often be reduced to such simple calculations.

Unlike many contemporary deer hunters who view wolf sign in their hunting areas as a negative, tribal hunters and early Europeans explorers recognized the relationship between the abundance of wolves and the abundance of game animals. For example, on August 9, 1831, Henry Schoolcraft (1975) was canoeing about 18 miles south of what is currently Rice Lake, Wisconsin. He noted in his journal that "During the night wolves set up their howls near our camp, a sure sign that we were in deer country."

While wolves may affect the abundance of deer at a very local level, there is no evidence supporting the contention that wolves reduce deer at any type of landscape level.

Deer and wolves have co-evolved for at least one million years (Nelson and Mech, 1981), and deer have clearly been resilient to wolf predation. Few question the idea that both ungulate and wolf numbers were very high when Europeans first came to Turtle Island, suggesting wolves were not limiting prey abundance.

Killing a healthy deer is neither an easy nor a risk-free undertaking for ma'iinganag. Thus, wolves select young, old, injured, weakened or diseased prey. Culling these animals can have an effect like pruning an orchard; it improves the productivity and long-term health and vitality of the population.

Wolves are also only one of many factors affecting wolf abundance on the landscape. Human harvest, weather impacts, habitat quality, vehicle collisions, disease, and other predators such as bear, coyote and even bobcats, all take adult deer or fawns. In this complex environment, wolves simply are not a dominant force in determining deer numbers (Sitar and Roell, 2021).

In addition, not every deer eaten by wolves reflects a true reduction in the deer population. Wolves will readily take advantage of car-killed deer, or will take animals that have died, or are near to dying, from disease, malnutrition, hunter-inflicted wounds, or other factors.

And perhaps counter-intuitively, wolves reduce some other forms of morality for deer. The study which indicated that wolves reduce deer/vehicle accidents primarily by affecting deer behavior suggests that the number of deer killed by cars is reduced to some extent where wolves are present; the same is true of losses to coyotes, whose abundance is reduced in areas occupied by wolves. And as noted earlier, ma'iinganag likely reduce the distribution and prevalence of infectious diseases. All these factors reinforce the traditional teaching that wolves help maintain the health of the deer population across the ceded territory and elsewhere.

Thus, under normal circumstances wolves do not determine the number of deer on the landscape, so much as the number of deer determine the number of wolves. The ecologically minded deer hunter can return to the old understanding that seeing wolf sign is a reflection of a healthy deer herd in the area.

Finally, it should also be noted that while many deer hunters are never satisfied with the number of deer on the landscape, over-abundant deer populations can have highly detrimental impacts on forest health,

and, through increased disease transmission, even the health of their own populations. As has been discussed, wolves can provide positive benefits in both these realms.

Economics of Harvesting Wolves

The notion that hunting wolves can provide important income to hunters and trappers is the only common argument given for hunting wolves that does not hinge on their supposed negative qualities. Most Ojibwe feel that killing ma'iinganag only for their skin is abhorrent. However, this justification also fails from a purely financial analysis as well when applied to state wolf hunters, who collectively pay significantly to hunt wolves. For example, over the last 4 Wisconsin wolf seasons, the application and license fees collected by the state exceeded $1,525 for each animal harvested (GLIFWC unpublished data). These costs alone greatly exceed the value of the pelts (or in rare cases mounts) gained, and hunters and trappers obviously have other costs (including time, travel and equipment) associated with participating in the hunt. Only state DNRs generate income on wolf seasons.

In addition, if the individuals and organizations advancing this justification were sincere, they could be expected to support high population goals and be opposed to killing wolves during their breeding period. In most instances that has not been the case, indicating that this contention has been advanced as a false justification for killing wolves.

As each of these falsehoods is debunked, the primary motivations for killing wolves are exposed. These largely consist of killing simply to gain a trophy, or, for some (especially hound hunters who have had dogs depredated by wolves), to gain revenge for their losses. These reasons fail to meet the Ojibwe perspective that killing any animal needs to be based upon need, or the ethic of many sport hunters, who similarly contend that an animal should only be killed for a legitimate reason.

POPULATION MONITORING

The intensity of population monitoring that is required depends upon other management/stewardship decisions. Any time a state is implementing hunting seasons, annual population data should be collected. Alternatively, wolf populations not subject to annual harvests can generally be more lightly monitored, potentially saving natural resource agencies and their cooperators the substantial costs associated with annual surveys.

All 3 states in the ceded territory currently use reasonable approaches to monitoring the wolf population within them, and a duplication of these efforts to track the ceded territory population is not feasible or justified. However, if staffing permits, it would be beneficial to have tribal natural resource staff cooperating in each state's efforts to maximize our understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of each approach. For this to happen, however, the cooperation must include more than simple data collection and sharing but extend to participating in the process of generating the population estimates and interpreting the results.

It has always been difficult to know how sensitive each method is to changes in the wolf population. All methods ultimately rely on 3 basic parameters: how big is the area occupied by wolves, what is the average territory size, and what is the average pack size. Each of these parameters can be mis-measured. Average pack or territory size can be biased if most of the data is collected from non-random locations, such as only in core parts of the range, or areas with the highest prey abundance. Similarly,

some areas which might be considered occupied may not be – particularly if packs are removed or break down as a result of hunting seasons. The limitations of each method, and consideration of the wide confidence intervals they generate, should be considered anytime population model data is used to inform quota setting for state seasons.

RESEARCH NEEDS

While wolves have been heavily studied and a substantial body of TEK and western science knowledge exists, much remains to be learned, and the controversy which continues to surround the human/ma'iingan relationship spurs the need for further study. Some high-priority needs include:

Effectiveness of Lethal, Non-Lethal and Preventative Responses to Livestock Depredation

While various studies have attempted to look at the effectiveness of lethal or non-lethal responses to livestock depredations, results have often been conflicting. In addition, the studies showing the strongest positive result from lethal control have largely come from western states; the great differences in cattle husbandry from those areas compared to the Midwest raise questions about their applicability here. Development of cost-effective techniques to prevent depredations is supported by both agricultural and wolf conservation interests.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

It would be very valuable to better document ma'iingan's selectivity for CWD infected deer, and the impact of wolves' in reducing the spread of the disease. Although contrary to the Ojibwe world view, humans often weight the value of other beings primarily on the direct impacts they have on us. While wolves likely are selective for CWD infected deer and have positive impacts on prevalence of the disease, better documentation of their level of selectivity, the viability of prions that have passed through ma'iinganag' digestive system, their overall effect on disease prevalence, and the loss of this effectiveness that might result from reducing wolf populations below carrying capacity all could have important stewardship and education applications.

Evaluation Of Wolf Population Estimation Methods

Sound population figures are critical when wolves are subject to killing seasons. While the methods used to estimate populations by each state generate useful figures, they have wide confidence limits around them, and it is unclear if they function as well when applied to harvested vs unharvested populations, especially in instances where packs are lost as a result of hunting.

Health Assessments

True determination of the health of the wolf population goes beyond simply estimating the number that exist but should include understanding the health of individuals in the population, especially given the low levels which characterize wolf populations. An immediate need is to better document heartworm levels, but general monitoring of population health should be an ongoing activity. At a minimum, necropsies should be performed on an adequate sample of animals killed in any state-authorized activity, and special emphasis should be placed on examining any animal killed in the breeding season.

Harvest Models

Harvest of any species with small populations requires the utmost care. While we oppose the recreational harvest of wolves, states may unfortunately continue to have seasons. The model by Adams et al. (2008) has been frequently used to set, or at least inform, quota setting by states in the ceded territories. However, there are a several reasons why this model is likely inappropriate to use in the Midwest and may result in overharvest. Problems include: 1) most of the studies which the model is based upon were of relatively small areas, in remote locations, surrounded by areas with low wolf harvest. At this scale, immigration from surrounding areas can make high harvest levels sustainable; the authors recognized that and concluded that wolves were able to compensate for the high levels of human induced mortality in these studies "primarily via adjustments in dispersal components (i.e., local dispersal, emigration, and immigration), whereas responses in productivity or natural mortality have little or no role in offsetting harvests." However, these components lose their functionality when applied at a state-wide scale (when few wolves cross state lines), and/or at areas on the edge of wolf range where immigration from unoccupied range is not possible. 2) Most of the base studies also came from areas with very long seasons, and with limited access. Losses to poaching, vehicle accidents and lethal depredation are very low in these study areas and not comparable to the Midwest. 3) This model does not consider where the wolf population is relative to carrying capacity, suggesting the same harvest rate is sustainable at any level of the wolf population. This premise is contrary to basic population dynamics. It appears that regular application of this model may drive the population towards roughly ½ of carrying capacity, resulting in a significant loss of the ecological and cultural benefits ma'iinganag provide. More refined harvest models are needed if states continue to implement hunting seasons.

Impacts of Recreational Harvest on Ma'iingan Packs and Populations

Harvest seasons tend to focus only upon numbers: the number to be killed, and the number expected to survive. But ma'iinganag are highly social animals, and harvest seasons can have significant impacts on the social structure of a pack or the demographics of the population. These changes may in turn have repercussions on wolf behavior, such as the ability to transmit intergenerational knowledge, or alter the likelihood of committing depredations.

Harvest could also affect wolf density and reduce their ability to regulate disease prevalence or enhance tree regeneration or plant diversity.

The relatively unsophisticated season structures that have often been in place also results in very non-random distribution of harvest, particularly in Wisconsin, in seasons where a significant portion of the harvest comes through the use of hounds. Harvest can come disproportionately from public lands, and hounders can organize their killing to intentionally remove entire, specific packs.

Wisconsin wolf hunting regulations also allow the season to extend into the wolves breeding season. Killing wolves at that time undoubtedly reduces recruitment more than killing wolves months earlier.

In short, our understanding of the impacts of sport seasons on ma'iingan packs and populations is very limited, and merit better understanding if states continue holding hunting seasons.

SUMMARY

The Ojibwe world view, coupled with TEK and western science, creates a sound and defensible framework for the human/ma'iingan relationship. The ancient relationship between these two beings, as formed in the creation story and formalized in the original treaty with ma'iingan, still is appropriate and applicable today. Only by embracing this relationship can the benefits the treaty yields to humans and ma'iingan be fully realized.

In this relationship, ma'iingan is respected and appreciated. Ma'iinganag determine their own range and population levels; they live in healthy families as an integral part of an ecological community, and they provide the gifts only they can provide to all in that community, including ourselves. The ma'iingan community is not punished for the actions of a few, and are not killed for recreation or vengeance.

This, in brief, encapsulates the treaty that was made, and that will be honored.

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Appendix 1. Global Indigenous Council Wolf Treaty

The Wolf: A Treaty of Cultural and Environmental Survival

THE WOLF IS KNOWN BY MANY NAMES . . .

Hó'nehe. Shó^{n}to^{n}ga. Cheétxiilisee. Šuŋgmánitu tȟáŋka. Ómahkapi'si. Mélemsʟye. Makoyi. Bia isa. Hooxei. Ruv. Tha:yö:nih. Okwaho. Othahyu·ní. Ma'iingan. Skiri. Nciʾcn. Kwewu. Wahya. Himíin. Shin-ab. Tséena. The wolf (Canis lupus) is known by many names and for time immemorial has held an esteemed place in the cultures and lifeways of the original inhabitants of this continent. The wolf has guided and influenced indigenous people in a foundational way, literally since the beginning of time. The wolf brought knowledge and understanding of Mother Earth that is mirrored in the stars. The wolf has influenced indigenous societal structures through the pack, imparting the communal responsibility to sustain life. The wolf taught many to survive by the hunt and to live in a spiritual compact of reciprocity. The wolf provided guidance for environmental stewardship and ecological balance. The wolf is a teacher, a guardian, a clan guide – a relative.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF THE TREATY

Today the grey wolf is functionally extinct in most of its historic range. The US Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that fewer than 6,000 grey wolves presently exist in the contiguous United States. Some two-million wolves co-habited North America with our ancestors, pre-European colonization; the pre-contact wolf population estimates of scientists correlate with those of our elders. What effects the grey wolf in the lower-48 US states, impacts wolves north of the US-Canada border and south of the US-Mexico border. Like the First People of this continent, the wolf does not recognize imaginary lines transposed upon the land. To honor, recognize, and revitalize the ancient relationship we have with the wolf, it is the collective intention of we, the undersigned, to welcome the wolf to once again live beside us as Creator intended and to restore balance to Mother Earth where we are the stewards and the wolf is a protector of our lands. We will do everything within our means so that with the wolf, we will once again live in the sacred cycle of reciprocity to nurture each other culturally and spiritually. In our collective efforts to protect and recover the wolf – and by doing so protect, preserve and perpetuate indigenous cultures – this treaty is analogous to the "United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)" and the principles of the "Rights of Nature & Mother Earth."

PARTIES TO THE TREATY

We, the undersigned, including Tribal/First Nations, Traditional Societies, Spiritual Leaders, representative Tribal Organizations and Respective Leaders from each generation and from the four sacred directions of Turtle Island. We recognize Mother Earth as a life-giving force, a living entity of which human beings are a part, rather than as human property to be owned, exploited and destroyed.

ARTICLE I – CONSERVATION

Recognizing the wolf as a practitioner of conservation, we, collectively, reaffirm that our ancestors were conservationists before the term existed in the Western lexicon, and that in their honor we agree to perpetuate their principles of caring for Mother Earth that is today called conservation. Fundamental to that is respecting the interrelationships between us and "all our relations" which the wolf embodies. The wolf has a critical role in providing balance, health and structure to ecosystems which benefits a wide spectrum of life, be they two-legged, four-legged, winged, or those with roots. Grizzly bears, buffalo, beavers, songbirds, foxes, and pronghorn are among those aided by the wolf. Wolves prey on wild ungulates, those which are the most vulnerable due to age, injury or sickness, thus providing the healthy with a greater chance to survive and renew the herd. Where the wolf exists, so does balance: without overpopulations of elk, trees such as cottonwood, aspen, willow and serviceberry regenerate, providing crucial nesting and roosting sites for songbirds; enhancing root strength which protects streams from soil erosion, and in turn provides food and building elements for beavers whose dams then create ponds needed by fish; and finally, to enabling the growth of berry shrubs that provide sustenance for grizzly and black bears.

ARTICLE II – CULTURE

The wolf taught us to hunt and imparted that "those with hooves and horns" would sustain us physically, but "those with paws and claws" were to provide spiritual sustenance. Wolves gave of themselves to enable us to live the "Dog Days," offering their progeny to accompany us, to help us travel and traverse vast distances, to protect us, as their descendants – domestic dogs – do today. We commit to perpetuate and continue our spiritual ceremonies, sacred societies, sacred narratives and sacred bundles in which the wolf has a unique place, which in practice is a means to embody the thoughts and beliefs of ecological balance. Realizing that the wolf is a foundation of our traditional ways, we commit to the ideal of preservation and restoration in all aspects of our respective cultures related to the wolf, including customs, practices, naming, beliefs, songs, astronomy and ceremonies.

ARTICLE III – MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

The federal government has never developed a national strategy to recover wolves in the contiguous United States that is in accord with expanded protections. As a statement of sovereignty and cultural and environmental restoration we commit to rectify this omission. Recognizing that our collective objective is to see the wolf returned to areas of biologically suitable habitat on our traditional lands within the wolf's historic range pre-colonial contact, and for linkage zones to be established between the existing, fragmented populations, wolf management plans for Tribal/First Nations will be formulated from a cultural foundation, while accommodating the "best available science." We, collectively, recognize that our ancestors practiced the "best available science" in their stewardship of the land, as they lived in balance with our Mother Earth when the biomass was at its height. Spirituality informs the indigenous worldview, which includes our Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). The US Fish and Wildlife Service describes TEK as "Native Science" gained "over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment," and further expounds how TEK "encompasses the world view of indigenous people which includes ecology, spirituality, human and animal relationships, and more." Our TEK is the very definition of "the best available science." Our people applied their TEK for millennia prior to contact. "The idea that TEK has guided modern biology (or Western science) should encourage

conservation biologists to investigate TEK more thoroughly," remains the prevailing finding of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. TEK will guide our management practices for the wolf and must now become a standard applied to federal, state and provincial management plans, following the examples of Rumphius, Linnaeus, Darwin and Merriam. Patterned on traditional practices, management objectives should strive for balance between maintaining our subsistence cultures where they are dependent upon viable ungulate populations, and the true recovery of the grey wolf population in the contiguous US.

ARTICLE IV – RECOVERY OBJECTIVES

Tribal/First Nations have the legal responsibility and authority to protect our ecosystems in the best interests of our people. Our rights and interests do not stop at reservation or reserve boundaries, we have ancestral and treaty lands, Ceded Territories, and reserved rights on those lands. A multitude of scientists contributed to a United Nations report which warns that some one-million species are facing extinction. Since the Industrial Revolution, the decimation of 83% of the mammals on earth has been accelerated, resulting in the once-unimaginable reality that 96% of existing mammals on earth are either humans or livestock. By 1967, approximately 1,000 wolves survived in the US, ostensibly in the Great Lakes region; the slaughter of the wolf inspired by federal policies echoes that which resulted in the near extirpation of the buffalo and the grizzly. The wolf now occupies only 10% of its historic range and only 30% of existing suitable habitat. Tracts of current and ancestral Tribal/First Nations' territory comprise the 530,000 square miles of suitable wolf habitat in the lower-48 states. Areas of indigenous cultural significance in the southern Rocky Mountains, Grand Canyon, Cascade Mountains in Washington, Oregon and California, the Sierra Nevada and the Adirondacks all offer viable wolf habitat. The long-term survival of the grey wolf in the lower 48 depends upon the wolf's return to critical portions of its historic range. These ecosystems require healing, having lacked the presence of the wolf for multiple generations. By the US Fish and Wildlife Service's own population estimate, 6,000 wolves are below what scientists have identified as the minimum viable population size necessary to avoid extinction.

ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

The federal government has a fiduciary obligation to Tribal/First Nations, which includes providing government-to-government consultation on any Endangered Species listing or delisting decision that impacts Tribal/First Nations. Any proposal to delist the grey wolf fits that criteria. The same issues that threatened Tribal/First Nations in the grizzly delisting struggle will resurface with grey wolf delisting: potential harm to tribal sovereignty, undermining treaty rights, stripping religious and spiritual freedoms, and detrimental economic repercussions. Government-to-government consultation must not only be "thorough" and "meaningful" as mandated by Executive Order 13175, but it must adhere to the standard of "free, prior and informed consent." In 2010, the US endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) but has yet to honor that commitment. In defense of our rights and the preservation of the grey wolf, we, the undersigned, invoke Articles 25 and 26 of UNDRIP.

ARTICLE VI – NATIVE AMERICAN ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (NA-ESA)

It has become the norm that federal agencies place a far greater emphasis upon the input of energy companies - with considerable influence being accorded extractive industry executives - in Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing and delisting decisions than is accorded Tribal/First Nations. That disregard of

the federal-Indian trust responsibility has prompted tribal nations to explore the formulation of a Native American Endangered Species Act (NA-ESA). Sovereign tribal lands hold several T&E species and vital habitat, and it is time for tribal people to have a greater input into the management and protection of these species that hold great cultural significance. In the present political climate, for some species an NA-ESA may be the only viable path to survival. As Tribal/First Nations, our sovereignty is consistently compromised by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the states in respect to wildlife management, including federal administration of the ESA on tribal lands. A NA-ESA would enhance tribal sovereignty, provide vocational opportunity for tribal members, and enable the melding of contemporary biological discipline with tribal Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in management policies and practices. The NA-ESA would, in essence, be a framework document that could be adopted and amended according to the criteria of individual Tribal/First Nations, be they cultural or economic, as opposed to a "one-size fits all" imposition. We, the undersigned, will continue to evaluate the pathway to a NA-ESA.

ARTICLE VII – ECONOMICS

Recognizing the wolf as a traditional teacher and protector of our lands and people, we, respectively, will research economic development revolving around the wolf in an environmentally and culturally compatible manner, including eco-tourism models with wolf watching, photography and culturally oriented educational tourism, traditional crafts, publishing and literacy materials inspired by traditional narratives to which the wolf is central, and other beneficial by-products arising out of the wolf's gifts to us. Millions of visitors from around the world travel to Yellowstone National Park annually to catch a glimpse of the wolf, demonstrating that the wolf's hold upon the human imagination transcends ethnicity.

ARTICLE VIII – EDUCATION

Education and outreach are essential to wolf recovery. Respecting all of the teachings we have received from the wolf, we, collectively, agree to develop programs revolving around the wolf as a means of transferring intergenerational knowledge to the younger and future generations and sharing knowledge amongst our respective Tribal/First Nations to both strengthen and reignite cultural ties that in some instances have been overwhelmed by colonization. We will not adopt state, provincial or federal wolf management plans, as all are infringements of our sovereignty and do not reflect our TEK. We will prioritize vocational and educational programs for our people, so that on our lands, they will be the leaders of our culturally compatible wolf management programs. Upon the signing of this treaty, any management removal of a wolf will be undertaken with ceremony, and such parts of the wolf that have always been kept in sacred bundles or used for traditional practices will be provided to such persons qualified. We will seek to counter popular myths that have become talking points to justify the eradication of the wolf from large parts of its historic range. Contrary to popular mythology, domestic dogs pose a greater threat to people than wolves. Of an estimated 115,000 wolves worldwide, there are only ten recorded cases of fatal encounters with non-rabid wolves in the last half-century, two of those having occurred in North America. By comparison, dog bites are responsible for sixteen deaths per year in the US, with an estimated 4.7 million domestic dog bites reported annually.

ARTICLE IX – HUNTING

At the inception of our relationship with the wolf, this sacred guide instilled the values of the hunt to our ancestors. Generally, current federal, state and provincial management plans that enable and elevate trophy hunting of species of immense cultural importance are antithetical to those ancient principles. Tribal/First Nations will not allow infringements of sovereignty by the influence of any de facto sovereign. We will formulate vocational and educational programs for our people, so that on our lands, they will be the leaders of our culturally compatible wolf management programs.

ARTICLE X – RESEARCH

Recognizing that learning is a life-long process, we, collectively, agree to perpetuate knowledge-gathering and knowledge-sharing according to our customs and inherent authorities revolving around the wolf that do not violate our traditional ethical standards as a means to expand our knowledge base regarding the environment, wildlife, plant life, water, and the role of the wolf in the history, spiritual, economic, and social life of our Tribal/First Nations. We will seek input from the leading, independent biologists qualified in the study of the wolf to ensure that we continue to lead in the preservation and recovery of the wolf.

ARTICLE XI –THREATS

The US Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that approximately 6,000 wolves presently survive in nine of the lower-48 states. In three of those – Wyoming, Idaho and Montana –some 3,500 wolves have been killed since 2011 after the removal of federal protections in those states. Even without trophy hunting and trapping, studies have found that annual mortality rates in wolf packs can reach 50% but typically average around 35%. In Idaho, state managers resumed the engagement of bounty hunters to kill wolves and requested the intervention of US Department of Agriculture/Wildlife Services' airborne sharpshooters to reduce pack densities. Wyoming designated the wolf with predator status, which permitted the killing of wolves with minimal restrictions, including killing pups in dens. Wisconsin's current management plan provides for the wolf population to be culled by 60%. These examples highlight the greatest threat to the wolf – the removal of federal protections, the lack of consultation with and authoritative input on wolf recovery afforded Tribal/First Nations, and the enactment of state wolf management plans that are motivated by political interests, not scientific findings. Multiple studies have concluded that the existing wolf populations in the Rocky Mountains, Great Lakes and Southwest are below the minimum, viable population sizes to ensure their survival. These populations are also below levels considered necessary to avoid genetic inbreeding. Like threats facing the grizzly bear, the loss of genetic diversity due to small, isolated populations is a threat that must be addressed through recovery plans that prioritize connectivity.

ARTICLE XII – CONFLICT REDUCTIONS

"When I was a child, I used to ride horseback with my dad and sometimes we would see wolves, and they would never attack us. Our people lived in harmony with the wildlife, I don't believe in shooting them, they were here long before cattle or anything else," said Barbara Aripa, a respected elder of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. A 2019 report, Wolf-Livestock Conflict and the Effects of Wolf Management (DeCesare et al), "found no evidence that removing wolves through public harvest affected the year-to-year presence or absence of livestock depredations by wolves." That conclusion

was based upon over a decade of data. Since 2014, scientific papers have diverged on whether targeted lethal removals by wildlife managers reduce livestock depredations. There is, however, consensus that proactive non-lethal conflict deterrence methods are crucial to containing wolf and livestock losses. Employing range riders and shepherds, incorporating livestock guardian dogs into conflict reduction strategies, and erecting barriers, be that fencing, fladry, penning or a combination, are effective tools in conflict reduction. Reducing attractants – particularly the removal and disposal of carcasses and separating diseased or ailing livestock – is vital to reducing potential livestock depredations. Livestock – wolf conflict has proven to be predictable and will often reoccur in the same areas. The insightful management of range units and leased lands is necessary to further minimize livestock conflicts, but it should be accepted that when livestock are released onto range units, they are vulnerable, like indigenous species, to a multitude of harms. Where the wolf presently exists, livestock depredations impact less than 1% of available livestock and less than 1% of ranchers in currently populated wolf habitat experience losses to wolves annually. Following the precedent set by some of our sister Tribal/First Nations, we recognize the need for closures to areas that offer the wolf sensitive habitat, particularly for denning sites. In the spirit of our ancestors, we will incorporate contemporary strategies in our culturally compatible conflict reduction programs; such programs will be inclusive, educational, and aim to reconnect our people with the wolf and traditional precepts of tribal society and responsibility.

ARTICLE XIII – PARTNERSHIPS

Tribal/First Nations seek to be equal partners with federal, state and provincial authorities in the true recovery and future management of the wolf. We, collectively, invite representatives of those sovereigns and Non-Governmental Organizations, corporations and others of the business and commercial community, to form partnerships with the signatories to bring about the manifestation of the intent of this treaty. Organizations and individuals may become signatories to this treaty as partners and supporters providing they perpetuate the spirit and intent of this treaty.

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PERSPECTIVE
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Ojibwe Perspectives Toward Proper Wolf Stewardship and Wisconsin's February 2021 Wolf Hunting Season

Jonathan H. Gilbert[1]†, Peter David[1†], Michael W. Price[1] and Jenny Oren[2]*

[1] Biological Services Division, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah, WI, United States, [2] Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI, United States

In February 2021, the Wisconsin DNR implemented a wolf season in which > 20% of the population was killed in 63 h. Wisconsin's Ojibwe tribes had a visceral reaction to this killing. This paper provides a perspective for this reaction by reviewing the Ojibwe relationship with Ma'iingan. This relationship maintains that Ma'iingan and Ojibwe are to be considered relatives whose fates are intertwined. Ma'iingan and Ojibwe have lived parallel histories, suffering from the effects of colonization, the decimation of wolf populations and decline of tribal culture. The Ojibwe tribes ceded vast territories in treaties with the United States while retaining common use rights, including the right to hunt and fish. These rights were reaffirmed just as wolves were reestablishing themselves in Wisconsin. The tribes continue to strengthen their culture, while wolf populations continue to recover. By examining these comparative histories, it becomes apparent that "whatever happens to one happens to the other." Unfortunately, Ma'iingan were not adjudicated during the Wisconsin treaty case, creating uncertainty over how the relationship between the Ojibwe and Ma'iingan is to be respected by the state. The tribes believe their treaty right includes protection for wolves, so that wolves can fulfill their cultural and ecological purposes. Tribes maintain that Ma'iingan should determine their own population levels, in order to provide ecological and cultural benefits. A respectful and appreciative relationship with Ma'iingan should be maintained so that the future well-being of both Ma'iingan and the Ojibwe will be assured.

Keywords: Ma'iingan, Ojibwe, stewardship, treaty rights, wolves, Wisconsin

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Edited by:
Joseph K. Bump, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, United States

Reviewed by:
Brent Patterson, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Canada
Fraser John Combe, Kansas State University, United States

****Correspondence:***
Jonathan H. Gilbert
jgilbert@glifwc.org

† These authors have contributed equally to this work and share first authorship

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INTRODUCTION

At 12:00 AM, February 22, 2021, just 50 days after wolves (*Canis lupus*) were removed from the protections of the Untied States Endangered Species Act, Wisconsin's first hunting season in over 6 years began. It ended just 63 h later. The Ojibwe tribes in the upper Midwest, including all 11 member tribes of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC, **Figure 1**) had a visceral reaction to this killing. We explain the reasons for this reaction and provide some insights on the perspectives of the Ojibwe toward *Ma'iingan*, (the wolf) in hopes of increasing cross-cultural understanding and improving the human/wolf relationship.

With more permits sold (1,548 Johnson and Schneider, 2021) than wolves in the woods (1,091 Price Tack et al., 2021), the slaughter (a word intentionally selected to reflect the Ojibwe perspective) was swift – with a wolf being killed, on average, every 17 min, day and night. With hunters equipped with firearms and replaceable packs of dogs, (86% of the wolves were killed with the aid of hounds), the state's quota of 119 animals was rapidly achieved. The tribes' effort to protect their portion of the quota (81 animals) so they could provide ecological and cultural benefits critical to the tribal community, was fruitless. Before the season could be closed, 99 additional animals were killed. The reported harvest of 218 animals (Johnson and Schneider, 2021) equaled 20% of the state's wolf population; the number of unrecovered crippling loss or animals intentionally left unretrieved is unknown. Only later was it discovered that a computing error existed in the application of the harvest model (Adams et al., 2008) that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) used to inform the quota setting process (D. MacFarland per. com). GLIFWC calculates this computing error may have resulted in the quota being set about 16% higher than intended.

While the hunting season was brief, it took place during the breeding season, ensuring that its impact would not be limited to the current generation. Among the small sample of wolves necropsied after the season (n = 22) were not only animals showing the hemorrhaging and bite marks of having interacted with hounds that pursed them, but females with fetuses (GLIFWC unpublished data). On the basis of studies such as Brainerd et al. (2008) which examined the impacts of breeder loss, Wisconsin's Green Fire estimated that 24–40% of recruitment was likely lost (Wisconsin's Green Fire, 2021). While harvest models such as Fuller et al. (2003) and Adams et al. (2008) suggest the population could recover to pre-hunt levels in 2–3 years if no further harvest were to take place, the WDNR was forced to begin preparing for a fall season to comply with Wisconsin Act 169, legislation that requires an annual season whenever wolves are not on the Wisconsin or Federal endangered species list. However, the fall 2021 season was halted by a stay issued in State court (Great Lakes Wildlife Alliance et al.; v. Wisconsin Natural Resources Board et al., Circuit Court, Dane County, WI, 2021 CVoo2103).

While some in the hunting community celebrated the wolf kill (intentional phrasing), regional Ojibwe tribes mourned the unnecessary slaughter of brother wolf and the trampling of their treaty-reserved rights. Herein we elaborate on the Ojibwe perspectives toward proper human relationship with Ma'iingan.

MY BROTHER

The relationship between Ma'iingan and the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) extends all the way back to the Anishinaabe creation story. In that story, Ma'iingan was provided by the Creator to be a companion to the Original Man. As a result of this and other teachings, Anishinaabe people consider the wolf their relative. This concept of relatedness to another species is difficult for many Western-educated thinkers to comprehend because it contradicts the principles and values of western science and Judeo-Christian society held by some people. But to the Anishinaabe, the wolf is an integral part of identity and kinship. Through stories, clan membership and culture, the wolf is woven into the spirit and identity of Anishinaabe people (other Indigenous Nations have their own, and sometimes different relationship with the wolf). When Anishinaabe people are asked to put population goals or harvest quotas on Ma'iingan, they see it as analogous to putting goals and quotas on their relatives – something unthinkable if we were talking of human relatives.

In the creation story, the Creator indicates that Ma'iingan and Original Man will always be considered as relatives and their fates would be intertwined (Benton-Benai, 2010). Thus the well-being of the wolf reflects the well-being of Anishinaabe society, a relationship that is captured in the Anishinaabe teaching: "What happens to the wolf will happen to the Anishinaabe. And, what happens to the Anishinaabe will happen to the wolf." This narrative, which has been passed down through many generations, reflects their paralleled histories.

Prior to European colonists coming into the Anishinaabe territory the Ojibwe people had a well-developed society with a governance structure, division of responsibilities passed on *via* the clan system, and a seasonally nomadic lifestyle. Ma'iingan existed across the Ojibwe territory, fulfilling their role within the upper Great Lakes ecosystems. Both Anishinaabe and Ma'iingan lived healthy lives.

When European immigrants settled along the east coast and encountered both wolves and Indigenous peoples, they responded to both similarly. Both the wolf and the Native peoples were despised and persecuted by many in the newly forming colonies.

These parallel attitudes moved west with settlers crossing the continent, as efforts to eradicate both wolves and Native Americans from the landscape continued. In the upper Midwest, four land cession treaties (**Figure 1**) were entered into in which the Ojibwe tribes ceded vast areas to the United States. The influx of European settlers coincided with the beginning of the planned extermination of wolves from that region.

While settlers put pressure on the government to eradicate wolves *via* bounties and other unlimited killing, the United States Congress was passing laws to remove Ojibwe tribes and eradicate treaty claims in direct contrast to the terms of the recently enacted treaties. Wolves proved relatively easy to kill, and eventually they were eliminated from the lower 48 states with the exception of an area of Ojibwe territory in northern Minnesota. Concurrently, the population of American Indians fell as low as 250,000 (Thornton, 1977). The 1940–1950s is known as the Termination Era when the federal government eradicated many federally recognized tribes and dissolved their reservations.

As wolves were declining so too was the free practice of the Ojibwe culture. Children were taken from Ojibwe households and sent to boarding schools where they were not allowed to practice their language or ceremony. The combination of treaty-making and treaty-breaking, termination, removal and assimilation had severe consequences for the Ojibwe culture and language.

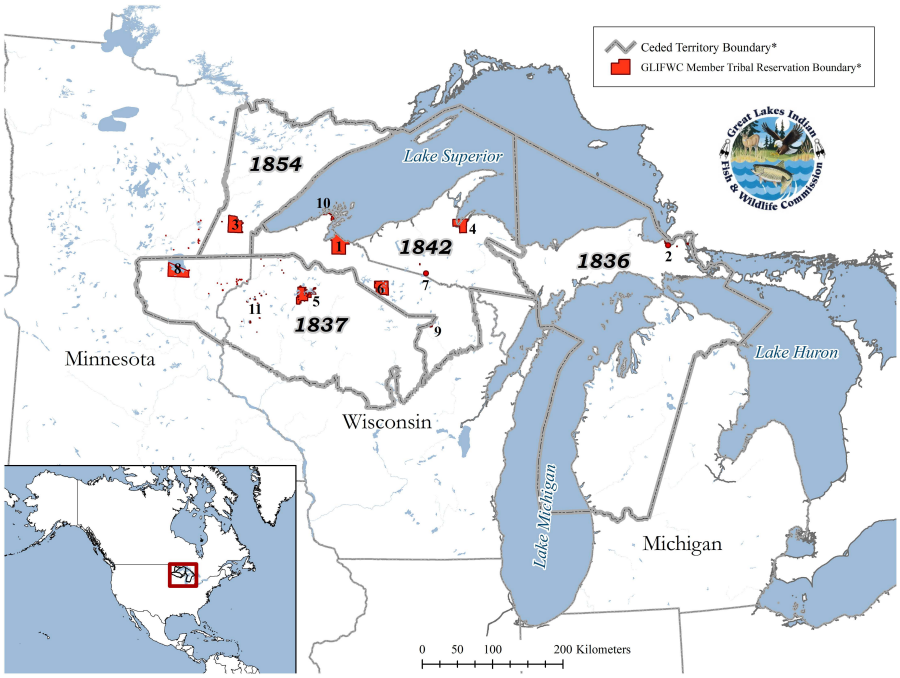


FIGURE 1 | Territories ceded to the United States in the Treaties of 1836, 1837, 1842, and 1854 in which Ojibwe tribes ceded the outlined lands and reserved the rights to hunt, fish, and gather to maintain their lifeway. GLIFWC member tribes are in red [(1) Bad River, (2) Bay Mills, (3) Fond du Lac, (4) Keweenaw Bay, (5) Lac Courte Oreilles, (6) Lac du Flambeau, (7) Lac Vieux Desert, (8) Mille Lacs, (9) Mole Lake, (10) Red Cliff, and (11) St. Croix]. *The ceded territory and reservation boundaries are representations and may not be the legally binding boundary. Map created using Ceded Territories Boundary Version 2.1.

In the 1960s, the fates of both Ma'iingan and the Ojibwe improved. The publication of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, and the passage of the Civil Rights Act, allowed a new consciousness to emerge relative to ecology and equality. Additionally, the Indian Civil Rights Act was passed (1968), the Indian Education Act (1972); the American Indian Self-determination and Educational Assistance Act (1975), and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978). This period also marked the passing of the Endangered Species Act (1973), and the following year, wolves finally had federal protection.

THE REAFFIRMATION OF TREATY RIGHTS

While most people think that the treaties between the tribes and the United States government granted rights to the tribes, the truth is that the treaties granted rights to the United States, and any rights that the tribes held and did not specifically cede were retained, including the rights to make their living by hunting, fishing and gathering. The Ojibwe tribes in the upper Midwest ceded large areas of what is now known as Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin to the United States (**Figure 1**). In these treaties the signatory tribes reserved the right to remain in the ceded territories and to continue to live as they always had by fishing, hunting, and gathering. They relied on these activities to meet their needs for foods, medicines, materials for clothing and housing, and other utilitarian, spiritual and ceremonial purposes. Nevertheless, over time tribal members exercising these treaty-reserved rights were often arrested and charged under state laws.

In the mid-1980s the Ojibwe tribes in Wisconsin sued the state contending that their treaty rights continued to be valid and that tribes should have the sovereign prerogative to set their own natural resource regulations. As this treaty case unfolded, wolves from the Minnesota population began to reestablish themselves in Wisconsin. As in colonial times, many in the non-Indian community viewed both of these events as threats (David, 2009).

The tribes ultimately prevailed in this and related suits [see *Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians v. Wisconsin, 775 F. Supp. 321 (W.D. Wis. 1991)* and *Minnesota v. Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians, 526 U.S. 172, 176–177 (1999)*]. In these cases, it was found that the signatory tribes retained the right to harvest up to 50% of the harvestable surplus of fish and wildlife under their own set of rules and regulations, enjoining the states from enforcing state rules. Thus began the implementation of the tribes long-withheld exercise of treaty rights.

Subsequent to reaffirmation of the treaty rights, the tribes continued to reassert their sovereignty in a variety of venues including language revitalization and the reemergence of spiritual practices. Simultaneous with this cultural recovery, Wisconsin's tenuous Ma'iingan population grew in numbers and range.

Except during recent periods marked by recreational wolf killing, both the assertion of tribal sovereignty and the health of the Ma'iingan population have been greater than at any time in recent history.

By examining these comparative histories, it becomes apparent (or is an arguable logical perspective) that "What happens to the wolf will happen to the Anishinaabe, and what happens to the Anishinaabe will happen to the wolf." After the controversial February 2021 Wisconsin wolf hunt, many Anishinaabe people were traumatized and outraged. The wolf hunt was perceived by many as an assault on family members, and many felt – and continue to feel - compelled to protect their family. The Ojibwe mourned not only the loss of wolves, but the loss of Mokaan-giizis, Migizi dodem (Joe Rose Sr., Eagle Clan), a deeply respected elder of the Mashkiziibii (Bad River) Tribe and lifelong wolf advocate, who walked on in the midst of this short, brutal season. Many Ojibwe and non-Ojibwe people contended he went to help killed Ma'iingan journey to the afterlife.

TREATY RIGHTS AND MA'IINGAN

Existing treaty cases do not define the full extent of treaty-reserved rights. Notably, at the time of the final judgment in the Wisconsin case, Ma'iingan was classified as a federally endangered species and the state had little legal authority over wolves. In an update to the Wisconsin judgment [*Second Amendment of the Stipulations Incorporated in the Final Judgment, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians v. Wisconsin, Case No. 74-C-313-C, at 41–43 (March 15, 2011)*] the tribes and the state agreed that tribes should be required members of any wolf committee the state establishes. The state and the tribes agreed that consultation should take place and all attempts at consensus should be made in any wolf management action taken by the state.

The fact that Ma'iingan were not adjudicated during the Wisconsin trial or in any subsequent action creates uncertainty over how the unique relationship that exists between the Anishinaabe and Ma'iingan is to be recognized and respected by the state. Unlike other species litigated in the Wisconsin suit, Ojibwe people generally object to the recreational harvest of wolves. The tribes believe that their treaty right includes the right to protect wolves, so that living wolves can fulfill their cultural and ecological purposes.

In the instance of the 2021 February season the WDNR did not conduct the government-to-government consultation and attempts at reaching consensus with treaty tribes that is required by the federal treaty lawsuit case. Nevertheless, the WDNR pledged to honor the tribal declaration (of half of the quota attributed to ceded lands) while understanding that the tribes' intent was to protect those Ma'iingan from harvest. However, a lack of adequate harvest control mechanisms resulted in the 83% quota exceedance (218 harvested of a 119 quota) discussed above, rendering the state's pledge moot.

The Ojibwe contend that this gross overharvest is not only culturally abhorrent but threatens resources the tribes depend upon.

ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY MA'IINGAN

The Anishinaabek relationship with Ma'iingan led them not to exterminate wolves, but to learn from, understand and accept them. In recent years western science added to this understanding, as it documents the ecological and social services wolves provide. What follows is not intended to be a thorough and comprehensive review of these ecosystem services, but some examples to illustrate the role of wolves in healthy ecosystems.

Historically, wolf reintroduction has resulted in increased biodiversity and ecological productivity in regions such as Yellowstone, where wolves were reintroduced in the late 20th century (Ripple and Beschta, 2012; Martin et al., 2020). The presence of wolves on a landscape can trigger a top-down trophic cascade, where a carnivore limits herbivore populations by direct predation, thereby allowing understory native plant species to regenerate (Ripple and Beschta, 2012; Ripple et al., 2014). These trophic effects have been seen to increase carbon storage capacity in boreal ecosystems, mitigating the effects of climate change (Ripple et al., 2014; Schmitz et al., 2014).

While not yet as extensively studied as the Yellowstone area, Ma'iingan affect landscapes in the Midwest as well. Wolf presence simultaneously supports the regeneration of herbaceous and woody plant species preferred by deer such as maple, hemlock, pine, spruce, and understory forbs (Flagel et al., 2016; Russell et al., 2017; Waller and Reo, 2018). In north-central Wisconsin, wolf presence was directly correlated with higher percentage cover and species richness of forb species in white cedar wetlands (Callan et al., 2013). These effects often have direct significance to Anishinaabe; plant species that benefit from these trophic cascades often have important medicinal, ceremonial, and utilitarian uses.

Ma'iingan prey upon the wild ungulate species that they co-evolved with, historically contributing to the health of white-tailed deer populations in the Great Lakes region since pre-European settlement (David, 2009). Ma'iingan likely help regulate the spread of contagious diseases such as Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a highly contagious, neurodegenerative prion-caused disease infecting four North American cervid species, including white-tailed deer (Wild et al., 2011; Oliveira-Santos et al., 2021). CWD is prevalent across the Midwest states, particularly in Wisconsin where 32 counties have reported CWD cases in free-ranging cervids (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2021). The most effective control methods are still unclear, but studies have shown that top predators like the gray wolf can selectively predate on infected deer before human hunters are able to identify symptomatic individuals – which in turn likely reduces the spread and persistence of CWD in a system and potentially stops CWD emergence in new systems (Wild et al., 2011; Uehlinger et al., 2016).

Additionally, a recent study showed a significant reduction in CWD prions in the excrement of mountain lions fed CWD-infected meat, suggesting that the digestion system of top predators can be an effective mechanism for reducing environmental CWD contamination (Baune et al., 2021).

Deer are an important protein source for the Ojibwe tribes, and Ma'iingan are seen as a crucial element of defense against the spread of CWD in the ceded territory. Currently, exercise of the treaty right is limited to public lands in the ceded territory. Eighty percent of the February wolf kill in the ceded territory came from public lands, which make up only 28% of the area (GLIFWC, unpublished data). Thus, the very lands the tribes depend upon for providing venison and other harvested resources are the same lands which disproportionately lose the ecological benefits Ma'iingan provides.

Finally, humans benefit from wolves in non-ecological ways as well. For example, a recent study found a significant reduction in deer-vehicle collisions in Wisconsin, primarily as a result of wolves' influence on deer behavior, saving up to $8 million per year statewide (Raynor et al., 2021).

DISCUSSION

One of the seven primary teachings of the Ojibwe, humility (along with love, respect, courage, honesty, wisdom, truth), applies here as a reminder that our understanding of wolves is far from complete. Just as we understand wolf ecology much more now than we did 20 years ago, we will understand much more 20 years from now. Embracing humility from an ecological perspective suggests we are wise to assume that Ma'iingan – a being which occupied this region for thousands of years before being extirpated – has functions and benefits of which we are still ignorant. In the lack of perfect understanding, we maintain it is both arrogant and ecologically foolish to reduce or eliminate wolves from large parts of the landscape that wolves themselves find appropriate.

Looking forward, it is unclear if or how state and tribal wolf objectives can be meshed, particularly as long as the WDNR remains under the direction of, or are most responsive to, traditional resource harvesting interests.

While many in the non-Indian community disparage the application of Ojibwe cultural perspectives in wolf stewardship (a term more aligned with the Ojibwe world view than "management"), they often overlook the cultural underpinnings of wolf management in the non-tribal community. While traditional Ojibwe teachings may seem outdated to some, they can directly inform appropriate Ma'iingan stewardship today. And they suggest a pathway based on embracing ecological principals, sound science, and human responsibility for co-existence.

In this view, Ma'iingan are allowed to determine their own range and population levels, so that they can provide ecological benefits in all areas of suitable habitat. In addition, wolves are not killed without sound and significant justification – as should be the case for any species. And a respectful and appreciative relationship is maintained.

While simple and straightforward, this approach is radically different from most wolf management traditionally embraced by state and federal natural resource agencies. However, we contend that the agencies that do so will find a large tribal and non-tribal public already eager to embrace an ecologically defensible and scientifically sound approach. In this way tribal perspectives can be incorporated into state's approach to Ma'iingan stewardship.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/supplementary material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

JG and PD shared equally in writing the manuscript and shared first authorship. MP contributed to partial writing of manuscript and edited manuscript from TEK perspective. JO contributed to partial writing of manuscript, especially ecological perspectives, and edited manuscript. All authors contributed to the article and approved the submitted version.

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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

D. Preston Cole, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Secretary Cole:

In November 2020, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) published a final rule to remove gray wolves from the list of threatened and endangered species (Removing the Gray Wolf From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, 85 Fed. Reg. 69778, Final Rule November 3, 2020). Gray wolves are recovered in the Great Lakes region and this success is a testament to the hard work and collaboration between the State of Wisconsin, Native American Tribes, federal agencies, and local partners.

As you consider next steps for wolf management in Wisconsin, we ask that you consult and coordinate closely with Native American Tribes in the Great Lakes Region. The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation, St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, and Sokaogan Chippewa Community (collectively, Ojibwe Tribes) have off-reservation reserved treaty rights that stem from their 1837 and 1842 Treaties with the United States. The Ojibwe Tribes' reserved treaty rights have been upheld in a series of federal court cases, which recognize the Tribes' rights not only to take key species, but also to conserve and protect them to ensure healthy populations and protect vital ecosystems that support the exercise of treaty-reserved rights to hunt, fish, and gather other species.

The Tribes are therefore free to use their equal share of any quota set for state-sponsored wolf hunts for protective purposes rather than to take wolves. It is the Department's view that the State of Wisconsin must honor the Ojibwe Tribes' reserved rights, including their right to protect rather than take wolves, as it undertakes the next round of planning for gray wolf hunts under Wisconsin state law.

We appreciate your efforts and continued collaboration in managing wolves moving forward. Please do not hesitate to contact us or Principal Deputy Director Martha Williams, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (202) 208-4545, with any questions.

Sincerely,

JAN 25 2022

Bryan Newland
Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs

SHANNON ESTENOZ
Digitally signed by SHANNON ESTENOZ
Date: 2022.01.11 16:21:03 -05'00'

Shannon Estenoz
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Ho-Chunk Nation
Department of Natural Resources

"Preserving Ho-Chunk traditions through land and natural resource management."

February 28, 2023
Wolf Management Plan Public Comment

To whom it may concern,

This is Brandon Bleuer, Forestry and Wildlife Division Manager for the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Natural Resources. I am writing today on behalf of the Ho-Chunk DNR. I also served as a member of the Wolf Plan Writing Committee. First off, the Wisconsin DNR needs to continue government-to-government consultations with the 11 federally recognized tribal nations. One recommendation would be to develop a plan for regular check-ins throughout the year with tribal Natural Resources and Cultural Resources departments to get feedback on the current state of wolf populations from a tribal perspective. This can be done through phone calls or in-person meetings. These meetings would be a good time for the Wisconsin DNR to work collaboratively with tribal nations on data collection initiatives regarding wolf populations and landscape use.

The focus on data collection and science-based decision-making is a welcome addition to the proposed plan. Citizen and stakeholder input is important, but special interest groups and political officials do not dictate wildlife policy. The decisions behind wildlife policy need to come from state and tribal wildlife professionals. The removal of a numerical population goal is another supported addition to the plan. As more information is gathered about how wolves utilize the landscape and the estimated carrying capacity of the habitats they utilize, decisions such as harvest quotas can be made.

The revision of wolf management zones is a tool that can be utilized to help manage wolf populations. Again, tribal consultations need to be had before these boundaries are set and harvest quotas are set. This is particularly important for the Ho-Chunk Nation because there is not a "no harvest" buffer zone around Nation lands. A majority of Nation lands in Jackson and Clark Counties are bordered by or in close proximity to state and county forest lands that are open to public hunting. Hunting on these lands could directly affect wolf pacts that regularly utilize Nation lands. It should be recommended that wolf harvest be primarily directed at areas that are primarily privately owned and have many wolf conflict issues.

There needs to be further research on non-lethal means of conflict abatement. The Ho-Chunk DNR would like to recommend that this be made a priority in the plans for data collection. Continuing to offer non-lethal abatement strategies to private landowners who have conflict issues needs to remain a priority. For this and all data collection efforts, the Ho-Chunk DNR would like to partner with Wisconsin DNR to conduct research.

Sincerely,
Brandon Bleuer
Forestry and Wildlife Division Manager
Ho-Chunk Nation DNR
[redacted]
[redacted]

Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Tribal Natural Resource Department

P.O. Box 67
1095 Old Abe Road,

Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

(715) 588-3303
Fax# (715) 588-3207

Fish Culture and Fish Management - Wildlife Management - Water Resources - Environmental Protection - Conservation Law - GLRI - Energy - Air Quality - Wild Rice Cultural Enhancement

Adam Payne
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

February 28, 2023

The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians (the Tribe) provides these comments to the Ma'iingan (wolf) management plan being drafted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR).

The Lac du Flambeau Tribe opposed the delisting of ma'iingan in 2012 and continues to fight for the protection of ma'iingan through resolution number 382(12) which reads:

Whereas, the Lac du Flambeau Tribe strongly believes that the wolves are an asset and should be protected; wolves are an important part of the ecosystem and are just starting to recover in Wisconsin after being on the brink of extinction; therefore be it;

Resolved, by this Council, in Regular Session assembled, hereby goes ON RECORD to OPPOSING the wolf hunting and trapping season.

The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians again opposed the hunting of ma'iingan in 2016 with resolution number 203(16) which declares the Lac du Flambeau Reservation a sanctuary for ma'iingan and other threatened, endangered and rare animals. Killing of these animals is a criminal act within the exterior boundaries of the reservation.

We reiterate that our Tribe ***has not*** been consulted with directly by the WDNR regarding our individual concerns with the hunting of wolves and the protections needed for our relative, the ma'iingan. The Tribe would only agree to consultation if there was an agreeance to actual implementation of Tribal comments and concerns.

WDNR did not take Tribal comments into consideration prior to the 2021 Wolf hunt, leading to a harvest that exceeded the limits within the first three days.

Through the WDNR's admittance in its own draft plan Wisconsin residents in a recent survey feel ma'iingan are special animals that deserve our admiration, that we should be able to co-exist, are important and that previous generations were wrong in eliminating ma'iingan from the landscape.

Lac du Flambeau Tribe does not see how WDNR plans on incorporating all Tribal ma'iingan management plans into this draft Wolf Management Plan. If the Tribes and WDNR are supposed to be co-managers of natural resources within the ceded territory as affirmed by Assistant Secretary Newland, then there should be more of Tribe's management plans incorporated in the draft plan then just website links.

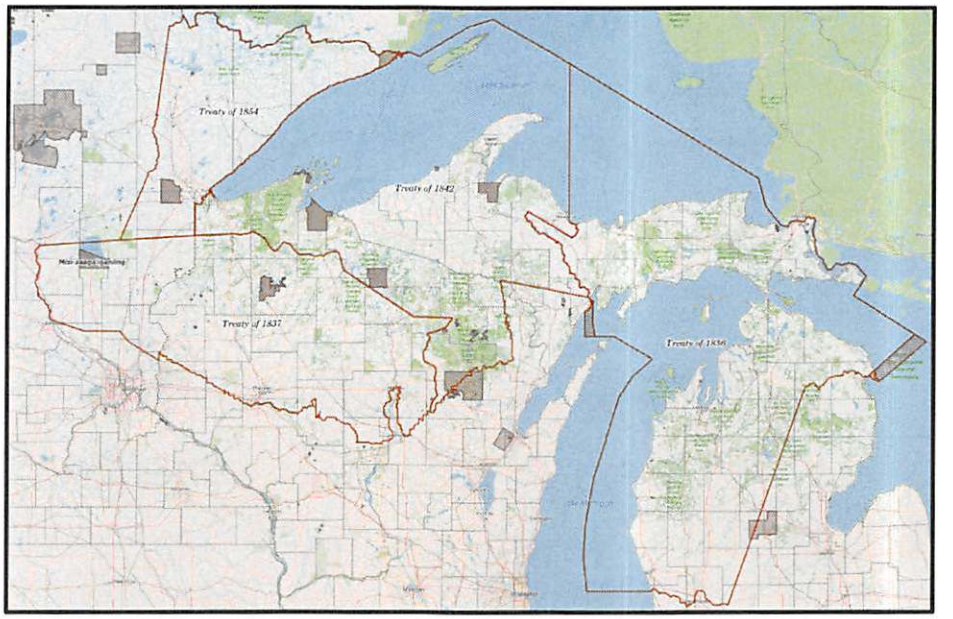


Figure 1. Map of Ceded Territory and Tribal lands.

The WDNR plan does not list all the Tribes in Wisconsin, which could lead to unintentional violations of any Tribal ordinances by Wisconsin residents.

We have specific concerns on how the population estimates were developed and how removal of a significant keystone species will not pose a detrimental impact to the balance of our ecosystem and to our cultural ties to our relative.

The proposed plan does not go into depth on climate impacts to ma'iingan, only references that WDNR will be "explored" by a later date. The Tribe already has a complete set of climate adaptation actions that are part of our Tribal Climate Resilience Plan that can be utilized in this management plan.

Lastly, the management plan does not go into depth in certain areas or has missing information, which could have been resolved by having a meaningful Tribal consultation with the Lac du Flambeau Tribe.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on the draft Wisconsin wolf management plan. If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact me at [redacted] or at [redacted]

Sincerely,

Celeste Hockings
Natural Resource Director
Tribal Natural Resource Department
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Treaty Natural Resources Division
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
88455 Pike Road
Bayfield, WI 54814
Phone: 715-779-3700 Fax: 715-779-3704

February 15, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
Adam.Payne@wisconsin.gov

Adam Payne
Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster Street
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's Treaty Natural Resources Division's Comments on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's Treaty Natural Resources Division (hereafter "TNR") respectfully submits the following comments on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (hereafter "WDNR") Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan (hereafter "draft Plan"). The Red Cliff Band, known as Gaa-Miskwaabikaang, is a federally recognized tribal nation that retained the inherent right to hunt, fish, and gather "with the other usual privileges of occupancy" within ceded territories (hereafter "Treaty Rights") under several treaties. These rights were affirmed in court under the 1837 Treaty of St. Peters, the 1842 Treaty of LaPointe, and the 1854 Treaty of LaPointe.[1,2,3] Our authority as a sovereign nation includes exercising stewardship responsibilities of our **inawemaaganag** (relatives), who are often called "natural resources", across ceded territory upon which meaningful exercise of our Treaty Rights is based. This stewardship includes an obligation to protect and preserve all our relatives, whatever their ecosystem role or relationship with us may be. These authorities provide us opportunities and the responsibility to submit comments to support, protect, and preserve treaty relatives for the next seven generations within ceded territories and the sacred waters of **Anishinaabeg Gitchigami** (Lake Superior). This includes our responsibility to help protect and steward Ma'iinganag, our sacred wolf relatives.

Sacred Relatives and Treaty Rights

Ma'iinganag aren't a "resource" to be harvested, but a relative to care for. The WDNR has heard from Tribes that Ma'iingan are, and have long been, a sacred relative of the Anishinaabe. Ma'iingan has a significant role in one of our creation stories. We are taught that Ma'iingan and Wenaboozhoo were told by Creator that they would forever be brothers and that their fates would be forever tied to one another. They were told that they would both be feared and misunderstood.[4] Our Tribal Historic Preservation Officer has told us that any harm done to Ma'iingan is harm done to our brother, anyone hunting Ma'iingan is hunting our brother, and anyone who kills Ma'iingan kills our

[1] 1837 Treaty of St. Peters, July 29, 1837
[2] 1842 Treaty of LaPointe, October 4, 1842
[3] 1854 Treaty of LaPointe, September 30, 1854
[4] Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission. "Comments on the Proposed Rule to Remove Ma'iingan from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife". 21 June 2019.

brother. We also know Ma'iinganag to be an apex predator and a key indicator of overall health of an ecosystem. Ma'iinganag act as a steward of the land just as we do. This stewardship helps to maintain balance and ensures that some animals are harvested to allow for other plants and animals to thrive.

Specific Concerns with the draft Plan

We appreciate the WDNR recognizing the need to include Tribal staff in the review and development process of the draft Plan. While the draft Plan inherently contrasts the wishes of Gaa-Miskwaabikaang as a people who see Ma'iinganag as brothers, we do recognize that current state law could not allow drafting of a plan that did not consider state licensed harvest and that the drafting process included compromises made to help protect Tribal wolf packs such as the development of tribal subzones. We appreciate the department's recognition of the fact that each Tribe, their lands, the movements of ma'iingan and other wildlife on and near those lands, and each Tribe's knowledge of, and relationship with, local ma'iingan packs is unique. That recognition is apparent in the recommendation and incorporation of unique boundaries in the proposed tribal subzone and a welcome addition to the draft plan. We request that the tribal subzone harvest limit be set at no higher than 1 wolf annually, and further, that any wolves removed from the tribal subzone during the course of the year under auspices of lethal depredation control activities or confirmed illegal kills, be applied toward the subzone harvest limit for a given year.

Other specific comments on the draft plan are as follows:

- Section 4: *Wolf Management in Wisconsin: From Recovery to Sustainable Management*: Gaa-Miskwaabikaang supports the WDNR's decision to move away from a numeric population goal. We believe that allowing current ecosystem and landscape conditions to guide stewardship actions will lead to a healthier environment. Management to a numeric goal can be fraught with problems, particularly given potentially large annual swings in population estimates due to survey conditions, various levels of public acceptance of those estimates, and lack of agreement on what number of animals would be "appropriate" on the landscape, or at a local level, at any given point in time. Such an approach often leads to dynamic and unnecessary fluctuations in quota and tag allocations from year to year that result from chasing an imprecise and moving numeric target.
- Product B2c: The WDNR should not be required to compensate hunters for the loss of hunting dogs if the incident occurs in or around an area identified as a Caution Area. The WDNR has provided adequate resources for hunters to avoid these areas. These resources include the WDNR's webpage on *Dog Depredations by Wolves in Wisconsin* and the *Gray Wolf Depredation Mapping Application*. Additionally, if a dog was trained for wolf hunting or ever used for wolf hunting then WDNR should not be required to compensate hunters for the loss of the dog if depredated during bear season. We recommend that the WDNR pursue administrative rules to establish these restrictions on existing statute associated with compensating hunter for the loss of hunting dogs.
- B6h: Any training provided to WDNR staff regarding *wolf conflict management* should also be offered to Tribal and inter-tribal staff.
- Product C2h: Gaa-Miskwaabikaang and other Tribes have shared their firm opposition to the use of hunting dogs during any potential wolf seasons. We adamantly oppose any such action to pursue administrative rules to facilitate the use of hunting dogs in ways that will or may lead to hunting dog-Ma'iingan interactions. This includes a season that would allow for the training of hunting dogs for Ma'iingan season.
- Product D1e: We do not support a private landowner receiving any part of Ma'iingan. This allowance of "careful discretion" leaves leeway for inappropriate behavior and could incentivize the illegal harvest or abuse of depredation control permits. Additionally, the WDNR is aware (as noted above) of Ma'iingan's cultural significance to us. As such, the WDNR's should prioritize offering Ma'iinganag's body to Tribes or tribal entities first. Only after that should the WDNR consider contacting educational entities referenced in *Product D1e*.
- We recommend the WDNR take additional action to ensure that Ma'iinganag are not accidentally killed. One easily implementable action would be a return to a prohibition against all coyote harvests during firearms deer seasons. A Ma'iingan who was collared by our staff was killed by a hunter who mistook her for a coyote this past deer rifle season.

We remain committed to protecting all of our inawemaaganag (relatives) including the Ma'iinganag (wolves), nibi (water), aki (land), and air of our current and ancestral homelands for our people and the generations to come. Preserving the environment means preserving our treaty rights, our traditional life ways, and our sacred landscapes. Miigwech (thank you) for the opportunity to submit comments. We welcome follow-up questions or further discussion if desired.

Sincerely,



Andrew Edwards
Treaty Natural Resources Administrator
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Cc: Red Cliff Tribal Council
Marvin Defoe, Red Cliff Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Linda Nguyen, Red Cliff Environmental Department
Kris Goodwill, WDNR Tribal Liaison

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

February 13, 2023

Secretary-designee Adam Payne
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Delivered Electronically
Open Letter

Dear Secretary-designee Payne,

We want to thank you and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed Wolf Management Plan.

Right out of the gate, we have a major concern with the fact that the proposed plan has no prescribed population goal.

When wolves were removed from the endangered species list in January of 2021, the DNR showed just how unprepared – or unwilling – they were to have a healthy and successful hunting season. They sat on their hands and slow-rolled a hunt under the guise of not having an updated plan, ultimately being forced by a judge to adhere to state law and hold the season in February.

In the summer of 2021, the Natural Resources Board approved a 2021-22 fall harvest quota of 300 wolves, only to encounter yet another lawsuit from special interest groups on the left. These groups prevailed, with a Dane County judge requiring the promulgation of a permanent rule and an updated wolf management plan.

Now, we have a proposed wolf management plan that has no prescribed population goal, opening the door for lawsuit after lawsuit regarding future harvest quotas set by the Natural Resources Board. We see right through this – the whole state can see right through this.

This isn't a partisan issue. Both U.S. Senators from the great state of Wisconsin are in favor of the state controlling our wolf population, your employees on the ground are in favor of the state

controlling our wolf population, and people all across Wisconsin are in favor of the state controlling our wolf population.

The blatant disregard to a prescribed population goal falls in line with that of a judge from Dane County – completely out of touch with how the overpopulation of wolves has negatively impacted families, farmers, deer hunting, tourism, property values, and communities throughout our state.

We stand with the 36 counties from all across Wisconsin who have passed resolutions in favor of setting a wolf population goal of 350 or less, and request that the department take this under serious consideration prior to moving forward with this rule.

Finally, we would be remiss if we didn't include a request to the DNR asking that the Department work with the US Fish and Wildlife Services to delist the grey wolf. The size of the wolf population does not warrant their placement on the endangered species list, and no solid data has been provided to back this decision made by a judge in California. The task of managing Wisconsin's wolves should be returned to Wisconsin, where the DNR can enforce a strong and science-based management plan for the safety of our citizens and the wellbeing of our rich natural resources.

Sincerely,

Mary Felzkowski
State Senator
12th Senate District

Rob Swearingen
State Representative
34th Assembly District

Joan Ballweg
State Senator
14th Senate District

Ty Bodden
State Representative
59th Assembly District

Julian Bradley
State Senator
28th Senate District

Robert Brooks
State Representative
60th Assembly District

Dan Feyen
State Senator
18th Senate District

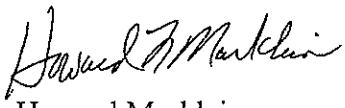
Calvin Callahan
State Representative
35th Assembly District



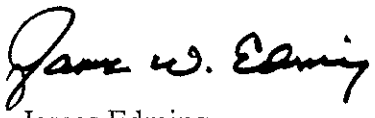
André Jacque
State Senator
1st Senate District



Alex Dallman
State Representative
41st Assembly District



Howard Marklein
State Senator
17th Senate District

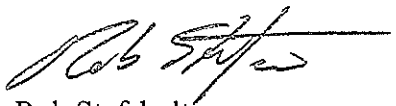


James Edming
State Representative
87th Assembly District

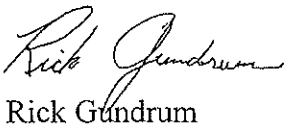


Romaine Quinn
State Senator
25th Senate District

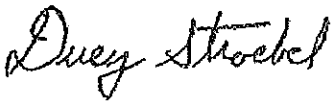
Chanz Green
State Representative
74th Assembly District



Rob Stafsholt
State Senator
10th Senate District



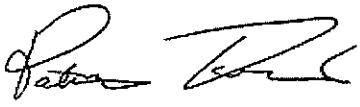
Rick Gundrum
State Representative
58th Assembly District



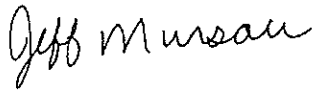
Duey Stroebel
State Senator
20th Senate District



Nate Gustafson
State Representative
55th Assembly District



Patrick Testin
State Senator
24th Senate District



Jeff Mursau
State Representative
36th Assembly District



Cory Tomczyk
State Senator
29th Senate District



Treig Pronschinske
State Representative
92nd Assembly District

Nik Rettinger
State Representative
83rd Assembly District

Donna Rozar
State Representative
69th Assembly District

Angie Sapik
State Representative
73rd Assembly District

John Spiros
State Representative
86th Assembly District

Rob Summerfield
State Representative
67th Assembly District

Paul Tittl
State Representative
25th Assembly District

Ron Tusler
State Representative
3rd Assembly District

Cc: Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RESOLUTION 33 2015
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT DNR's GOAL OF 350 OR LESS WOLF POPULATION IN WISCONSIN

INTRODUCED BY: Land and Water Conservation Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To support the WI DNR's goal of 350 or less Wolf Population in WI.

FISCAL NOTE: None

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

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

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

WHEREAS: the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a WI wolf population goal of 350 or less.

WHEREAS: twenty county boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 or 350 or less.

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

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

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Adams County Board of Supervisors hereby advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Adams County Board of Supervisors requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Adams County Board of Supervisors requests that the Wisconsin DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin.

Recommended for adoption by the Land & Water Conservation Committee this 11th day of May, 2015.

Joe Stuckel, Linda S. Reichl, Barbara C. Morgan

Dan Wysocky, Fred Burke

Adopted X

Defeated ____ by the Adams County Board of Supervisors this

Tabled ____ 19th day of May, 2015.

John Abst
County Board Chair

Cindy Phillippe
County Clerk

☒ Reviewed by Corporation Counsel

☒ Reviewed by Administrative Coordinator/Director of Finance

BARRON COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 2014-14

Resolution In Support of Wisconsin Wolf Population of 350 or Less

TO THE BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a Wisconsin wolf population of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, twenty (20) County Boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (5 Boards) or 350 or less (15 Boards);

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

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

WHEREAS, this resolution was approved by the Property Committee on March 31, 2014, on a vote of 7 - 0, with Henck, Heinecke, Heller, Leff, McRoberts, Romsos and Schradle voting in favor and no members voting against.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Barron County Board of Supervisors advised that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Barron County Board of Supervisors requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Barron County Board of Supervisors request that the Wisconsin DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any County in Wisconsin; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that publication of this resolution may occur through posting in accordance with Section 985.02 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

OFFERED THIS 15th day of April, 2014.

Number of readings required: One (X) Two ( ) Vote required for passage: Majority (X) 2/3 Entire Board (20) ( ) Source of funding: Budgeted ( ) General Fund ( ) Grant ( ) Contingency ( ) Other (X) Details: N/A Fiscal impact: - Current year total amount: $ 0 - Future years total amount: $ 0 - Effect on tax levy – current year - $ 0 - Effect on tax levy – future years - $ 0 Fiscal impact reviewed by: Jodi Busch, Lead Fiscal Coordinator Approved as to form by: Jeffrey French, County Administrator John Muench, Corporation Counsel	Terry Henck, Chair Property Committee (The Committee Chair signature verifies the action taken by the Committee.) Board Action: Adopted (X) Failed ( ) Tabled ( ) **Motion: (Horstman/McRoberts)** to approve Items 10 and 13-17. Carried.

STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION

Resolution No. 08 - 22

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A GOAL OF LIMITING THE WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION TO 350 ANIMALS IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN - RANDY SCHOLZ

Passage of this resolution will encourage the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to have a goal to limit the wolf population to 350 animals in the State of Wisconsin as part of the DNR's Wolf Management Plan.

Resolution No. 08 - 22

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A GOAL OF LIMITING THE WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION TO 350 ANIMALS IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN - RANDY SCHOLZ

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Wisconsin Farm Bureau, and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 animals or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors does hereby support a wolf population goal of 350 or less animals as part of the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Chippewa County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole, Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and the state legislators who represent Chippewa County.

Forwarded to the County Board by the Land Conservation and Forest Management Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to Chippewa County by passage of this resolution.

03/8/2022	**County Board**
RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Harold Steele, District 1
SECONDER:	Ken Schmitt, District 3
AYES:	Gullickson, Sikorski, Steele, Schmitt, McMenamin, Ericksen, Hauser, Mickelson, Shipman, Kervina, Eisenhuth, Ives, Hunt, McGill
EXCUSED:	Chuck Hull

History:

02/16/22 Land Conservation & Forest Management Committee FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD

Approved as to Form:

Todd A. Pauls, Corporation Counsel 2/8/2022

Lori Zwiefelhofer, Finance Director 2/8/2022

Randy B. Scholz, County Administrator 2/8/2022

Clark County, WI Founded In 1853					
	Type/Number	**Resolution 5-2-22**			
	Title	**Supporting Changes to Wolf Population Management**			
	Overview/Synopsis	To support a statewide gray wolf population goal of 350 or less and to oppose the Wisconsin DNR from relocating problem wolves into Clark County			
	Submitted By	Executive Committee			
	Fiscal Impact	No fiscal impact			
	Review (Initial & Date)	Legal	2/16/22	Finance	2/18/2022

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin DNR established a statewide gray wolf population goal of 350 in 1999 and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007 based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, currently, the Wisconsin DNR has plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan; and

WHEREAS, although gray wolves ~~are~~ were delisted from the federal endangered species list as of January 2021, but were recently added in early February, 2022, the wolf population continues to increase with a projected population of 1,034 in 2020 which has resulted in livestock predation, threats to human safety and other animals, reduced hunting opportunities, and compromised agricultural operations; and

WHEREAS, Clark County supports a wolf population management plan with a population goal of 350 or less as supported by several counties as well as interested organizations throughout the state (i.e. Wisconsin Farm Bureau and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation); and

WHEREAS, in addition to establishing a management plan for the wolf population, another management control the Wisconsin DNR uses in an effort to address depredation by wolves is to relocate problem wolves to other counties in the state; and

WHEREAS, considering Clark County has a large county forest with many agricultural operations, Clark County is concerned that the relocation of problem wolves in the county would significantly impact recreational opportunities and agricultural operations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Clark County Board of Supervisors hereby supports a statewide gray wolf population goal of 350 or less as part of Wisconsin DNR's wolf management plan along with meaningful controls to achieve wolf population goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Clark County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes the Wisconsin DNR from relocating problem wolves into Clark County from other counties and/or states.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk shall mail copies of this resolution to Governor Evers, the state legislators for Clark County, the Secretary of the DNR, DNR Wildlife Management staff, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

Committee/Board/Supervisor Action	
Committee/Board/Supervisor Name:	Executive Committee
Result/Date:	Approved 02/02/2022
Mover:	Rueth
Seconder:	Krempasky
Ayes:	Hendrickson, Waichulis, Boon, Krempasky & Rueth
Nayes:	None
Absent:	None

Clark County Board of Supervisors Action	
Vote Required:	Majority
Result/Date:	Adopted 02/17/2022
Type of Vote:	Roll Call: 28 Yes, 1 Absent
Mover:	Zank
Seconder:	Ashbeck
Ayes:	Flink, Leichtman, Schindler, Wilcox, Amacher, Waichulis, Zank, Kodl, Lange, Luchterhand, Jalling, Petke, Bower, Krempasky, Ashbeck, Hendrickson, Rueth, Olson, Haselow, Krause Jr., Rollins, Smagacz, Boon, Trunkel, Gerhardt, Bakker, Garbisch & Neville.
Nayes:	None
Absent:	Sebesta

I, Christina M. Jensen, Clerk for Clark County, hereby certify Resolution 5-2-22 was adopted by the Clark County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on February 17, 2022.

Christina Jensen
Clark County Clerk
Neillsville, Wisconsin 54456

SEAL

Roll Call		
District Number	Yes	No
1. Pomush		
2 Bong		
3. Slay		
4. Clark		
5. Baker		
6. Leino		
7. Glazman		
8. Raunio		
9. Jaques		
10. Peterson		
11. Staupe		
12. Lear		
13. Allen		
14. Ryan		
15. Hendrickson		
16. Luostari		
17. Liebaert		
18. Moen		
19. Long		
20. Borgeson		
21. Bergman		

Roll:
Ayes _____
Noes _____
Absent _____
Abstain _____

Passed X
Lost _____
Refer _____
Amend X
Other _____

Rev. 10-21-21

RESOLUTION #15-22
RESOLUTION BY THE DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Subject: Wisconsin Wolf Population Control and Goal Recommendation to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Wolf Management Plan

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Wisconsin Farm Bureau, and Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less, and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards (half the county boards in Wisconsin) from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021, and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

Roll Call		
District Number	Yes	No
1. Pomush		
2 Bong		
3. Slay		
4. Clark		
5. Baker		
6. Leino		
7. Glazman		
8. Raunio		
9. Jaques		
10. Peterson		
11. Staupe		
12. Lear		
13. Allen		
14. Ryan		
15. Hendrickson		
16. Luostari		
17. Liebaert		
18. Moen		
19. Long		
20. Borgeson		
21. Bergman		

Roll:
Ayes _____
Noes _____
Absent _____
Abstain _____

Passed X
Lost _____
Refer _____
Amend X
Other _____

Rev. 10-21-21

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Douglas County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole, Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Douglas County, and when the WDNR public comment period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2022.

(Committee Action: Unanimous)
(Fiscal Note: None)

ACTION: Motion by Allen, second Moen, to adopt. Motion by Allen, second Moen, to amend and sponsor by County Board. Motion carried. Motion to adopt as amended, carried.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
)SS:
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

I hereby certify that this resolution is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Douglas County Board of Supervisors on 3-17-22.

Susan T. Sandvick

Susan T. Sandvick, County Clerk

RESOLUTION 2022-02

RESOLUTION CONCERNING WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION GOAL TO THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

TO THE HONORABLE SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF FLORENCE:

Whereas, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

Whereas, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

Whereas, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

Whereas, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

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

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Florence County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florence County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florence County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florence County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Florence County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole, Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Florence County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Adopted January 18, 2022
I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Florence County Board of Supervisors at a legal meeting on the 18th day of January, 2022.

Jeanette Bomberg, Chair
Florence County Board of Supervisors

1-18-22
Date

Donna Trudell, Florence County Clerk

1-18-22
Date

RESOLUTION
103-2021

Resolution offered by the Forest County Board Chairperson:

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999 based on State wildlife and prey populations, State population density, and the severe decline in wildlife and prey populations throughout the State in the intervening years; and

WHEREAS, the WI DNR has not provided meaningful wolf population control in any of its management efforts; and

WHEREAS, Forest County residents have experienced a reduction in the number of wild game being hunted because of the large wolf population and residents have concerns regarding threatening incidents involving wolves; and

WHEREAS, the high predator population, in particular wolves, has resulted in the reduction of deer population, hunting opportunities, and livestock, and has made pleasure horse riding dangerous as well as presenting a danger to pets and people; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin continue the wolf population goal of 350 or preferably less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Forest County Board of Supervisors requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels or below.

I, County Clerk, in and for the said County of Forest, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Forest County, Wisconsin, in legal session on the 21 day of December, 2021.

Dated this 21 day of December, 2021.

Nora Matuszewski, Forest County Clerk
Erin Mayer, Forest County Deputy Clerk

Cindy Lietzinger
Supervisor

{00099436.docx}

ROLL CALL SHEET

COUNTY BOARD

Date 12/21/21

No. 103-2021

Resolution ✓

Motion:

1st Chaney

2nd Black

Ordinance _____

Adopted ✓

Lost _____

Tabled _____

	Aye	No	Absent
Berg			X
Black	X		
Campbell	X		
Chaney	X		
Collins			X
Dehart	X		
Goode			X
Gretzinger	X		
Houle			X
Karl	X		
Laabs	X		
Lukas	X		
Matuszewski	X		
Miller	X		
Piasini	X		
Stamper	X		
~~Tauer~~ Vacant			
Vacant-District#7			
Richard Ackley	X		
Tina Anderson	X		
Bucky Dailey	X		
TOTAL			

RESOLUTION: #34-14
Grant County Wolf Control Resolution
7-21-15

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

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

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

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

Whereas twenty (30) county boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (7) or 350 or less (22), or 50 or less (1),

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

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

Therefore be it resolved that the Grant County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf overwinter maximum count goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

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

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

Respectfully submitted to the Administrative Committee for their recommendation this 14th day of July, 2015.

/s/ Robert C. Keeney, Chair	/s/ Mark Stead, Vice Chair
/s/ Roger Guthrie, Secretary	/s/ John Patcle
/s/ Dale Hood	/s/ Robert Scallon

Vacant Position

Respectfully submitted to the Grant County Board of Supervisors for their approval on this 21st day of July, 2015.

/s/ Robert C. Keeney, Chair /s/ Linda K. Gebhard, County Clerk

ATTEST: I Linda K. Gebhard, Grant County Clerk, do certify that Resolution #34-14 Grant County Wolf Control was approved by the Grant County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on July 21, 2015.

/s/ Linda K. Gebhard, County Clerk

RESOLUTION 3025

RESOLUTION FROM IRON COUNTY CONCERNING WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION GOAL TO THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iron County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Iron County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Iron County Board of Supervisors requests the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Iron County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Iron County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole, Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanowski, and state and federal legislators who represent Iron County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Resolution adopted this 22nd day of February, 2022 by the Iron County Board of Supervisors.

BY:

JOSEPH PINARDI, Chairman

ATTEST:

MICHAEL SAARI, Clerk

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION 03-01-2022

RE: Jackson County Wolf Resolution

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999 based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years, and

WHEREAS, the WI-DNR has not provided for meaningful wolf population control in any of its management efforts, and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, and

WHEREAS, the high predator population, in particular wolves, has resulted in the reduction of the deer population, reduced hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and horses, and danger to pets and people,

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has not entered as a litigant to the current case in federal court which is delaying delisting and the transfer of wolf management to WI-DNR,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board advises the Wisconsin DNR continue the wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board request that the WI-DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal level, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board requests the State of Wisconsin to enter into litigation on the side of delisting of wolves from Endangered and Threatened Species status in order for the state to take over management of wolves.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board requests the US DOI, US FWS and WI DNR move ahead to delist the grey wolf in Wisconsin, as petitioned by the WI DNR, transferring management of the wolf population in Wisconsin to the State of Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board requests the WI DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Evers, Secretary of the DNR Preston Cole, State Legislators, as well as wildlife management staff including Keith Warnke, Eric Lobner and Randy Johnson.

Respectfully Submitted:

Executive & Finance

Gary Ramseyer

Ron Payne

Steve Hall

Tom K. Flaherty

Roger A. Lobner

I HEREBY CERTIFY

RESOLUTION # 03-01-2022

WAS ADOPTED ON 1/17/2022

BY JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Cindy Altman

CINDY ALTMAN, JACKSON COUNTY CLERK

YES 11 NO 7

Absent: 1

adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Juneau County Board of Supervisors shall and hereby does approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Juneau County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Juneau County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Juneau County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Juneau County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, WDNR Secretary Preston Cole, DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Juneau County; and when the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution shall also be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

INTRODUCED AND RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION ON FEBRUARY 15, 2022.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Alan K. Peterson, Chairperson

Scott Wilhorn

Lynn Willard

Adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of Juneau County on January 17, 2022.

Terri L Treptow, Juneau County Clerk

RESOLUTION 81 - 21

WOLF CONTROL RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, the WI DNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and revised in 2007 with its third attempt to revise the wolf management plan; and

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

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings in 2011 and 2013 overwhelmingly supported a Wisconsin wolf minimum over winter count goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, 36 county boards in Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (7 counties), or 350 or less (26), or 100 or less (1), 80 or less (1) or 50 or less (1); and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including many incidents to animals; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors' at the recommendation of the Executive, Rules and Legislative Committee advise that Wisconsin approve a wolf overwinter minimum count goal of 80 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors' request that Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf minimum overwinter count to goal levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors' request that the WI DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors' favor management of Wisconsin's wolves by the State of Wisconsin, not the federal government.

Respectfully Submitted,
Executive, Rules and Legislative Committee

Kriss Marion, Chair

Larry Ludlum

Carol Korn

Scott Pedley

Bob Boyle

Fiscal Note:

Legal Note: Within County Board Authority.

I, Carla Jacobson, Clerk of the County of Lafayette, State of Wisconsin, do certify that this resolution was adopted by the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on February 8, 2022.

Carla Jacobson
Lafayette County Clerk

RESOLUTION #2-2022
INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
INTENT: ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT MORE MEANINGFUL WOLF POPULATION CONTROLS IN THE NEXT WISCONSIN WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin DNR is in the process of updating our State's Wolf Management Plan, with a published timeline as follows:

February 2022

- Draft Available For Public Input: The DNR seeks public input on the initial draft of the revised wolf management plan.
- Public Information Sessions: The DNR hosts two public information sessions before preparing for a final draft of the revised wolf management plan.

March - May 2022

- The DNR revises the draft plan based on public input.

June 2022

- Final Plan Draft Presented to Natural Resources Board: The NRB reviews and considers approval of the updated wolf management plan.

WHEREAS, in 1999, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) established a wolf population goal of at least 350 wolves in Wisconsin in response to a wolf population estimated at 200 wolves; and

WHEREAS, the current wolf population in Wisconsin is estimated at between 944 and 1,377 animals; and

WHEREAS, wolves are apex predators, and their prey includes large, hoofed animals such as deer, elk, and livestock; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, the total payments for wolf damages amounted to approximately $200,000; and

WHEREAS, Langlade County residents continue to experience depredation and threatening incidents involving wolves; and

WHEREAS, the Committee requests that the Wolf Management Plan be changed to reflect a goal of no more than 350 wolves in the State of Wisconsin and that the DNR implement a monitoring and management plan in support of that goal.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors hereby requests the Wisconsin DNR to keep the wolf population goal for the State of Wisconsin at no more than 350 wolves in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Langlade County Board of Supervisors requests the Wisconsin DNR and other partners to implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan to bring the wolf population down to the management goal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Langlade County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the Wisconsin DNR, Governor Tony Evers, and Langlade County's representatives in the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:
Ben Pierce, Chairman
John Medo
Rich Wiegert
George Shinners
Reinhardt Balcerzak

FISCAL NOTE: No Fiscal Impact.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF LANGLADE COUNTY THIS 24th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022.
Judy Nagel, County Clerk

Motion by Supervisor Nye, second by Supervisor J. Wagner to amend RS #2-2022, making the “350” number be the latest and scientific knowledge number used, respecting tribal rights. Discussion held on controlling numbers, research, management, documentation of wolf incidents. On the Call of the Roll to Amend RS #2-2022, Supervisors Fischer, Feller Gottard, J. Wagner, Nye, Krochalk and Curler voted aye, and Supervisors Benishek, Bauknecht, Cahak, Balcerzak, Shinners, Novak, Pennington, Scupien, W. Wagner, Buck, Pierce, Medo and Wiegert voted nay. 6 ayes, 13 nays. Motion to amend failed. Discussion held. On the Call of the Roll, all Supervisors voted aye, except Supervisors J. Wagner, Nye, and Krochalk voted nay. 16 ayes, 3 nays. Resolution #2-2022 is adopted.

Judy Nagel
County Clerk for Langlade County
800 Clermont Street, Room 202
Antigo, WI 54409
715-627-6201

Upcoming Elections:
Spring Primary: February 21, 2023
Spring Election: April 4, 2023

Resolution 2022-04-14

SUPPORT A POPULATION GOAL OF 350 GRAY WOLVES IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

Motion by: Bialecki

Second by: Brixius

Dist.	Supervisor	Y	N	Abs
1	Bialecki	X		
2	Anderson-Malm	X		
3	McCrank		X	
4	Osness	X		
5	Peterson			
6	Ashbeck	X		
7	Rusch		X	
8	Thiel	X		
9	Friske	X		
10	Boyd	X		
11	Detert	X		
12	DePasse	X		
13	Callahan	X		
14	Hafeman		X	
15	Lemke	X		
16	Loka		X	
17	Brixius	X		
18	Wickham	X		
19	Allen		X	
20	Cummings	X		
21	Simon		X	
22	Hartwig	X		
	Totals	15	6	

Carried

Defeated

Amended

Voice vote

Roll call

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR is in the process of reviewing Wisconsin's wolf management plan; and

WHEREAS, Lincoln County supported a population goal of 350 wolves or less in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, with an estimated gray wolf population of approximately 1,126 animals in 2021, Wisconsin residents have experienced threats to pets, other animals, and potentially human safety as well as reduced hunting opportunities, and compromised agricultural operations; and

WHEREAS, WDNR reported 106 confirmed or probable depredations in 2021 involving wolves, including 1 in Lincoln County;

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin reaffirm a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Lincoln County.

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
COUNTY OF LINCOLN)

I hereby certify that this resolution/ordinance is a true and correct copy of a resolution/ordinance adopted by Lincoln County Board of Supervisors on:

April 19, 2022

SEAL

Christopher J. Marlowe
County Clerk

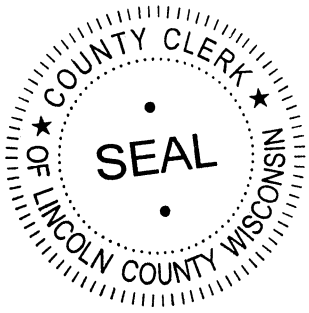
COUNTY CLERK ★ LINCOLN COUNTY WISCONSIN ★

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole, Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Lincoln County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Dated: This 15th day of March, 2022

Introduced by: Forestry, Land & Parks Committee
Endorsed by: William Bialecki, Don Friske, Timothy Panfil, Norbert Ashbeck and Judy Woller.
Date Passed: February 14, 2022 Committee Vote: All Ayes
Fiscal Impact: None

Drafted by: Laurie Groskopf, modified by Dean Bowe, Forest Administrator



TOWN OF LITTLE RICE
3737 County Road Y
Tomahawk, WI 54487

November 10, 2022

Samuel Jonas
DNR Wildlife Section Administrator
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Resolution Regarding Wisconsin Wolf Population Goal and Wolf Management

Administrator Samuel Jonas,

Enclosed is Resolution # R2022-02 passed by the board of the Town of Little Rice. We are formally providing input concerning the wolf population goal and wolf management in the state of Wisconsin.

Thank you for taking the time to review this resolution.

Sincerely,

Chris Sully – Clerk
Town of Little Rice
3737 County Road Y
Tomahawk, WI 54487

715-224-2591
littlericetownhall@frontier.com

RESOLUTION CONCERNING WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION GOAL TO THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

TOWN OF LITTLE RICE
ONEIDA COUNTY, WISCONSIN
3737 COUNTY ROAD Y – TOMAHAWK, WI 54487

RESOLUTION # R2022-02

Whereas, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

Whereas, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

Whereas, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or fewer and

Whereas, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or fewer; and

Whereas, The Town of Little Rice, Oneida County, Wisconsin is dissatisfied with actions and inactions by the Department of Natural Resources and the US Fish and Wildlife service in Wisconsin to Control wolf numbers at the previously determined goal that recommended a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or fewer; and

Whereas, rural taxpayers and residents of Northern Wisconsin counties have been underrepresented and discriminated against in previous wolf management plans. Additionally, these same Wisconsin residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021 and many additional incidents go unreported as the underrepresented, discriminated against taxpayers and residents have no other practical alternative measures or protection; and

Whereas, there has been no meaningful long term or short-term protection by other government agencies to protect rural underrepresented, discriminated against residents and taxpayers from depredation, threats and damage when wolf numbers are radically above goal; and

Whereas, as well as wolf population control, there should be meaningful protection measures provided such as fencing for vulnerable livestock and other property, farming and all other vulnerable outdoor activities etc. (like Wisconsin's fence law) paid by agencies required to manage the wolf numbers to help protect property owners and rural underrepresented, discriminated against residents and taxpayers from impacts of wolves when identified on their property when control measures are not utilized; and

Whereas wolves are apex predators and other, even lesser, predators such as bear, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, weasels, etc. are regulated and managed within biologically and ecologically sound population levels while wolves are not; and

Whereas, the high predator population, in particular wolves, has resulted in the reduction of the deer population where wolves are plentiful, reduced land values, and recreational opportunities in northern Wisconsin, reduced hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and pleasure activities such as horse and dog exercise and training, and are a danger to other domestic animals, livestock and people.

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Little Rice, Oneida County, Wisconsin advises that the appropriate parties with proper authority approve a wolf population goal of 350 or fewer adult wolves at least one year old (not including pups of the year) in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the management plan include provisions for any and all individuals, entities, organizations, etc. who deliberately and willfully choose to participate in management activities such as claiming wolf kill permits, but intentionally and willfully choosing not to exercise those privileges, be required to forfeit a fee of at least $5000 per unexercised permit to be remitted into a fund to be used to reimburse for wolf inflicted damages (e.g. depredation of livestock, domestic animals, hunting dogs, etc.) and/or wolf damage mitigation efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Little Rice Town Board, Oneida County, Wisconsin encourages the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Little Rice Town Board, Oneida County, Wisconsin requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Little Rice Town Board, Oneida County, Wisconsin requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into the Town of Little Rice, Oneida County or adjacent Counties. If this request cannot be adhered to, the Town of Little Rice, Oneida County, Wisconsin then further requests that problem wolves be relocated equally and equitably to all other counties, towns, cities as well as other public lands such as town, county and state forests, etc. throughout the State of Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that shortly following the time the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contacts determined by WDNR.

Adopted this 27th day of September, 2022.

Chairman Town of Little Rice

Town Chair, Steve Margitan

Town Supervisor, Theodore Albright

Town Supervisor, James Treu

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town of Little Rice at a legal meeting on the 27th day of September 2022

Town Clerk, Christine Sully

Resolution #R-70-14
To encourage a wolf population of 350 animals in the Wisconsin Wolf Plan

WHEREAS the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years; and

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

WHEREAS the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau have officially approved a Wisconsin wolf goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS twenty (22) county boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (5) or 350 or less (17); and

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

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

WHEREAS the Land Conservation and Zoning Committee passed a motion in support of a wolf population goal of 350 at its October 7, 2014 meeting and forwarded this recommendation to the Environmental Resources Committee; and

WHEREAS the Environmental Resources Committee passed a motion in support of a wolf population goal of 350 at its October 8, 2014 meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors requests that the WI DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marathon County Board of Supervisors requests that the WI DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin.

Dated this 21st day of October 2014.

Land Conservation and Zoning Committee

Environmental Resources Committee

Fiscal Impact: None

M:\document1\o21WolfPopulation.docx

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
)SS.
COUNTY OF MARATHON)

I, Nan Kottke, County Clerk in and for Marathon County, Wisconsin, hereby certify that the attached Resolution #R-70-14 was adopted by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors at their Annual meeting which was held October 21, 2014.

Nan Kottke

S E A L

Nan Kottke
Marathon County Clerk

ROLL CALL - COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARQUETTE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

February 15, 2022 Session Resolution 7- 2022

ROLL CALL

SUPERVISORS	YES	NO
Bennett	☑	☐
Benson	☑	☐
Borzick	☑	☐
Fenner	☑	☐
Gibeaut	☑	☐
Krentz	☑	☐
Locke	☑	☐
Mack	☑	☐
McGwin	☐	☑
Miller	☑	☐
Nigbor	☑	☐
O'Brien	☑	☐
Raddatz Absent	☐	☐
Rosenthal	☑	☐
Sheller	☐	☑
Swan	☑	☐
Walters	☑	☐

ADOPTED ☑
DEFEATED ☐

VOTE TALLY

YES	14
NO	2
ABSENT	1
ABSTAIN	0

INTRODUCED BY:

John Bennett
Dennis Fenner

Committee Recommendation:
Land & Water Conservation Committee

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
County of Marquette)

I, Kiley Lloyd, County Clerk of Marquette County, Wisconsin do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the resolution passed by the Marquette County Board of Supervisors on this date.

2/15/2022 Kiley Lloyd
Date Kiley Lloyd, County Clerk

WOLF CONTROL ADVISORY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Marquette County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole, Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Marquette County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

RESOLUTION # 44-2022

Resolution to support maintaining the Wisconsin Grey Wolf population at 350 animals as set by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Wolf Management Plan.

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and;

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007, and;

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less, and;

WHEREAS, , thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021, and;

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts in the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, and;

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Oneida County.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor, Secretary of the WDNR, Secretary of DATCP, and state and federal legislators who represent Oneida County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Vote Required: Majority = ✓ 2/3 Majority = _____ 3/4 Majority = _____

The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes ✓ No _____ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, _____, Date: 3.15.22

Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee this 2nd day of March 2022.

Consent Agenda Item: _____YES __X__NO

Offered and passage moved by:

_____ Supervisor

_____ Supervisor

_____ Supervisor

_____ Supervisor

_____ Supervisor

19 Ayes

2 Nays

0 Absent

0 Abstain

X Adopted

by the County Board of Supervisors this 15 day March , 2022.

____ Defeated

Tracy Hartman, County Clerk

David Hintz, County Board Chair

Resolution: #44-2022

Supervisors	AYE	NAY	ABS	ABSTAIN
VanRaalte	X			
Thome	X			
Fried	X			
Pence	X			
Kelly	X			
Winkler		X		
Roach	X			
Krolczyk	X			
Schreier		X		
Almekinder	X			
Mott	X			
Ives	X			
Timmons	X			
Cushing	X			
Paszak	X			
Liebert	X			
Holewinski	X			
Oettinger	X			
Sorensen	X			
Fisher	X			
Hintz	X			
TOTALS	19	2		
TAGS				

Resolution # 44 – 2022: Offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee to support maintaining the Wisconsin Grey Wolf population at 350 animals as set by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Wolf Management Plan.

Resolution # 44-2022

Amendment - Fails

Supervisors	AYE	NAY	ABS	ABSTAIN
Liebert		X		
Almekinder		X		
Cushing		X		
Thome		X		
Kelly		X		
Fisher		X		
Pence		X		
Sorensen		X		
Holewinski		X		
VanRaalte		X		
Roach		X		
Paszak		X		
Schreier		X		
Ives		X		
Timmons		X		
Krolczyk		X		
Mott		X		
Fried		X		
Winkler	X			
Oettinger		X		
Hintz		X		
TOTALS	1	20		
TAGS				

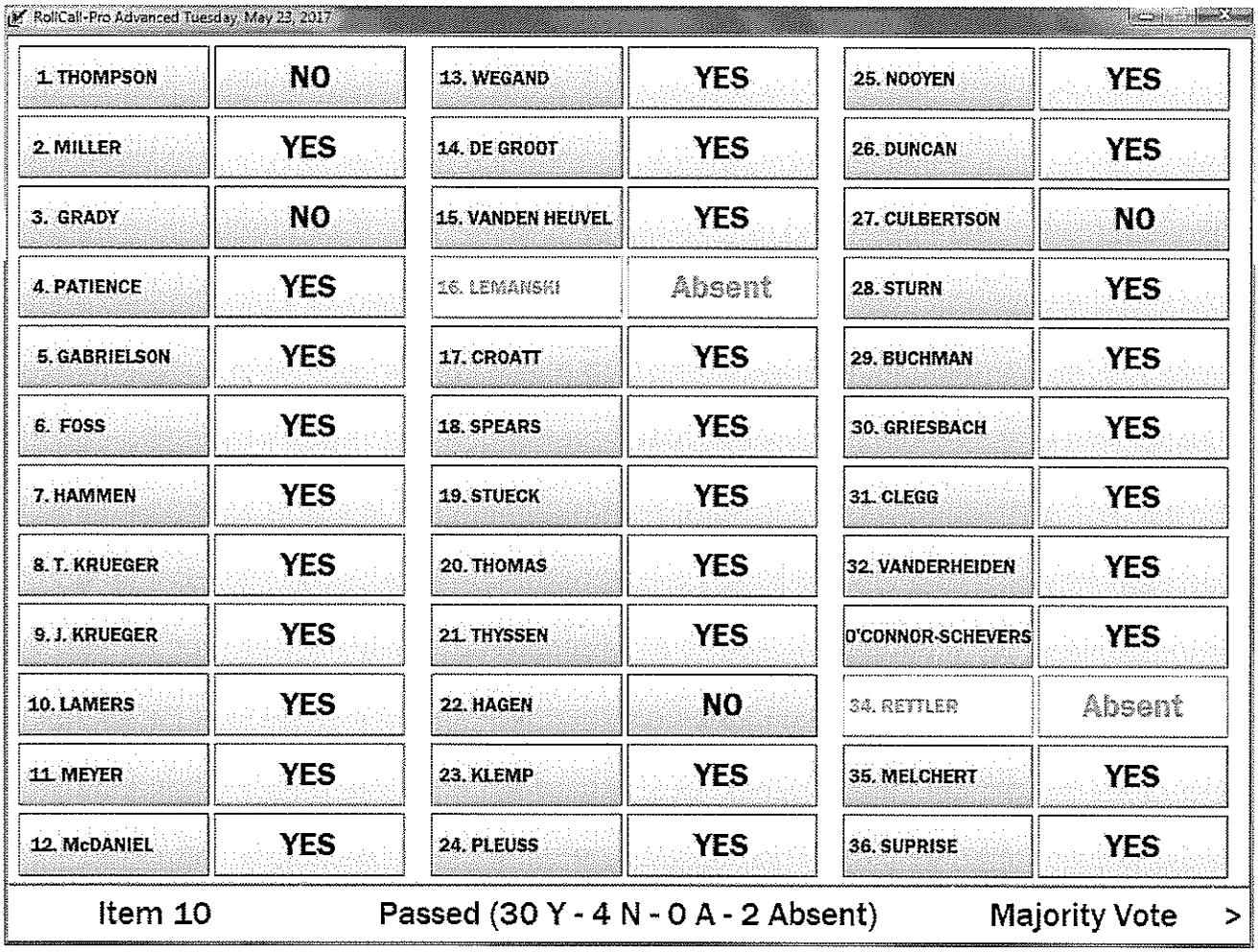
Motion by Winkler to amend line 35 in Resolution #44-2022 to strike the words "goal of 350 or less: and replace with the word "Standard"

Seconded by Schreier

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
MAY 23, 2017

RESOLUTION NO. 10—2017-18
Supervisor Suprise moved, seconded by Supervisor Croatt, for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 10—2017-18 IS ADOPTED.



RESOLUTION NO.: 10—2017-18

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: ***MAJORITY***

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf goal of 350 (minimum overwinter count) animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this minimum overwinter count goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years.

The WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan adopted in 1999 and revised in 2007. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau have officially approved a Wisconsin wolf goal of 350 or less. Thirty-four Wisconsin county boards have passed resolutions: Seven are recommending a wolf population goal of 350; 24 are recommending a goal of 350 or less; one a goal of 50 or less; one a goal of 100 or less; and one a goal of 80 or less.

Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 97 incidents to animals in 2016, occurring in 23 counties. The high predator population, wolves in particular, has resulted in the reduction of the deer population where wolves are plentiful, reduced hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and pleasure horse activities, and are a danger to pets and people.

This resolution recommends a wolf overwinter minimum count goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan and requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf minimum overwinter count to goal levels. This resolution further requests that the WDNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin. The Outagamie County Board favors management of Wisconsin's wolves by the State of Wisconsin, not the federal government.

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Agriculture, Extension Education, Land Conservation & Zoning Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does recommend a wolf overwinter minimum count goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan and requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf minimum overwinter count to goal levels, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors request that the WDNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin and the Outagamie County Board favors management of Wisconsin's wolves by the State of Wisconsin, not the federal government, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Outagamie County Land Conservationist, Cathy Stepp, DNR Secretary, DATCP Secretary, and the Outagamie County Lobbyist for distribution to Governor Walker and state and federal legislators.

Dated this 23rd day of May 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

AGRICULTURE, EXTENSION EDUCATION, ZONING & LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Daniel Rettler

Keith Suprise

Daniel Melchert

Debra VanderHeiden

BJ O'Connor-Schevers

Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: May 23, 2017

Signed: _____
Board Chairperson

_____
County Clerk

Approved: _____

Vetoed: _____

Signed: _____
County Executive

ROLL CALL Board Members	Aye	Nay	Excu.
Olson	✓		
Route	✓		
Warndahl	✓		
Nelson (Chairperson)	✓		
LaBlanc	✓		
Ruck	✓		
Prichard		✓	
Kelly	✓		
O'Connell	✓		
Middleton		✓	
Luke (2nd Vice Chair)	✓		
Duncanson		✓	
Arcand	✓		
Bonneprise (Vice Chair)	✓		
Demulling	✓		

BOARD ACTION

Vote Required: _____

Motion to Approve — Adopted ✓

1st Ruck — Defeated ☐

2nd Route

Yes: 12 No: 3 Excu: ____

Reviewed by:

Malia G. Malone, Corp. Counsel

Reviewed by:

Vince Netherland, Administrator

Reviewed by:

_____, Finance

FISCAL & LEGAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact

Certification:

I, Lisa Ross, Clerk of Polk County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 18th day of January, 2022 by the Polk County Board of Supervisors.

Lisa R. Ross

Lisa Ross
County Clerk, Polk County

Committee Environmental Services

☑ Recommended
☐ Not Recommended
☐ Neutral

Resolution No. 01-22

RESOLUTION CONCERNING WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION AND REQUESTING REVISION TO WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WDNR) WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

TO THE POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, the WDNR established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999 and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based upon prey availability and human population density and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plans; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau have officially approved a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Spring Hearings (2011 & 2013) overwhelmingly supported a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less(confirmed by the Executive Committee of the WCC in 2021); and

WHEREAS, thirty six (36) county boards from northern to southern Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 104 incidents in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the high predator population, wolves in particular, has reduced of the deer population, diminished hunting opportunities, curtailed livestock and pleasure horse activities, and caused danger to pets and people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors urges Wisconsin to approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors encourages the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Towns Association to work with the WDNR to place an elected official from one of the counties with the largest wolf depredation claims to the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Polk County Supervisors encourage the expired chair position of the Natural Resources Board to the WDNR step down and let the currently appointed chair resume duties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk forward a copy of this Resolution to the offices of Governor Tony Evers; Preston Cole, WDNR Secretary; Randy Romanski, WDATCP Secretary; and the State and Federal legislators who represent the People of Polk County.

SUBMITTED BY:

Brad Olson

Amendment to Resolution 01-22 as approved by the County Board of Supervisors on 1/18/2022, has been incorporated in this document.

Resolution 11-22
Wisconsin Wolf Population Goal
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Wolf Management Plan

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plan, adopted in 1999 and reviewed and revised in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Conservation Congress (2011, 2013, 2021), officially support a Wisconsin Wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) county boards, half the county boards in Wisconsin, from north to south, have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 107 officially listed conflicts in 2021; and

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

NOT, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors encourages the WDNR to include elected officials from counties with high wolf conflicts on the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors requests that WDNR not relocate problem wolves from other counties in the state into Price County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall forward this resolution to the offices of the Wisconsin Governor; Secretary of the WDNR, Preston Cole; Secretary of DATCP, Randy Romanski, and state and federal legislators who represent Price County. When the WDNR public comments period for the revised Wolf Management Plan is announced, the resolution will be sent to the designated contact determined by WDNR.

Submitted by: Price County Forestry and Parks Committee

Jeffrey Hallstrand, Chair

Brian Ernst

Waldemar Madsen

Jordan Spacek

Ginny Strobl

Reviewed by County Administrator:

Nicholas Trimner

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of February 2022.

Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair

Jean Gottwald, County Clerk

For: 11 Against: 0

RESOLUTION NO. 17 - 45

A Resolution Recommending That The Wisconsin Department Of Natural Resources Establish A Wisconsin Wolf Plan Calling For An Over-Winter Wolf Population Of 350 Or Less.

WHEREAS in 1999 and in 2007 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 wolves, and

WHEREAS limiting the wolf population to not more than 350 animals has considerable support from involved organizations and, furthermore, an excessive wolf population can have many bad effects including a reduction of the deer population, reduced hunting opportunities, a danger to livestock, reduced horse riding opportunities and a danger to pets and humans, and

WHEREAS the Land Conservation Committee has carefully considered this proposal and is presenting this Resolution to the County Board for its consideration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Richland County Board of Supervisors that the County Board recommends that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources establish a Wisconsin Wolf Plan calling for an over-winter wolf population of 350 or less and that DNR establish meaningful wolf population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Richland County hereby requests that the DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin into any county in Wisconsin and, furthermore, that Richland County favors management of Wisconsin wolves by the State of Wisconsin and not by the Federal government, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Scott Walker, to DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp, to Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Ben Brancel, and to all State legislators whose district includes any part of Richland County and to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY THE LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

	FOR	AGAINST
Marilyn Marshall	X	
Paul Kinney		X
Larry Sebranek	X	
Gary A. Peters		X
Steve Williamson	X	

RUSK COUNTY

RESOLUTION # 7-22

RESOLUTION CONCERNING WISCONSIN WOLF POPULATION AND REVISION OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WiDNR) WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

ROLL CALL Board Members	AYE (Yes)	NAY (No)	Abstain / Excused
1. TERRY DUSELL	✓		
2. JERRY BILLER	✓		
3. ALAN RATHSACK	✓		
4. TONY HAUSER	✓		
5. TIMOTHY MILLER			✓
6. ROBERT STOUT	✓		
7. RANDY TATUR			✓
8. LYLE LIEFFRING	✓		
9. BILL MCBAIN	✓		
10. KEN PEDERSEN	✓		
11. PHIL SCHNEIDER	✓		
12. JIM MEYER			✓
13. MARK SCHMITT	✓		
14. LISA DOBROWOLSKI	✓		
15. TOM HANSON	✓		
16.			
17. DAVE WILLINGHAM	✓		
18. MICHAEL HRABAN			✓
19. KEN BROWN			✓
YB BECCA STRICKLEN			✓
YB MEGAN VANDOORN			✓
TOTAL	13	0	7

BOARD ACTION

Vote Required: Majority Vote of a Quorum

Motion to Approve — Adopted ☑

1st Dusell — Defeated ☐

2nd McBain

No: 0 Yes: 13 Exc: 7

Reviewed by:

_____, Corp. Counsel

Reviewed by:

_____, Finance Director

FISCAL IMPACT: (Note if there is any fiscal impact or not)

Certification:

I, Connie Meyer, Clerk of Rusk County, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted on the 1 day of March, 2021 by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors.

Connie Meyer
County Clerk, Rusk County

TO THE RUSK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, the WiDNR established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999 and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based upon prey availability and human population density; and

WHEREAS, the WiDNR plans to review and revise the previous wolf management plans; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress both approve and support a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 animals or less; and

WHEREAS, thirty six (36) county boards from Northern to Southern Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 animals or less; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, including 104 incidents in 2021; and

WHEREAS, high predator populations can contribute to reduced prey animal populations, diminished hunting opportunities, livestock depredation, and pose a danger to pets and people; and

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of maintaining a balanced population of wolves in Wisconsin.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors urges WiDNR to consider a wolf population goal of 350 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors encourages the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Towns Association to work with the WiDNR to place an elected official from one of the counties with the largest wolf depredation claims to the DNR Wolf Advisory Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors requests that the WiDNR and other partners implement meaningful and accurate population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk forward a copy of this Resolution to the offices of Governor Tony Evers; Preston Cole, WiDNR Secretary; Randy Romanski, WiDATCP Secretary; and the State and Federal legislators who represent the People of Rusk County.

SUBMITTED BY:

Rusk County Land & Water Conservation Committee

Robert Stout
Robert Stout, Chairman

Bill McBain
William McBain, Sr

Terry Dusell
Terry Dusell, Vice Chairman

Mark Schmitt
Mark Schmitt

Jim Meyer

Megan Van Doorn

AMENDMENT: (last paragraph)

Docket No. 2010-3-35

RESOLUTION NO. 26

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DELISTING OF THE GRAY WOLF AS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES IN WISCONSIN.

WHEREAS, the gray wolf in Wisconsin is currently listed as an endangered species by the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, the status of listed as "endangered" negates the ability of the State of Wisconsin to manage the wolf population and attempt to control depredation of livestock and pets by problem wolves; and

WHEREAS, the target population, set by the Federal Government, for delisting the wolf in Wisconsin and Michigan, must be greater than 100 animals sustained for a period of five years; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) places the Wisconsin 2010 late winter population estimate at 720, said population having been in excess of 350 since 2003, with wolves occupying virtually all suitable habitat in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the wolf population in Wisconsin has exceeded the above specified target population for delisting; and

WHEREAS, there is no reason to believe the wolf remains endangered or threatened in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the WDNR has submitted a petition to the U.S. Department of Interior (USDOI) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) to delist the gray wolf in Wisconsin; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors duly assembled on this 3rd day of August, 2010, requests that the USDOI and the USFWS move ahead to delist the gray wolf in Wisconsin, as petitioned by the WDNR, transferring management of the wolf population in Wisconsin the State of Wisconsin, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors requests that the State of Wisconsin use all its legal resources to pursue the delisting of the gray wolf in Wisconsin from the Federal Endangered and Threatened Species Lists and transfer wolf management in the State of Wisconsin to the State of Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR consider, in its revision of the Wolf Management Plan,

population goals that reflect changes in the amount of human activity and development in areas that were viewed as suitable habitat in 1995, which resulted in a population goal of 350 animals as established in the 1999 Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors requests that the WDNR and its partners implement much needed population controls to bring the wolf population to goal levels when formulating the next Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Taylor County Board of Supervisors directs the Taylor County Clerk to forward copies of this resolution to: Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service acting director, Rowan Gould, Senators, Russ Feingold & Herb Kohl, Representatives, Ron Kind & David Obey, Governor, Jim Doyle, State Senators, Russ Decker & ~~Scott Suder~~ and Secretary of WDNR, Matthew Frank.

AMENDMENT: PAT KEITLOW, STATE REPRESENTATIVES, MARY WILLIAMS & SCOTT SUDER

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jim Metz, Chair
Taylor County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION # 45-15

ADVISORY RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WOLF QUOTAS IN WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin DNR established a wolf population goal of 350 animals in 1999, and reaffirmed this population goal in 2007, based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human density in the intervening years, and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a Wisconsin wolf population goal of 350 or less.

WHEREAS, twenty five (25) county boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (7) or 350 or less (18),

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

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board advises that Wisconsin approve a wolf population goal of ~~350~~ 50 or less in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels, and

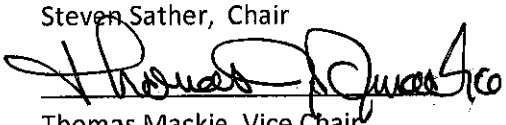
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washburn County Board requests that the Wisconsin DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *That this resolution is forwarded to Cathy Stepp, DNR Secretary, the DATCP Secretary, Gov. Scott Walker, state and federal legislators*

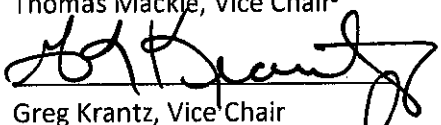
FISCAL IMPACT: None

Recommended for adoption by the Washburn County Executive Committee this 19th day of May, 2015.

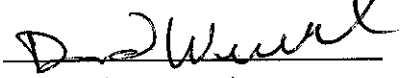
Steven Sather, Chair



Thomas Mackie, Vice Chair



Greg Krantz, Vice Chair



Dave Wilson, Member

absent/excused

Terry Leckel, Jr., Member

WOOD COUNTY

ITEM# 6- 1

DATE August 20, 2013

RESOLUTION# 13-8-7

Effective Date August 20, 2013

Introduced by Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

Committee

Motion:	Adopted: X
1st Murphy	Lost:
2nd Breu	Tabled:
No: 2 Yes: 15	Absent: 2
Number of votes required:	
X Majority	Two-thirds
Reviewed by: PAK	, Corp Counsel
Reviewed by:	, Finance Dir.

		NO	YES	A
1	Nelson, G		X	
2	Rozar, D		X	
3	Feirer, M		X	
4	Wagner, E	X		
5	Hendler, P		X	
6	Breu, A		X	
7	Ashbeck, R		X	
8	Miner, T		X	
9	Winch, W	ABS	ENT	
10	Henkel, H		X	
11	Curry, K		XX	
12	Machon, D		X	
13	Hokamp, M		X	
14	Polach, D	X		
15	Clendenning, B		X	
16	Pliml, L		X	
17	Allworden, G	ABS	ENT	
18	Murphy, B		X	
19	Moody, R		X	

**AMENDED see below FS

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To support a statewide wolf population management goal of 350 animals ~~or less~~.

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources established a wolf population goal of 350 animals or less in 1999 based on prey availability and human population density, and nothing has happened to increase prey availability or decrease human population density in the intervening years, and

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

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and WI Farm Bureau have officially approved a WI wolf population goal of 350, and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearings (2011) overwhelmingly supported a WI wolf population goal of 350 or less, and

WHEREAS, eighteen (18) county boards in northern and west central Wisconsin have passed resolutions that recommend a wolf population goal of 350 (4) or 350 or less (14), and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin residents have experienced depredations and threatening incidents involving wolves, and

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wood County Board advises that Wisconsin continue the wolf population goal of 350 ~~or less~~ in the next revision of the Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wood County Board requests that the Wisconsin DNR and other partners implement meaningful population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan to bring the wolf population to goal levels, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wood County Board requests that the WI DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin or other areas into any county in Wisconsin.

***Motion by Murphy/Breu to adopt Resolution13-8-7. Motion by Machon/Clendenning to strike the words "or less" in regards to the management goal of 350 animals. Motion carried. Voting no were Nelson, Rozar, Miner, Polach, Murphy. Motion to adopt Resolution 13-8-7 carried. Voting no were Wagner and Polach.*

( )

AL BREU (Chairman)

MARION HOKAMP

TRENT MINER

GERALD NELSON

DENNIS POLACH

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, this 20th day of August 20 13 .

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

February 27, 2023

Sent via Email

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707
DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov

Re: Comments from Center for Biological Diversity

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to provide comments on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity ("Center"), as well as our thousands of Wisconsin members and supporters. The Center is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.7 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.

To begin, I'd like to acknowledge the many improvements of this draft over the outdated plan that it will replace. In particular, the old plan's numerical goal of just 350 wolves was outdated and did not reflect the ecological importance of wolves[1] or the broad, ongoing public support for wolves in the state.[2]

Additionally, the draft plan takes steps to recognize the importance of wolves to sovereign Tribal nations by including a buffer around reservations. Killing wolves for stepping over an invisible political boundary would interfere with the Tribal nations' ability to conserve their wolves consistent with their cultural and other values.

[1] Beschta, R. L. & Ripple, W. J. Can large carnivores change streams via a trophic cascade? Ecohydrology, 12(1): e2048 (2019), https://trophiccascades.forestry.oregonstate.edu/sites/trophic/files/Beschta2019_Ecohyd.pdf; Wilmers, C.C. and W.M. Getz. Gray Wolves as Climate Change Buffers in Yellowstone. PLOS Biology 3(4): 571-576 (2005), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/7977771_Gray_Wolves_as_Climate_Change_Buffers_in_Yellowstone; Callan, R. et al. Recolonizing wolves trigger a trophic cascade in Wisconsin (USA). Journal of Ecology 101: 837–845 (2013), https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1365-2745.12095.

[2] Wisconsin DNR. Public Opinions Regarding Wolves and Wolf Management in Wisconsin (2022), https://widnr.widen.net/s/tsvfkqkh9w/pub_ea_017.

Our primary concern with the draft plan is the reliance on outdated or unreliable science to justify killing of wolves, largely to benefit a minority of livestock operators that experience conflicts with wolves. Yet recent science shows that nonlethal methods are effective:

> [N]onlethal methods of preventing depredation of livestock by large carnivores may be more effective, more defensible on ecological, legal, and wildlife-policy grounds, and more tolerated by society than lethal methods, and that total mortality rates for a large carnivore may be driven higher than previously assumed by human causes that are often underestimated.[3]

Science also shows that killing predators is costly and ineffective in the long-term:

> We reviewed literature investigating predator removal and focused on identifying successes and failures…. Predator removal appeared to only be effective for the short-term, failing in the absence of sustained predator suppression. This means predator removal was typically an ineffective and costly approach to conflicts between humans and predators.[4]

And that killing wolves sometimes exacerbates the conflicts:

> Of those twelve, prevention of livestock predation was demonstrated in six tests (four non-lethal and two lethal), whereas counterintuitive increases in predation were shown in two tests (zero non-lethal and two lethal); the remaining four (one non-lethal and three lethal) showed no effect on predation.[5]

As such, the final plan should require livestock operators to use of nonlethal methods to prevent conflict with wolves prior to any allowance for wolf killing or financial compensation.

Next, I wish to emphasize that trophy hunting of wolves is inconsistent with the values of most people in Wisconsin. At the state's public attitudes survey demonstrates, most respondents

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[3] Bergstrom, B.J. Carnivore conservation: shifting the paradigm from control to coexistence. J. Mammal. 98 (1): 1-6 (2017), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/312118535_Carnivore_conservation_Shifting_the_paradigm_from_control_to_coexistence; see also Stone, S. A. et al. Adaptive use of nonlethal strategies for minimizing wolf-sheep conflict in Idaho. Journal of Mammalogy, 98(1): 33-44 (2017), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/313875763_Adaptive_use_of_nonlethal_strategies_for_minimizing_Wolf-sheep_conflict_in_Idaho.

[4] Lennox, R. J., Gallagher, A. J., Ritchie, e. G., & Cooke, S. J. Evaluating the efficacy of predator removal in a conflict-prone world. Biological Conservation, 224: 277-289 (2018), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/325857871_Evaluating_the_efficacy_of_predator_removal_in_a_conflict-prone_world.

[5] Treves A., M. Krofel, and J. McManus. Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. Front Ecol Environ. 14: 380–388 (2016), https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Krofel_McManus.pdf.

indicated opposition to hounds (64%) and traps (70%) and hold feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).[6] At a minimum, the new plan should prohibit use of the cruelest methods of killing wolves, including trapping and hounding. The plan should be updated every five years to ensure consistency with emerging science and evolving public values.

Finally, killing wolves reduces their ability to provide ecological services of incalculable economic value to the people of Wisconsin, such as controlling chronic wasting disease[7] and reducing collisions between deer and cars.[8] More studies that demonstrate such benefits of having wolves on the landscape should be incorporated into the final plan.

If you have any questions about our comments or would like to discuss, please contact me at [redacted] Copies of the studies cited in this letter are available here: https://diversity.app.box.com/s/f7rpfvsnxq2g04vxw3wevgaxfrilzm1s.

Sincerely,



Collette Adkins
Carnivore Conservation Program Director, Senior Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity
[redacted]

[6] See footnote 2 above.
[7] Wild, M. et al. The role of predation in disease control: a comparison of selective and nonselective removal on prion disease dynamics in deer. Journal of Wildlife Diseases 47: 78–93 (2011), https://files.cfc.umt.edu/cesu/NPS/CSU/2005/05_06Hobbs_BRMD_modeling%20disease_jour%20article.pdf; Hobbs, N. Thompson. A model analysis of effects of wolf predation on prevalence of chronic wasting disease in elk populations of Rocky Mountain National Park (2006), http://files.cfc.umt.edu/cesu/NPS/CSU/2005/Hobbs_wolf%20cwd%20report.pdf;
[8] Raynor J et al. Wolves make roadways safer, generating large economic returns to predator conservation, PNAS (2021), https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2023251118.

Attn: Secretary Adam Payne, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Re: Draft Wolf Management Plan
Date: February 28, 2023

Dear Secretary Payne,

I write you today on behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) to provide comment on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, which in its current form does not provide sufficient, data-driven mechanisms for managing the population. CSF respectfully recommends that the final version of the plan includes a target statewide population goal and a framework for management that includes hunting for when the wolf is ultimately delisted from the list of endangered species. Despite their charisma and mystery, wolves are not fundamentally different than any other wildlife species in Wisconsin, and CSF contends that it is a mistake to subject this species to a different wildlife management model.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

By abandoning a numeric population goal, a common practice followed by state wildlife management agencies across the country where wolf populations exist, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will not have an accurate frame of reference to evaluate whether the final version of the Wolf Management Plan is operating as intended. Wisconsin is home to roughly 1,100 wolves, which freely range in and out of Minnesota and Michigan, creating a regional population exceeding 4,000 wolves. CSF agrees that this wolf population has fully recovered and is fit to be delisted and actively managed by the individual states. However, without a statewide population goal, the DNR cannot implement management practices that aim to achieve a specific outcome, which will likely cause wolf populations to continue to grow beyond their biologic and cultural carrying capacity – negatively impacting the very wolves this plan seeks to manage, as well as livestock such as cattle, and a variety of wildlife specifies including elk and deer. Given the current impact that the wolf population already has on Wisconsin's natural ecosystems, CSF recommends that the DNR adopt a numeric population goal that is lower than the current population of the species in the state.

Further, CSF maintains that hunting is the best means of managing wolf populations and recommends that the DNR create a framework for a science-based wolf hunting season that can be implemented upon the species' inevitable delisting. To ignore the likelihood that the wolf will be delisted before the next management plan is considered, which could be decades in the future, would fail to properly create a robust plan that uses all management practices available to the DNR.

Despite their charismatic demeanor, wolves are wildlife all the same and should be managed through the same state management practices that Wisconsin currently employs for its many wildlife species. State wildlife population management that includes hunting has produced countless success stories of species that were once extirpated from their historical ranges, including turkey, deer, and wood ducks, to name a few. Wolves should not be managed by a framework different than the other various species that occupy Wisconsin's storied landscape.

In conclusion, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation recommends that wolves are not granted a status that differentiates the species from other wildlife populations in Wisconsin. The draft Wolf Management Plan should be amended to implement a numeric population goal and should include a framework for achieving that numeric goal through hunting, once the wolf is inevitably removed from the endangered species list. I thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments and welcome any questions.

Sincerely,



Robert Matthews
Senior Coordinator, Great Lakes States
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
[redacted]

The 130+ members of the Exeland Rod & Gun Club of Exeland, Wi strongly object the Wolf Plan as currently written. Not setting a population goal, when managing any species, is not managing at all. To say "Increase, Decrease or Maintain" just pushes the problem down the road to be addressed at a later date by a different set of managers. Your plan simply passes the buck. The northern tier of counties in Wisconsin is experiencing declining deer populations and declining deer hunter numbers. The #1 reason for those declines is predation on the deer herd and lack of harvest by hunters. If the Department truly wants to increase/retain hunters, leave more deer on the landscape by reducing predator numbers. One more point - your "buffer zone" idea is a joke. Totally unnecessary. Wolf numbers are exploding without any buffers.

Al Gerber, President - Exeland Rod & Gun Club

We, the Girls Scouts of Troop 8147 of the Girl Scouts of Wisconsin - Badgerland Council, would like to put forward our comments on the DNR's Proposed Wolf Management Plan. We feel the following elements are important and should remain a part of the plan:

- Talk to people in all areas of the state about how they are impacted by the local wolf population.
- Continuously monitor local wolf populations to ensure an appropriate hunting quota, and permit hunting only when each population is healthy enough to sustain itself.
- Enforce hunting limits better and faster.

We urge you to remember that wolves are important in maintaining a healthy balance of natural resources in Wisconsin. They help keep herbivore populations at sustainable levels and also provide a food source for scavengers, both of which are important in maintaining biodiversity.

We ask you to please remember that wolves face many other challenges from humans, including loss of habitat and hunting grounds. Before people hunt the threatened wolf population we need to carefully consider the many other natural and human challenges the wolves are facing.

Thank you for your consideration,

Vivienne, Sofia, Finley, Jojo, Emma & Daphne*

A note from Troop 8147 Leaders:

This troop of 9- and 10-year-old Junior Girl Scouts voted unanimously on the Wolf Management Plan as the current issue they wanted to investigate while working towards their Democracy for Juniors badge this year. They demonstrated great interest in learning about the multiple perspectives on this issue and became very passionate about the topic. As proud troop leaders we would like to inform the government entities and officials involved in the creation and approval of this plan that the planning and decisions being made now are already being reviewed and observed by the voters and leaders of tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Vickie Eiden & Eileen Murphy

*Daphne is a younger sister Brownie level Girl Scout; while a member of a younger troop she also participates in all Troop 8147 meetings.

--
Vickie L. Eiden



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

1255 23rd St. NW
Suite 450
Washington, DC 20037
P 202-452-1100
F 202-778-6132
humanesociety.org

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February 28, 2023

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Submitted via email to DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov.

Dear Secretary Payne, Randy Johnson and WDNR Bureau of Wildlife Management,

On behalf of the Humane Society of the United States and our members and supporters in Wisconsin, I submit the following comments on the draft Wolf Management Plan ("draft plan").

We greatly appreciate the DNR's efforts to craft this draft plan, and the DNR's inclusion of a representative from the Humane Society of the United States on the Wolf Management Plan Committee. This draft plan offers several improvements over Wisconsin's previous plan, including a robust update to the biological and social science that will guide future wolf management. We support the recommendations to rein-in some of the harms caused by trophy hunting and trapping wolves, the removal of a numerical population management goal, and the DNR's commitment to making information about wolves transparent and easily accessible to the public. We are also encouraged by Product B1h, to Develop Wolf Conflict Mitigation Plans focused on non-lethal conflict prevention tools on farms with chronic wolf conflicts, and feel it is a step in the right direction.

However, we continue to have some concerns with the draft plan. Specifically, the Humane Society of the United States is staunchly opposed to Product C2h, to establish a season to train hounds to hunt wolves. We also feel the draft plan puts an alarming emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves when they are not protected under the federal Endangered Species Act. The draft plan largely ignores or downplays the significant ecological and economic benefits wolves provide, as well as the immense harms to wolves caused by trophy hunting and trapping seasons. Additionally, a higher emphasis should be placed on non-lethal conflict prevention measures in Section 3 and Section 4, Objective B, and the final plan should include a provision to update it at least every 5-10 years, rather than suggesting that the plan is "valid until replaced."[1]

Wisconsin has a responsibility to update the wolf management plan in a way that supports a healthy, genetically diverse, and socially stable wolf population and is rooted in the best available science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge,[2] ethics and

[1] Draft plan, page xi.
[2] The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) provides the following explanation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge: "There are multiple definitions of TEK and what information is categorized as such. For GLIFWC, TEK is typically recognized as a subset of the wealth of Anishinaabe

public values. As a keystone species, the benefits wolves provide ripple throughout our ecosystem and have been instrumental in restoring biological diversity.[3] While there are many scientific studies documenting the consequences of killing wolves, there is not a single one that provides a good reason to justify killing such intelligent, social animals who provide so many ecological and cultural benefits.[4] Among other recommendations that will be discussed in these comments, the final plan must meet this responsibility by including the following key changes:

- De-emphasizing wolf trophy hunting and trapping and recommending policy changes to eliminate the mandate that Wisconsin hold a trophy hunting and trapping season on wolves when they are not federally protected;
- Further discussing and emphasizing a clear prioritization of non-lethal methods for preventing conflicts with livestock; and
- Including a strong commitment to give *all* Wisconsinites a seat at the table in guiding wolf policy. Based on the 2022 public attitudes survey detailed in the draft plan, the majority of Wisconsinites clearly value wolves and want them to thrive in Wisconsin.[5] These values should be more proportionately represented in groups that have influence over wolf policy.

1. Wisconsinites value wolves

As described in Section 2 of the draft plan, Wisconsin residents value wolves. The Humane Society of the United States does have some concerns about the methodologies used to conduct the survey, including the oversampling of residents who live in areas where wolves live, and the fact that, relative to Wisconsin's population, respondents to the survey were disproportionately male, older, and self-identified as a hunter and/or a trapper. However, this survey is helpful in analyzing some of the ways attitudes toward wolves have shifted in Wisconsin since 2014. Specifically, support for a hunting and trapping season has declined by 15%, and statewide, attitudes toward wolves have grown more positive.[6]

According to the DNR's report, approximately 3 out of every 4 respondents agree that, "wolves are special animals that deserve our admiration," "predators like wolves keep nature in balance," "wolves are culturally important," and "people and wolves should be able to coexist."[7] Additionally, a whopping 80% agree that, "it is important to maintain a wolf population in Wisconsin,"[8] and most Wisconsinites do not want wolves eliminated.[9] Furthermore, based on responses regarding specific management options for wolves, the report states, "All of these statements suggest a preference among Wisconsinites statewide to reduce wolf-human conflicts via preventative approaches."[10]

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gikendaasowin or traditional knowledge. TEK is the process of gathering the knowledge that has been gained from generations of indigenous people's connection and interactions with the environment and that is willingly shared. This knowledge system is [redacted]ations and is typically transmitted orally through aadizookaanan (sacred stories), dibaajimowinan (oral histories), nagamonan (songs), and ceremonies over generations."

[3] E.g. Callan, R., Nibbelink, N. P., Rooney, T. P., Wiedenhoeft, J. E., & Wydeven, A. P. (2013). Recolonizing wolves trigger a trophic cascade in Wisconsin (USA). *Journal of Ecology, 101*(4), 837-845.

[4] Eg. Treves, A., Elbroch, L. M., and Bruskotter, J. T. (2022). Evaluating fact claims accompanying policies to liberalize the killing of wolves. Preprint under review. https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/preprint_Treves_Elbroch_Bruskotter.pdf.

[5] Bradshaw, L., Beardmore, B., Henry, M., Scott, A., & Holsman, R. (2022). Public opinions regarding wolves and wolf management in Wisconsin: A technical report to the Bureau of Wildlife Management from the Analysis Services Section, Bureau of Environmental Analysis & Sustainability, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

[6] *Id.*

[7] *Id.*, page 16.

[8] *Ibid.*

[9] *Id.*, page 41.

[10] *Id.*, page 49.

Among respondents who were opposed to a wolf trophy hunting and trapping season, 70% opposed the use of traps and 64% opposed the use of hounds.[11]

In June 2021, Remington Research Group surveyed 800 Wisconsin voters about wolves.[12] Their results show that most Wisconsinites (60%) oppose the trophy hunting and trapping of wolves in Wisconsin (compared to just 24% who supported such seasons). While these results differ from the DNR's survey, it is important to again note the potential sampling bias of the DNR's survey that could influence the results of this question and that the DNR's question on this topic implied that such seasons would be necessary to "manage wolf populations" rather than being for recreation or a trophy.

The literature review of global human dimensions research from the last decade related to wolf management that is included in the draft plan similarly found that, "studies continue to find neutral to positive attitudes about wolves among the general population."[13] As the literature review discussed, current social science demonstrates that American values relating to wildlife, including wolves, are becoming increasingly rooted in an ethic of mutualism—that is that wild animals are worthy of care and compassion.[14] Countless studies and polls demonstrate that Americans oppose trophy hunting.[15] Indeed, most Americans have positive attitudes toward wolves, and those attitudes have become more positive over the past few decades.[16]

Finally, we appreciate the inclusion of written narratives from some of the federally recognized tribes in Wisconsin. We hope the perspectives and Traditional Ecological Knowledge shared in these narratives and at other points during the plan development process will be more thoroughly incorporated into the final plan.

2. Trophy hunting and trapping wolves goes against the best available science

The draft plan places an alarming emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves when they are not federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. Currently, when wolves are not federally protected, they may be trophy hunted and trapped using a variety of cruel methods, including with the use of leghold traps, strangling neck snares, electronic calls, bait, and packs of radio-collared hounds.

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[11] *Id.*, page 58.
[12] Remington Research Group. (June 2021). Wisconsin public opinion. https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/WI%20Statewide%20Public%20Opinion%20Survey%20060821.pdf.
[13] Bradshaw, L., & Watermolen, D. J. (2021). Human dimensions of wolf management: A literature review. Pages 22-28 of the draft plan. Page 24.
[14] See for example: Manfredo, M. J., Sullivan, L., Don Carlos, A. W., Dietsch, A. M., Teel, T. L., Bright, A. D., & Bruskotter, J. (2018). [redacted]ext of wildlife management in the U.S. National report from the research project entitled "America's Wildlife Values." Fort Collins, CO: Colorado State University, Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. https://www.fishwildlife.org/application/files/9915/4049/1625/AWV_-_National_Final_Report.pdf; and Manfredo, M. J., Teel, T. L., Don Carlos, A. W., Sullivan, L., Bright, A. D., Dietsch, A. M., ... & Fulton, D. (2020). The changing sociocultural context of wildlife conservation. *Conservation Biology, 34*(6), 1549-1559.
[15] See for example: Darimont, C. T., Codding, B. F., & Hawkes, K. (2017). Why men trophy hunt. *Biology Letters, 13*(3), 20160909. https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/full/10.1098/rsbl.2016.0909; Remington Research Group (January 2022). National public opinion. https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/HSUS_National-Public-Opinion-SCI-Demo-Data.pdf?_gl=1*p3yklc*_ga*NDUzNTk4MTIuMTU4MjgzOTg5MQ..*_ga_DGPX92WLR5*MTY1MDM5NDA3MC41ODMuMS4xNjUwMzk0MDgwLjUw*_fplc*NnF6RmUzdEpEM1VLdXVHcSUyQjkwTHl0Z0dSMmVPVFRxcU9EWmFHSThHSklCbDdOdXByWENBRU4zUWRvMzNoZURPZEc0WlhmWEhEJTJGUVpsYndwYXBPMHdPVmFIdnNGUVA2djh4UEwlMkZUaWQ1Zzk3ZUFZMW8lMkZGVDRFRkZDMEl1RFElM0QlM0Q.
[16] See for example: George, K. A., Slagle, K. M., Wilson, R. S., Moeller, S. J., & Bruskotter, J. T. (2016). Changes in attitudes toward animals in the United States from 1978 to 2014. *Biological Conservation, 201*, 237-242.

While we understand that Act 169 mandates that Wisconsin hold such seasons, the final plan should include additional scientific information regarding the harms caused by these seasons and provide a recommendation that the statute be changed to remove this requirement or that quotas be set to zero.

Peer-reviewed studies show that trophy hunting and trapping seasons are highly detrimental to wolves.[9] Such seasons can actually decrease social tolerance for wolves, increase wolf poaching, and exacerbate conflicts with livestock.[10] While many of these arguments are referenced in the draft plan, the draft plan often downplays them or negates them with language about wolf resiliency.

A. The best available science does not support trophy hunting and trapping

The best available science does not support killing wolves and demonstrates that trophy hunting wolves causes "additive" and "super-additive" mortality, resulting in death and disruption beyond the individual killed.[17] Killing single adult wolves can result in the loss of *entire packs*, by causing the loss of dependent offspring and disrupting the pack's social structure.[18] Additive mortality can increase the total death rate of a population,[19] whereas "super-additive mortality" describes a population decline larger than expected from documented mortality. This can occur through the killing of some individuals (by humans), which then indirectly increases the risk of death for others (e.g., pack disruption) or through failures of immigration and births to compensate.[20]

Studies show that killing wolves causes especially severe super-additive-mortality effects, because their complex pack structure makes them particularly susceptible to social disruption.[21] The human-caused death of individual adult wolves harms family group cohesion and has a disproportionately large

[17] Ausband, D. E., Stansbury, C. R., Stenglein, J. L., Struthers, J. L., and Waits, L. P. (2015). Recruitment in a social carnivore before and after harvest." [In English]. *Animal Conservation* 18, no. 5: 415-23; Ausband, D. E., Mitchell, M. S., & Waits, L. P. (2017). Effects of breeder turnover and harvest on group composition and recruitment in a social carnivore. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, *86*(5), 1094-1101; Borg, B. L., Brainerd, S. M., Meier, T. J., & Prugh, L. R. (2015). Impacts of breeder loss on social structure, reproduction and population growth in a social canid. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, *84*(1), 177-187; Brainerd, S. M., Andron, H., Bangs, E. E., Bradley, E. H., Fontaine, J. A., Hall, W., Iliopoulos, Y., et al. (2008). The effects of breeder loss on wolves. *The Journal of Wildlife Management, 72*(1): 89-98; Bryan, H. M., Smits, J. E. G., Koren, L., Paquet, P. C., Wynne-Edwards, K. E., & Musiani, M. (2015). Heavily hunted wolves have higher stress and reproductive steroids than wolves with lower hunting pressure. *Functional Ecology, 29*(3), 347-356; Creel, S. & Rotella, J. (2010). Meta-analysis of relationships between human offtake, total mortality and population dynamics of gray wolves (*Canis lupus*). *PLoS One, 5*(9); Rick, J. A., Moen, R. A., Erb, J. D., Strasburg, J. L. (2017). Population structure and gene flow in a newly harvested gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) population. *Conservation Genetics, 18*(5), 1091-94; Rutledge, L. Y., Patterson, B. R., Mills, K. J., Loveless, K. M., Murray, D. L., & White, B. N. (2010). Protection from harvesting restores the natural social structure of eastern wolf packs. *Biological Conservation, 143*(2), 332-339; Schmidt, J. H., Burch, J. W., & MacCluskie, M. C. (2017). Effects of control on the dynamics of an adjacent protected wolf population in interior Alaska. *Wildlife Monographs, 198*(1), 1-30; and Treves, A., Elbroch, L. M., and Bruskotter, J. T. (2022). Evaluating fact claims accompanying policies to liberalize the killing of wolves. Preprint under review. https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/preprint_Treves_Elbroch_Bruskotter.pdf.

[18] Ausband et al., 2015; Borg, B. L., Arthur, S. M., Bromen, N. A., Cassidy, K. A., McIntyre, R., Smith, D. W., & Prugh, L. R. (2016). Implications of harvest on the boundaries of protected areas for large carnivore viewing opportunities. *PLoS one, 11*(4), e0153808; Creel & Rotella, 2010; Schmidt et al., 2017; Smith, D. W., Bangs, E. E., Oakleaf, J. K., Mack, C., Fontaine, J., Boyd, D., ... & Murray, D. L. (2010). Survival of colonizing wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains of the United States, 1982–2004. *The Journal of Wildlife Management, 74*(4), 620-634; and Wallach, A. D., Izhaki, I., Toms, J. D., Ripple, W. J., & Shanas, U. (2015). What is an apex predator?. *Oikos, 124*(11), 1453-1461.

[19] Creel & Rotella, 2010.

[20] Bryan et al., 2015; Creel & Rotella, 2010.

[21] Bryan et al., 2015.

influence on population dynamics.[22] Wolves exposed to heavy hunting also experience increased stress and reproductive hormone imbalance.[23] The human-caused loss of breeding females has been shown to cause complete dissolution of social groups and abandonment of territory.[24] The human-caused loss of adults also diminishes pup survival and consequently the survival of the pack.[25]

Numerous studies have detailed the realized and potential effects of decreasing wildlife populations through legal trophy hunting and predator control on population genetics.[26] Frank et al. (2021) state that removing fit adults, "[C]an reshape sociospatial structure, genetic composition, fitness, and potentially affect evolution."[27] This is particularly concerning, because, as Ausband (2022) states, "A lack of genetic diversity can result in lower reproduction and survival and ultimately increase the probability of extinction."[28]

The genetic consequences of hunting were documented in Minnesota wolves just one year after a trophy-hunting season was implemented in 2012.[29] The observed effects included a significant increase in structuring and differentiation among subpopulations, decreased dispersal and gene flow among subpopulations, and elevated mortality of dispersing wolves.[30] These results are corroborated by similar findings in a wolf population in Alaska.[31] It is clear that even low to moderate rates of legal wolf killing are not genetically neutral and invoke harmful population-wide genetic and demographic changes that can dramatically reduce population viability, elevate extinction risk, and require multiple generations for wolf populations to recover from.[32]

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[22] Barber-Meyer, S. M., Wheeldon, T. J., & Mech, L. D. (2021). The importance of wilderness to wolf (Canis lupus) survival and cause-specific mortality over 50 years. *Biological Conservation*, *258*, 109145, p. 8; Creel & Rotella, 2010; and Mallonee, J. S. (2011). Hunting wolves in Montana—Where is the data. *Nature and Science*, *9*(9).

[23] Bryan et al., 2015; Stewart, J. C., Davis, G. A., & Igoche, D. (2021). Using physiological effects and K-nearest neighbor to identify hunting-stressed wolf populations. In *Proceedings of the Conference on Information Systems Applied Research ISSN* (Vol. 2167, p. 1).

[24] Brainerd et al., 2008.

[25] Cassidy, K. A., Borg, B. L., Klauder, K. J., Sorum, M. S., Thomas-Kuzilik, R., Dewey, S. R., ... & Smith, D. W. (2023). Human-caused mortality triggers pack instability in gray wolves. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

[26] Allendorf, F. W., England, P. R., Luikart, G., Ritchie, P. A., & Ryman, N. (2008). Genetic effects of harvest on wild animal populations. *Trends in ecology & evolution*, *23*(6), 327-337; Ausband, D. E., & Waits, L. (2020). Does harvest affect genetic diversity in grey wolves?. *Molecular Ecology*, *29*(17), 3187-3195; Frank, S. C., Pelletier, F., Kopatz, A., Bourret, A., Garant, D., Swenson, J. E., ... & Zedrosser, A. (2021). Harvest is associated with the disruption of social and fine-scale genetic structure among matrilines of a solitary large carnivore. *Evolutionary applications*, *14*(4), 1023; and Rick, J. A., Moen, R. A., Erb, J. D., & Strasburg, J. L. (2017). Population structure and gene flow in a newly harvested gray wolf (Canis lupus) population. *Conservation Genetics*, *18*, 1091-1104.

[27] Frank et al., 2021.

[28] Ausband, D. E. (2022). Genetic diversity and mate selection in a reintroduced population of gray wolves. *Scientific reports*, *12*(1), 5. See also: Benson, J. F., Mahoney, P. J., Sikich, J. A., Serieys, L. E., Pollinger, J. P., Ernest, H. B., & Riley, S. P. (2016). Interactions between demography, genetics, and landscape connectivity increase extinction probability for a small population of large carnivores in a major metropolitan area. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, *283*(1837), 20160957; Frankham, R., Bradshaw, C. J., & Brook, B. W. (2014). Genetics in conservation management: revised recommendations for the 50/500 rules, Red List criteria and population viability analyses. *Biological Conservation*, *170*, 56-63; Jamieson, I. G., & Allendorf, F. W. (2012). How does the 50/500 rule apply to MVPs?. *Trends in ecology & evolution*, *27*(10), 578-584; Pierson, J. C., Beissinger, S. R., Bragg, J. G., Coates, D. J., Oostermeijer, J. G. B., Sunnucks, P., ... & Young, A. G. (2015). Incorporating evolutionary processes into population viability models. *Conservation Biology*, *29*(3), 755-764.

[29] Rick et al., 2017.

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population dynamics and harvest characteristics of wolves in the central Brooks Range, Alaska. *Wildlife Monographs*, *170*(1), 1-25; Schmidt et al., 2017.

[32] *Id.*; Brainerd et al., 2008; Rick et al., 2017.

B. Wolf trophy hunting and trapping increases wolf poaching

The best available science, demonstrates that relaxing wolf protection policies and/or allowing the killing of wolves for hunting, trapping, or purported livestock protection purposes can actually decrease social tolerance and increase wolf poaching.[33] Researchers demonstrate that poaching likely increases in a population as legal killing of that population is expanded.[34] Santiago-Avila et al. (2020) state:

> [W]ould-be poachers respond to the policy changes as a signal to increase their activities, possibly associated with cognitive processes relating to values (e.g., lower value of wolves in the eyes of would-be poachers), social norms (e.g., greater acceptability of poaching, or less enforcement against poaching), or perceived control (e.g., would-be poachers perceive themselves helping authorities to kill wolves).[35]

According to Liberg et al. (2012), "Because of their characteristic low densities combined with their slow rates of population growth, top predators are particularly vulnerable to effects of poaching."[36] Their study showed that approximately half (51%) of total mortality among Scandinavian wolves was caused by poaching and more than two-thirds (69%) of the total poaching was cryptic (i.e., successfully hidden from authorities). In a subsequent study, Treves et al. (2017) stated, "When one examines the percentage of individuals dying per unit time within a predator population (referred to as the hazard rate), poaching can push carnivore populations toward population crashes, at least in human-dominated landscapes."[37] In analyzing the deaths of radio-collared Wisconsin wolves that occurred between 1979 and 2012, they found that at least two-thirds of deaths were caused by humans and 39-45% of all deaths were from poaching (the authors acknowledge this figure is an underestimate). They also estimated that 80-84% of poached, unmonitored collared wolves were cryptically poached.[38]

Furthermore, a recent study analyzing monitoring data from adult, radio-collared Wisconsin wolves that was collected between 1979 and 2012 (a period during which these wolves were federally protected under the Endangered Species Act) found that reported poaching and disappearances (likely from cryptic poaching) significantly increased during certain seasons.[39] Those seasons included legal hunting for other large mammals (e.g., black bear and white-tailed deer), seasons during which it was legal to train or use hunting hounds, and seasons during which there was snow cover compared to seasons without these characteristics.[40] Specifically, the rate of poaching more than doubled during late winter to early spring, when hunting and hounding periods were over but there was still snow on the ground.[41]

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[33] See for example: Chapron, G. & Treves, A. (2016). Blood does not buy goodwill: Allowing culling increases poaching of a large [redacted]. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2015.2939; and Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Chappell, R. J., & Treves, A. (2020). Liberalizing the killing of endangered wolves was associated with more disappearances of collared individuals in Wisconsin, USA. *Scientific Reports*, *10*(1), 13881.

[34] *Id.*

[35] Santiago-Avila, Chappell, & Treves, 2020, p. 2

[36] Liberg, O., Chapron, G., Wabakken, P., Pedersen, H. C., Hobbs, N. T., & Sand, H. (2012). Shoot, shovel and shut up: cryptic poaching slows restoration of a large carnivore in Europe. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, *279*(1730), 910.

[37] Treves, A., Langenberg, J. A., López-Bao, J. V., et al. (2017).

[38] *Id.*

[39] Santiago-Ávila, F. J., & Treves, A. (2022). Poaching of protected wolves fluctuated seasonally and with non-wolf hunting. *Scientific Reports*, *12*(1), 1738.

[40] *Id.*

[41] *Id.*

When snow cover and hunting periods overlapped from late fall to early winter, the documented poaching rate increased by 658%.[42]

Most importantly, recent research demonstrates that liberalizing legal killing (through hunting/trapping seasons or removals for purported livestock losses[43]) is likely to increase the incidence of illegal poaching of the same population.[44] In other words, the act of changing a policy to reduce or remove protections for wolves is associated with a significant decrease in potential wolf population growth rates and that decrease was independent of the number of wolves killed legally. The results of Santiago-Avila et al. (2020) suggest that when the government relaxed protections for wolves, poachers killed more wolves and concealed more evidence of their activities.[45] Their results also suggest that changes to policy that liberalize killing wolves were associated with an 85% likelihood of increasing the risk of disappearance for their studied population.[46]

C. Changes must be made to align the final plan with the best available science

The Humane Society of the United States appreciates some of the changes that have been made regarding wolf trophy hunting and trapping. As previously stated, we support the removal of a numerical population management goal. Wolf populations should not be managed for a specific number, but rather the goal should be for the state to have a self-sustaining, self-regulating and genetically diverse population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. We also support the delineation of Subzones 1B and 2B, which would be "designed to minimize wolf harvest in areas adjacent to large tribal reservations within wolf range which support wolf packs primarily on and adjacent these reservations."[47] We strongly recommend that the subzone limits in 1B and 2B be set at zero.

Additionally, while we remain strongly opposed to any wolf trophy hunting and trapping, we are supportive of the recommended policy changes under Objective C that aim to mitigate some of the harms caused by such seasons. Specifically, we support Products C2a and C2c, which recommend pursuing administrative rules to reduce registration time to eight hours and to issue wolf licenses that are only valid in the specific zone specified on the license. These changes will help the DNR more closely monitor how many wolves are being killed and hopefully prevent a repeat of the disastrous February 2021 season.[48]

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[42] *Id.*

[43] The Humane Society of the United States. (2019). Government data confirm that wolves have a negligible effect on U.S. cattle and sheep industries. https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/HSUS-Wolf-Livestock-6.Mar_.19Final.pdf.

[44] [redacted] does not buy goodwill: Allowing culling increases poaching of a large carnivore. *Proc. R. Soc. B*, 283: 20152939. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2015.2939; Louchouarn, N. X., Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Parsons, D. R., & Treves, A. (2021). Evaluating how lethal management affects poaching of Mexican wolves. *Royal Society Open Science*, *8*(3), 200330; Santiago-Avila, F. J., Chappell, R. J., & Treves, A. (2020); Santiago-Avila, F.J., & Treves, A. (2022); See also Chapron, G. & Treves, A. (2016). Correction to 'Blood does not buy goodwill: Allowing culling increases poaching of a large carnivore.' *Proc. R. Soc. B 283*: 20162577. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.2577 and Chapron, G., & Treves, A. (2017). Reply to comments by Olson *et al.* 2017 and Stien 2017. *Proc. R. Soc. B, 284*: 20171743. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.1743.

[45] *Id.*

[46] Santiago-Avila, F. J., Chappell, R. J., & Treves, A. (2020).

[47] Draft plan, page 104.

[48] The Humane Society of the United States. June 2021. *A call to end wolf trophy hunting in Wisconsin.* https://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/HSUS-WI-Wolf-Report15Jun2021.pdf; Treves, A., & Louchouarn, N. X. (2022). Uncertainty and precaution in hunting wolves twice in a year. *Plos one, 17*(3), e0259604; Wisconsin's Green Fire. (2021).

With that said, we are concerned by the DNR's use of a scaled occupancy model to estimate wolf abundance.[49] Treves & Santiago-Avila (2023 preprint) detailed major shortcomings in the DNR's use of a scaled occupancy model and conclude that, "[T]he Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins."[50] Using this flawed method as the basis for the wolf population estimate and therefore for future quota setting could irreparably harm Wisconsin's wolf population.

We are also deeply concerned that two of the three strategies under Objective C: Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population are focused on wolf trophy hunting and trapping. Just 11% of Wisconsinites hold hunting licenses, and an even smaller percentage are interested in trophy hunting and trapping wolves. This Objective should instead focus on the many benefits wolves provide to *all* Wisconsinites, including those related to biodiversity and the ecosystem, disease reduction, and preventing deer-vehicle collisions, as will be discussed in Section 5 of these comments. Strategy C3 is a start but could be greatly expanded.

Furthermore, we are vehemently opposed to Product C2h, which recommends "pursing administrative rules to establish a designated season for dog owners to train for wolf hunting activities."[51] We do not support any pursuit of wolves with hounds. Using dogs to chase wolves, whether for hound training or as part of wolf trophy hunting, amounts to state sanctioned dog fighting and puts both wolves and dogs in jeopardy. Allowing a hound training season will undoubtedly increase conflict, create social chaos among wolves, and lead to increased harassment of nontarget wildlife and trespass issues with landowners.[52]

Strategies C1 and C2 also ignore the fact that wolves have intrinsic value. —that is they have value in their own right beyond their use to humans and the benefits they provide to the ecosystem and the eco-tourism economy.[53] Wolves are incredibly intelligent, social, and family-oriented animals[54] and Wisconsin has a responsibility to ethically conserve their population. As such, the final plan should include a recommendation that wolf quotas be set to zero and/or that state statute be changed to not require Wisconsin hold a wolf trophy hunting and trapping season when wolves are not federally protected.

3. Conflicts with wolves are rare in Wisconsin and non-lethal tools are the most effective means for conflict prevention

Livestock losses to wolves are extremely rare in Wisconsin and in every jurisdiction in which they live.[55] The draft plan even acknowledges that, "the total number of farms and livestock involved in wolf

The February 2021 Wisconsin wolf hunt: A preliminary assessment. https://wigreenfire.org/2019/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/WGF-Cons-Bulletin-Feb-Wolf-Hunt-04-28-2021.pdf.

[49] Draft plan, page 65.

[50] Treves, A. & Santiago-Avila, F. J. (2023). Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods. Preprint available at https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOM.pdf.

[51] Draft plan, page 127.

[52] Treves, A., & Menefee, L. (2022). Adverse effects of hunting with hounds on participants and bystanders. *bioRxiv*, 2022-08.

[53] Nelson, M. P. Wolves and intrinsic value: Frequently asked questions. https://www.endangered.org/wolf-conservation-planning/advocates/wolves-and-intrinsic-value-frequently-asked-questions/.

[54] Stahler, D. R., Smith, D. W., Cassidy, K. A., Stahler, E. E., Metz, M. C., McIntyre, R., & MacNulty, D. R. (2020). Ecology of family dynamics in Yellowstone wolf packs. In D. W. Smith, D. R. Stahler, & D. R. MacNulty (Eds.), Yellowstone wolves (pp.42-60).

[55] The Humane Society of the United States, 2019; Kareiva, P., Attwood, S. K., Bean, K., Felix, D., Marvier, M., Miketa, M. L., & Tate-Pulliam, E. (2022). A new era of wolf management demands better data and a more inclusive process. *Conservation Science and Practice*, *4*(11), e12821.

depredation and harassment incidents across Wisconsin are numerically low."[56] According to information provided in Section 3 of the draft plan, "The number of farms with verified wolf depredations has averaged about 30 farms from 2011-2021."[57] Furthermore, the most recent Wisconsin Gray Wolf Monitoring Report states that between April 15, 2021 and April 14, 2022, 46 cattle, 17 sheep, and 3 horses were confirmed to have been killed or injured by wolves.[58] To put that into perspective, at the time there were approximately 3.5 million cattle and 86,000 sheep in Wisconsin.[59] In other words, wolves were confirmed to be responsible for the death or injury less than 0.002% of the cattle and sheep in Wisconsin.

Not only are livestock losses to wolves rare and far less lethal than health, weather, and birthing problems,[60] but many studies have questioned the efficacy of killing wolves to reduce or prevent livestock losses.[61] For example, Treves et al. (2022, *preprint*) state:

> Therefore, the majority of studies suggest wolf-killing as practiced in the USA, France, and Slovenia does not prevent future livestock losses reliably and can, in fact, sometimes raise such losses. Therefore, the most rigorous and replicable research to date found that targeted wolf-killing appeared effective for preventing recurrent livestock killing in only a minority of cases. Furthermore, the risk of raising livestock losses appears in numerous studies cited in those summarized above.[62]

In other words, studies have found that killing wolves does not improve livestock safety and can actually exacerbate conflicts with livestock by disrupting the stable social structures that wolves rely on.[63] For example, when wildlife biologists reviewed a 17-year data set involving Michigan wolves and livestock losses, they discovered that the lethal removal of wolves for livestock protection reasons on one farm

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[56] Draft plan, page 74
[57] *Ibid.*
[58] Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. (2022). Wisconsin gray wolf monitoring report 15 April 2021 through 14 April 2022. *Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Wildlife Management.* Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
[59] USDA NASS, Wisconsin Field Office. 2021 Wisconsin agricultural statistics. https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Wisconsin/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/2021AgStats-WI.pdf.
[60] The Humane Society of the United States, 2019.
[61] Andelt, W. F. (1996). Carnivores. In P. R. Krausman (Ed.), *Rangeland Wildlife* (pp. 133-155). Society for Range Management; Bergstrom, B. J. (2017). Carnivore conservation: shifting the paradigm from control to coexistence. *Journal of Mammalogy, 98*(1), 1-6; Eklund, A., López-Bao, J. V., Tourani, M., Chapron, G., & Frank, J. (2017). Limited evidence on the effectiveness of interventions to reduce livestock predation by large carnivores. *Scientific reports, 7*(1), 2097; Lennox, R. J., Gallagher, A. J., Ritchie, E. G., & Cooke, S. J. (2018). Evaluating the efficacy of predator removal in a conflict-prone world. *Biological Conservation, 224*, 277-289; Parks, M., & Messmer, T. (2016). Participant perceptions of Range Rider Programs operating to mitigate wolf–livestock conflicts in the western United States. *Wildlife Society Bulletin, 40*(3), 514-524; Santiago-Avila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A. (2018). Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. *PLoS One, 13*(1), e0189729; Stone, S. A., Breck, S. W., Timberlake, J., Haswell, P. M., Najera, F., Bean, B. S., & Thornhill, D. J. (2017). Adaptive use of nonlethal strategies for minimizing wolf–sheep conflict in Idaho. *Journal of Mammalogy, 98*(1), 33-44; Treves, A., & Karanth, K. U. (2003). Human-carnivore conflict and perspectives on carnivore management worldwide. *Conservation biology, 17*(6), 1491-1499; Treves, A., Krofel, M., & McManus, J. (2016). Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 14*(7), 380-388.
[62] Treves, A., Elbroch, L. M., and Bruskotter, J. T. (2022, *preprint under review*). A review of fact claims about liberalizing the killing of wolves. https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/preprint_Treves_Elbroch_Bruskotter.pdf
[63] See for example: Eklund, A., Lopez-Bao, J. V., Tourani, M., Chapron, G., & Frank, J. (2017). Limited evidence on the effectiveness of interventions to reduce livestock predation by large carnivores. *Scientific Reports, 7*; Lennox, R. J., Gallagher, A. J., Ritchie, E. G., & Cooke, S. J. (2018). Evaluating the efficacy of predator removal in a conflict-prone world. *Biological Conservation, 224*, 277-89; Treves, A., M. Krofel, and J. McManus. 2016. Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment **14**:380-388.

increased future wolf predation on their neighbors' livestock.[64] Several other studies show that killing wolves, including by predator control, does little to protect livestock.[65] Even the literature review included in Section 2 of the draft plan details studies demonstrating that killing wolves is consistently found to be less effective at stopping livestock-wolf conflicts when compared to non-lethal preventative measures, concluding, "Tolerance for wolves may increase as research on non-lethal wolf control methods continues to improve, and if agencies pair communications on reducing risks with information about the benefits of maintaining wolves on the landscape."[66]

Non-lethal methods to protect livestock are more effective, economical, and humane than killing wolves.[67] For example, in their study evaluating low-stress livestock handling (referred to by the authors as "L-SLH"), Louchouarn and Treves (2023) report that:

> Our experiment shows that one can graze thousands of cattle safely on vast public lands hosting grizzly bears and wolves when owners use L-SLH as a method to reduce the vulnerability of domestic animals. We conclude that L-SLH joins a growing number of non-lethal, carnivore control methods proven effective by gold standard experiments.[68]

Other benefits conferred from low-stress livestock handling and range riding include quickly finding and removing cattle who die from maladies, birthing problems or lightning strikes that could attract predators, as well as observing and managing other problems affecting the herd in a timely manner.[69]

Again, killing wolves can actually exacerbate conflicts with livestock by disrupting the stable social structures that wolves rely on. For example, Bryan et al. (2015) write: "Hunting can decrease pack size, which results in altered predation patterns, increased time spent defending kill sites from scavengers, and may lead to increased conflict with humans and livestock."[70]

A. Changes must be made to align the final plan with the best available science

We appreciate that the draft plan overall seems to favor non-lethal conflict prevention practices. Specifically, Product B1h, which aims to develop "Wolf Conflict Mitigation Plans that focus on non-lethal abatement" for farms with chronic livestock-wolf conflicts, is a step in the right direction to mitigating already rare conflicts with livestock in a way that supports public values and the best available science. We also support the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of nonlethal conflict deterrent techniques, including those outlined under Strategies B5, B6, and E3.

However, the draft plan continues to exaggerate livestock-wolf conflict and provides little discussion of [redacted]ting that non-lethal conflict prevention measures are more effective at preventing conflicts than killing wolves. While the draft plan does provide some recommendations and

[64] Santiago-Avila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A. (2018). Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. *PLoS ONE, 13*(1), e0189729.
[65] Treves, Krofel, & McManus, 2016.
[66] Draft plan, page 28.
[67] Andelt, 1996; Eklund et al., 2017; Parks & Messmer, 2016; Stone et al., 2017; Treves & Karanth, 2003.
[68] Louchouarn, N. X., & Treves, A. (2023). Low-stress livestock handling protects cattle in a five-predator habitat. *PeerJ, 11*, e14788, page 14.
[69] *Id.*
[70] See also: Wielgus, R. B., & Peebles, K. A. (2014). Effects of wolf mortality on livestock depredations. *PloS one, 9*(12), e113505.

plans for outreach regarding non-lethal measures it should also include a more robust discussion of *why* such methods must be prioritized, particularly in Section 3 and Section 4, Objective B.

Killing wolves should never be the first response to livestock-wolf conflict, yet the draft plan indicates that this could occur.[71] Non-lethal methods that are properly implemented and appropriate for the situation should always be the primary response to conflicts. Furthermore, under Product B1f, the draft plan recommends that trophy hunting and trapping of wolves be used in an attempt address livestock-wolf conflicts. Similarly, the draft plan recommends delineating Subzones 1A and 4A to allow the Commission and the DNR to provide increased trophy hunting and trapping opportunities in areas that have historically experienced chronic conflict.[72] As thoroughly discussed above, there is little evidence that killing wolves, especially through trophy hunting and trapping seasons, will resolve conflicts.[73] In fact, trophy hunting and trapping can make conflicts worse.[74] As such, Product B1f and the delineation of Subzones 1A and 4A should be removed from the final plan.

In an effort to increase transparency, information about investigations into suspected livestock-wolf conflict, including what, if any, non-lethal deterrents were in place at the time, should be made readily available on the DNR's website, with any identifying information redacted. Additionally, the DNR should require that livestock producers properly implement adequate non-lethal tools to prevent conflicts prior to providing any compensation for losses.

4. Killing wolves will not increase already high ungulate populations; wolves suppress and limit diseases, including CWD

Recent research suggests that while native carnivores like wolves can accelerate declines in prey populations and modulate increases, predation alone does not cause these changes in populations.[75] Weather, disease, and habitat play a much greater role in determining deer and other ungulate population sizes.[76] Killing native carnivores like wolves fails to address the underlying environmental issues—such as habitat loss, drought, loss of migration corridors, human growth, oil and gas exploration and inadequate nutrition—that harm prey populations such as deer.[77]

Further, a meta-analysis of predator-prey studies assessing the overall effect of predator removal on wild ungulate populations found that predator removal had low and variable effectiveness on increasing ungulate populations.[78] Another recent study analyzing four decades of efforts in Alaska to reduce abundance of large

[redacted]

[71] Draft plan, page 84.
[72] Draft plan, page 104.
[73] Eg. Bryan et al., 2015
[74] *Id.*
[75] Forrester, T. D., & Wittmer, H. U. (2013). A review of the population dynamics of mule deer and black-tailed deer O docoileus hemionus in N orth A merica. *Mammal Review*, *43*(4), 292-308; Monteith, K. L., Bleich, V. C., Stephenson, T. R., Pierce, B. M., Conner, M. M., Kie, J. G., & Bowyer, R. T. (2014). Life-history characteristics of mule deer: effects of nutrition in a variable environment. *Wildlife Monographs*, *186*(1), 1-62.
[76] *Id.*
[77] *Id.*
[78] Clark, T. J., & Hebblewhite, M. (2021). Predator control may not increase ungulate populations in the future: a formal meta-analysis. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, *58*(4), 812-824.

predators, including gray wolves, brown bears and black bears, found that there was no difference in average moose hunting success during periods of recent liberalized killing of predators relative to prior periods.[79]

The scientific consensus for the last several decades has generally found that coursing predators like wolves and coyotes balance prey populations and make them more robust,[80] including removing the sick and weak animals who would die of other natural causes anyway.[81] Predator-control schemes, including recreational hunting and trapping, are an unreliable way to increase the abundance of deer and other ungulates.[82]

Wolves are very good at identifying vulnerable prey, and tend to target individuals that are old, young, sick, or otherwise weakened.[83] The draft plan even mentions that wolves are highly effective at identifying prey weaknesses.[84] They prefer to prey upon deer who are already in poor health or otherwise compromised. We appreciate that the draft plan includes a robust discussion of the role wolves and other native carnivores play in suppressing and limiting the prevalence of disease in prey species, including chronic wasting disease (CWD),[85] an epidemic plaguing cervids that continues to spread across North America, including in Wisconsin.[86] Wolf predation can limit or even prevent transmission of CWD and other diseases by reducing host densities and contact rates or by lowering the total number of infected individuals in a host population.[87]

Moreover, Wisconsin's deer population is doing well. On its website, the DNR states:

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[79] Miller, S. D., Person, D. K., & Bowyer, R. T. (2022). Efficacy of Killing Large Carnivores to Enhance Moose Harvests: New Insights from a Long-Term View. *Diversity*, *14*(11), 939.

[80] Callan, R., N. P. Nibbelink, T. P. Rooney, J. E. Wiedenhoeft, and A. P. Wydeven. 2013. Recolonizing wolves trigger a trophic cascade in Wisconsin (USA). Journal of Ecology 101:837-845. Leopold, A. S., S. A. Cain, I. N. Gabrielson, C. M. Cottam, and T. L. Kimball. 1964. Leopold Report: Predator and Rodent Control in the United States: Report submitted to Department of Interior.Logan, K. A., and L. L. Sweanor. 2001. Desert puma: evolutionary ecology and conservation of an enduring carnivore. Island Press, Washington, DC. Mitchell et al., 2015. Murie, A. 1940. Ecology of the Coyote in the Yellowstone.*in* U. S. D. o. Interior, editor. Fauna of the National Parks of the United States. U.S. Government Printing Office. Peckarsky, B. L., P. A. Abrams, D. I. Bolnick, L. M. Dill, J. H. Grabowski, B. Luttbeg, J. L. Orrock, S. D. Peacor, E. L. Preisser, O. J. Schmitz, and G. C. Trussell. 2008. Revisiting the Classics: Considering Nonconsumptive Effects in Textbook Examples of Predator-Prey Reactions. Ecological Society of America 89:2416-2425.

[81] Krumm, C. E., M. M. Conner, N. T. Hobbs, D. O. Hunter, and M. W. Miller. 2009. Mountain lions prey selectively on prion-infected mule deer. Biology Letters **6**:209-211. Mech, 2007. Montieth et al., 2014

[82] Bishop, C. J., G. C. White, D. J. Freddy, B. E. Watkins, and T. R. Stephenson. 2009. Effect of Enhanced Nutrition on Mule Deer Population Rate of Change. Wildlife Monographs:1-28. Hurley, M. A., J. W. Unsworth, P. Zager, M. Hebblewhite, E. O. Garton, D. M. Montgomery, J. R. Skalski, and C. L. Maycock. 2011. Demographic Response of Mule Deer to Experimental Reduction of [redacted]tern Idaho. Wildlife Monographs:1-33. Mitchell et al., 2015. Mosnier, A., D. Boisjoly, R. Courtois, and J. P. Ouellet. 2008. Extensive predator space use can limit the efficacy of a control program. Journal of Wildlife Management 72:483-491.

[83] E.g. Smith, D. W., Peterson, R. O., & Houston, D. B. (2003). Yellowstone after wolves. *BioScience*, *53*(4), 330-340.

[84] Draft plan, page 6.

[85] Draft plan, pages 15-16.

[86] Brandell, E. E., Cross, P. C., Smith, D. W., Rogers, W., Galloway, N. L., MacNulty, D. R., ... & Hudson, P. J. (2022). Examination of the interaction between age-specific predation and chronic disease in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. *Journal of Animal Ecology*; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Retrieved from: https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/cwd.html; Hobbs, N. T. (2006). A model analysis of effects of wolf predation on prevalence of chronic wasting disease in elk populations of Rocky Mountain National Park. *Report submitted to the National Park Service*; Wild, M. A., Hobbs, N. T., Graham, M. S., & Miller, M. W. (2011). The role of predation in disease control: a comparison of selective and nonselective removal on prion disease dynamics in deer. *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*, *47*(1), 78-93.

[87] Wild et al., 2011.

> Recognized nationwide as one of the country's premier white-tailed deer hunting states, Wisconsin has both an abundant herd and a proven reputation for producing some of the largest bucks in the world.[88]

Furthermore, based on preliminary figures released on November 29, 2022, the total number of deer hunted with firearms increased 14.4% statewide compared to 2021.[89] That news release also stated that the number of deer hunted with firearms increased in all four deer management zones, including the Central Forest Zone (+30.6%) and the Northern Forest Zone (+19.3%). Wisconsin's deer need wolves to keep them healthy. Unlike humans, who prey on prime age breeding animals, wolves take the sick and the weak leaving the herd stronger.[90]

A. Changes must be made to align the final plan with the best available science

While we appreciate the discussions in the draft plan about predatory-prey dynamics and selective predation and CWD,[91] we do have a few remaining concerns regarding the draft plan's strategies regarding wolves and prey that must be addressed. Specifically, Strategy A5 states that, "Public concerns regarding the impacts of wolves on white-tailed deer populations (whether real and perceived) will continue to require attention to maintain and/or improve public support for wolves."[92] This language implies that perceived harms from wolves—even ones that do not hold up under scientific scrutiny—could be used as justification for reducing wolf numbers by killing them. This is wholly unacceptable and must be removed from the final plan.

Product A5c also implies that even though the elk population has continued to grow in areas with wolves and that, "As elk numbers increase, the impacts of wolves as a limiting factor on elk population growth is likely to diminish with each year of elk population increase,"[93] wolves could be more heavily persecuted in elk zones.

To be clear, Wisconsin's wolves should never be killed with the hopes of growing ungulate populations for hunters. Doing so is not backed by sound science and it will fail, nor is it socially acceptable. Wolves should not be persecuted for suspicion or for performing their ecological function. Instead, the DNR should focus on educating the public about the benefits wolves provide and an accurate portrayal of wolf-prey dynamics.

5. Wolves are valuable and provide many ecological and economic benefits

In addition to their ability to mitigate the spread of CWD and other diseases (described above), wolves significantly and positively influence biological diversity and ecosystem function.[94] By curbing deer over-

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[88] Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. (2023). Deer hunting. https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/deer.
[redacted]urces (29 Nov. 2022). 2022 Gun deer hunt harvest totals and license sales now available. https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/newsroom/release/64571.

[90] White, P. J., & Garrott, R. A. (2005). Northern Yellowstone elk after wolf restoration. *Wildlife Society Bulletin, 33*(3), 942-955; Vucetich, J. A., Smith, D. W., & Stahler, D. R. (2005). Influence of harvest, climate and wolf predation on Yellowstone elk, 1961-2004. *Oikos, 111*(2), 259-270.

[91] Draft plan, pages 15-18.

[92] Draft plan, page 115.

[93] *Ibid.*

[94] See for example: Beschta, R. L., & Ripple, W. J. (2009). Large predators and trophic cascades in terrestrial ecosystems of the western United States. *Biological conservation, 142*(11), 2401-2414; Beschta, R. L., & Ripple, W. J. (2019). Can large carnivores change streams via a trophic cascade?. *Ecohydrology, 12*(1), e2048; and Ritchie, E. G., & Johnson, C. N. (2009). Predator interactions, mesopredator release and biodiversity conservation. *Ecology letters, 12*(9), 982-998. https://trophiccascades.forestry.oregonstate.edu/sites/trophic/files/2009%20Beschta%20&%20Ripple,%20Large%20Predators%20and%20Trophic%20Cascades.pdf.

browsing, wolves can reinvigorate the understory of plant communities, increasing flora and fauna biological diversity including bird life.[95] Wolf presence in the Great Lakes region affects soil nutrients, soil microbes, and plant quality because decomposing prey carcasses enrich soils.[96] Elevated Great Lakes deer populations not only destroy forest ecosystems, but are also involved in numerous vehicle collisions and carry Lyme, a zoonotic disease.[97] Recent studies demonstrate that wolves can reduce deer-vehicle collisions saving millions in social costs.[98] Similarly, ecologically functioning populations of wolves have been instrumental in restoring biological diversity in the Northern Rocky Mountains, including increasing the number of songbirds, pronghorn, lynx, and other species, while simultaneously improving the ecology of vital riparian systems.[99]

While we appreciate the discussion regarding trophic cascades included in the draft plan, we are concerned by language that seems to dismiss these effects as exaggerated or "romanticized."[100] Additionally, rather than focusing on trophy hunting and trapping under Objective C: Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population, the final plan should include strategies to facilitate the positive effects wolves have on our ecosystem, and public education strategies under Objective D should include plans to educate the public about the many benefits wolves provide. We support the DNR's aim to "Support research into the role wolves may play in relevant ecological processes such as forest regeneration and disease transmission," as outlined under Product E5a.[101] The DNR should also make a point to share the results of that research with the public as it becomes available.

Finally, as discussed in Section 2 of these comments, wolves have intrinsic value.[102] Wolves have rich social and family lives, experience pleasure and pain, are sentient, and deserve to be treated as ethically

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[95] Callan, R., Nibbelink, N. P., Rooney, T. P., Wiedenhoeft, J. E., & Wydeven, A. P. (2013). Recolonizing wolves trigger a trophic cascade in Wisconsin (USA). *Journal of Ecology, 101*(4), 837-845; Flagel, D. G., Belovsky, G. E., & Beyer, D. E. (2016). Natural and experimental tests of trophic cascades: gray wolves and white-tailed deer in a Great Lakes forest. *Oecologia, 180*, 1183-1194; Peterson, R. O., Vucetich, J. A., Bump, J. M., & Smith, D. W. (2014). Trophic cascades in a multicausal world: Isle Royale and Yellowstone. *Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics, 45*, 325-345.

[96] Bump, J. K., Peterson, R. O., & Vucetich, J. A. (2009). Wolves modulate soil nutrient heterogeneity and foliar nitrogen by configuring the distribution of ungulate carcasses. *Ecology, 90*(11), 3159-3167.

[97] Gilbert, S. L., Sivy, K. J., Pozzanghera, C. B., DuBour, A., Overduijn, K., Smith, M. M., ... & Prugh, L. R. (2017). Socioeconomic benefits of large carnivore recolonization through reduced wildlife-vehicle collisions. *Conservation Letters, 10*(4), 431-439; Patton, S. R., Russell, M. B., Windmuller-Campione, M. A., & Frelich, L. E. (2018). Quantifying impacts of white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus Zimmerman) browse using forest inventory and socio-environmental datasets. *PLoS One, 13*(8), e0201334.

[98] Gilbert et al., 2017; Raynor, J. L., Grainger, C. A., & Parker, D. P. (2021). Wolves make roadways safer, generating large economic returns to predator conservation. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 118*(22), e2023251118; Draft plan, page 14.[redacted]

[99] Berger, K. M., Gese, E. M., & Berger, J. (2008). Indirect effects and traditional trophic cascades: a test involving wolves, coyotes, and pronghorn. *Ecology, 89*(3), 818-828; Beschta, R. L., & Ripple, W. J. (2006). River channel dynamics following extirpation of wolves in northwestern Yellowstone National Park, USA. *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms: The Journal of the British Geomorphological Research Group, 31*(12), 1525-1539; Beschta, & Ripple, 2009; Fortin, D., Beyer, H. L., Boyce, M. S., Smith, D. W., Duchesne, T., & Mao, J. S. (2005). Wolves influence elk movements: behavior shapes a trophic cascade in Yellowstone National Park. *Ecology, 86*(5), 1320-1330; Ripple, W. J., & Beschta, R. L. (2007). Restoring Yellowstone's aspen with wolves. *Biological Conservation, 138*(3-4), 514-519; Ripple, W. J., Wirsing, A. J., Beschta, R. L., & Buskirk, S. W. (2011). Can restoring wolves aid in lynx recovery?. *Wildlife Society Bulletin, 35*(4), 514-518; and Smith, D. W., Peterson, R. O., & Houston, D. B. (2003). Yellowstone after wolves. *BioScience, 53*(4), 330-340.

[100] Draft plan, page 13.

[101] Draft plan, page 134.

[102] Nelson, M. P. (2021). Wolves and intrinsic value: Frequently asked questions. Retrieved from: https://www.endangered.org/wolf-conservation-planning/advocates/wolves-and-intrinsic-value-frequently-asked-questions/.

important in their own right.[103] More generally, to best reflect Wisconsin values, ethical discussions should be incorporated throughout the final plan. Product C3b is a good start and should be expanded and better incorporated throughout the final plan.

6. Conclusion

The draft plan includes many important changes and is a significant improvement over the previous Wolf Management Plan. We sincerely appreciate the DNR's efforts to update the biological and social science that will inform wolf management. We are also deeply grateful for having been included in the Wolf Management Plan Committee.

Our biggest concern with the current draft plan is the overall focus on wolf trophy hunting and trapping. While we understand that Wisconsin law mandates such seasons when wolves are not federally protected under the Endangered Species Act, the plan should include more discussion of the immense harms trophy hunting and trapping cause to wolves and recommend policy changes to mitigate these effects. The final plan could recommend quotas be set at zero or that state statute be changed to remove the requirement that Wisconsin hold wolf seasons.

We also recommend that the final plan more clearly prioritize nonlethal conflict prevention measures and include more information about the scientific studies demonstrating that non-lethal conflict prevention measures are much more effective at preventing conflicts than killing wolves. Killing wolves should never be the first response to conflicts and the use of properly implemented, appropriate non-lethal deterrents should be required in order for compensation to occur.

Finally, as demonstrated by the 2022 public attitudes survey detailed in the draft plan and other surveys and polls, the majority of Wisconsinites clearly value wolves and want them to thrive in Wisconsin. The final plan should commit to giving *all* Wisconsinites a seat at the table in guiding future wolf policy and these values should be more proportionately represented in groups that have influence over wolf policy.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input on the draft plan.

Sincerely,

Megan Nicholson
State Director, Wisconsin
The Humane Society of the United States
[redacted]

[103] Batavia, C., & Nelson, M. P. (2017). For goodness sake! What is intrinsic value and why should we care? Biological Conservation, 209, 366–376. https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2017.03.003; Lynn, W. S. (2006). Between science and ethics: What science and the scientific method can and cannot contribute to conservation and sustainability. In D. M. Lavigne & S. Fink (Eds.), Gaining ground: In pursuit of ecological sustainability (pp. 191–205). International Fund for Animal Welfare; Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Lynn, W. S., & Treves, A. (2018c). Inappropriate consideration of animal interests in predator management: Towards a comprehensive moral code. In T. Hovardas (Ed.), Large Carnivore Conservation and Management: Human Dimensions and Governance (pp. 227–251). Routledge; Treves, A., Santiago-Ávila, F. J., & Lynn, W. S. (2018). Just preservation. Biological Conservation, 229(January), 134–141. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2018.11.018.

February 28, 2023

To: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Wisconsin 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan
Via: *DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov*

Esteemed WDNR staff,

On behalf of Project Coyote, The Rewilding Institute and our Wisconsin supporters, we submit the following public comments on the 2022 Wisconsin Draft Wolf Management Plan. Our comments express grave concerns over: (1) the substantial amount of high-quality scientific literature that is arbitrarily omitted from the plan, (2) the arbitrary and contradictory prioritization of consumptive uses and, along with it, (3) unscientific biases promoting the instrumentalization of wolves for any human benefit, despite public values that strive for increased consideration of wolves and peaceful coexistence.

We expand on each point of concern in our detailed comments below and include a list of crucial academic literature. We encourage the department to not only consider but integrate the below comments, scientific literature and their ecological, social, ethical and policy implications if the objective is to truly strive for a plan that is guided by public values that strive for coexistence and informed by the best-available science.

Sincerely,

Francisco J. Santiago-Ávila, PhD
Science and Conservation Manager
Project Coyote & The Rewilding Institute

Michelle L. Lute, PhD
Carnivore Conservation Director
Project Coyote

General comments

We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including:

- Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.
- There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves.
- The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves.
- The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).

However, as explained in our detailed comments below, the current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below):

- wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing
- effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones
- the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution.

The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of 'sustainable' recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted science being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.

Instead, **the plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life**. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Moreover, hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.

The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to conflict with domesticated animals to ensure ethical coexistence. We remind the WDNR that despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, and restricting timing and methods. Such measures are consistent with the scientific literature, as several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. There is plenty of evidence suggesting lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. Given such substantial evidence, the plan

should *require* the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal guardians for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.

The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Especially given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). More pragmatically, ignoring evidence and public values leads to inconsistent and litigious plans and policy, leading to ineffective, expensive and contentious public policy.

It is also incredibly concerning that **conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence**. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and wolves' non-exploitative enjoyment by humans (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F).

Additionally, **the plan is clearly biased against the interests of wolves and their advocates, despite broad public, tribal and scientific support**. There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence).

Similarly, **there is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves**. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider *each individual wolf* as a *person* and *relative*. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan.

Lastly, **we point to a recent critique of the state's new 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology to highlight the substantial scientific concerns over its adequacy and reliability**: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to

changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns *for wolves* point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. We expand on each of these points and many more in our detailed comments below.

Detailed comments

Section 1: Gray wolf biology, ecology and population dynamics

Such a review of gray wolf literature is not scientifically comprehensive. A comprehensive and holistic understanding of wolves, rather than a purely instrumental one, should include scientific information relevant to wolf sentience, consciousness/awareness, internal capabilities (cognition), social dynamics, and culture, of which there is substantial literature (see references below). Otherwise, the suggestion is that these animals are merely biological machines, which is an unscientific in addition to prejudiced view of wolves.

Social system

This information, and especially that specific to pack structure, should be updated to convey a more appropriate understanding of the pack as a family instead of a 'dominance hierarchy', which reflects a misunderstanding about wolf families in the wild which are mostly composed of parents and their offspring (according to the departments own research), hence the 'leading' of the breeding pair (based on natural deference/submissiveness to parents).

Communication

This section is missing holistic understanding and exposition. Wolves are sentient, self-aware beings (Birch et al. 2020, Low et al. 2012, Safina 2015). Wolves communicate *due to* their high sentience, consciousness and cognition, and a holistic exposition of wolf science should include the latest science on this understanding. As an example, consider Mazzini et al's (2013) study on how *relationship quality* mediates wolf howling:

> *While considerable research has addressed the function of animal vocalizations, the proximate mechanisms driving call production remain surprisingly unclear. Vocalizations may be* ***driven by emotions*** *and the physiological state evoked by changes in the social-ecological environment [1, 2], or animals may have more control over their*

> *vocalizations, using them in flexible ways mediated* ***by the animal's understanding of its surrounding social world*** *[3, 4]. While both explanations are plausible and neither excludes the other, to date no study has attempted to experimentally investigate* ***the influence of both emotional and cognitive factors*** *on animal vocal usage. We aimed to disentangle the relative contribution of both mechanisms by examining howling in captive wolves. Using a separation experiment and by measuring cortisol levels, we specifically investigated whether howling is a physiological stress response to group fragmentation [5] and whether it is driven by social factors, particularly relationship quality [6, 7].* ***Results showed that relationship quality between the howler and the leaving individual better predicted howling than did the current physiological state.*** *Our findings shed important light on the degree to which animal vocal production can be considered as voluntary.*

See also Palacios et al. 2015 & Kershenbaum et al. 2016 on how canid communication is mediated by emotional, cognitive and social processes integral to population dynamics in a cooperative species.

Mortality

"Gray wolves have high reproductive potential and populations in general are resilient in the face of severe disruptions or population declines, with the ability to rebound quickly if the disruption is reduced after an event (USFWS 2012, 2020, Fuller 2003, Hayes and Harestad 2000b)." (p. 12-13) This is the first of multiple instances of a statement that conveys an instrumental understanding of wolves and suggests that wolves can sustain substantial human-caused mortality. Repeated in the document (see other instances below), and in a context where evidence of the internal, emotional, cognitive and social capabilities and dynamics of wolves are omitted, such statement(s) promote a particular ethical view of wolves as expendable, and are insensitive to those who consider wolves beings worthy of care and respect by dismissing such ethically relevant qualities.

Selective Predation and Chronic Wasting Disease

This section is missing the following important literature relevant to positive effects of wolves in mitigating disease transmission in prey species: Tanner et al. (2019) and Hoy et al. (2022). Both studies provide evidence for wolves providing unaccounted for ecosystem services in the form of reduced levels of indirect transmission of diseases (e.g., tuberculosis in wild boar, Tanner et al. 2019) and as a selective pressure (through predation) against genes associated with developing diseases (e.g., severe osteoarthritis in Hoy et al. 2022). Importantly, both studies point to increased benefits of allowing predators to naturally regulate their prey populations, with beneficial effects on prey populations. As stated by Hoy et al (2022): "The evidence we present for predation's influence on the health of prey populations is also relevant for policy-related arguments about refraining from intensively hunting wolf populations." given their results were obtained from a system unaffected by anthropogenic wolf mortality (Isle Royale National Park). Such studies suggest hunting would mitigate such benefits, but the current plan does not explicitly acknowledge the tradeoff of such broad ecosystem benefits for the sake of providing a minority of individuals the opportunity to kill hundreds of wolves annually through public hunts.

Predator-Prey Dynamics

This section is missing the substantial and recent scientific literature relevant to concerns over reduced wild ungulate populations, suggesting that killing wolves may not be favorable to hunting of wild ungulates. A recent meta-analysis of predator-prey studies exploring the overall effect of predator removal on ungulate populations found predator removal had low and variable effectiveness for increasing wild ungulate populations (Clark and Hebblewhite 2021). In Alberta, a recent study shows that "increasing large-predator populations do not necessarily reduce hunter harvest of elk" and that sustainable hunting of elk has continued, and populations have increased with increasing large predator populations (Trump et al. 2022). In Alaska, a recent study analyzing 4 decades of efforts to reduce abundance of large predators, including gray wolves and brown/black bears found: (1) no positive correlations between harvests of bears and subsequent moose harvests, (2) moose harvest was negatively correlated with the prior year's wolf harvests (weak relationship) and (3) no differences in mean moose harvests during periods of recent liberalized killing relative to prior periods (Miller et al. 2022). Such evidence at the population level is consistent with prior and recent research documenting how wolves have primarily compensatory and weak additive effects on population dynamics (Vucetich et al. 2005, Christianson & Creel 2014, Griffin et al. 2011, Brodie et al. 2013) of wild ungulates, given their focus on calves and older females with low reproductive value (Eberhardt et al. 2007; see also Wilmers et al. 2020).

Gray Wolf Population Dynamics

"Due to an adaptable and redundant life-history strategy, research across the world and spanning decades has consistently shown wolf populations to be resilient and persistent, so long as these two factors [prey availability and cumulative mortality] remain adequate." (p.18) This is the second instance of a statement that conveys an instrumental understanding of wolves and suggests that wolves can sustain substantial human-caused mortality. Repeated in the document (see other instances below), and in a context where evidence of the internal, emotional, cognitive and social capabilities and dynamics of wolves are omitted, such statements promote a particular ethical view of wolves as expendable and are insensitive to those who consider wolves beings worthy of care and respect by dismissing such ethically relevant qualities.

Additionally, considering the whole scientific literature, the statement above is also inaccurate because it fails to distinguish the effects of distinct causes of mortality, such as human-caused mortality, on the resiliency and persistence of *healthy* wolf populations. As an analogy, we could also say that human populations are incredibly resilient and persistent if there is food and low mortality, but this would not be very informative for the *state of health* of the human population or the wellbeing of individual humans.

Impacts of Regulated Harvest on Wolf Dynamics

We find this section omits important work on the biological, ecological, evolutionary and ethical implications of killing wolves, in particular how killing negatively impacts wolves' physiology and behavior (Almberg et al. 2015, Bryan et al. 2015, Pereira et al. 2022;) which build up to negative impacts on wolf dynamics (Adams et al. 2008, Ausband et al. 2015, Ausband et al. 2017, Brainerd et al. 2008, Borg et al. 2015, Cassidy et al. 2023, Creel & Rotella 2010, Creel et al. 2015, Fuller et al. 2003, Haber 1996, Milleret et al. 2017, Mitchell et al. 2008, Murray et al.

2010, Rich et al. 2012, Rutledge et al. 2010, Sparkman et al. 2011, Vucetich 2012) including wellbeing, fitness, ecological relationships (e.g., "human actions will often attenuate the ecological effects of large carnivores", Kuijper et al. 2016; see also Ordiz et al. 2013) and evolution (Wallach et al. 2009, Wallach et al. 2015). As many such studies have noted (see Wallach et al. 2009 and Ordiz et al. 2013), killing large carnivores reduces the quality of traits that define them as apex predators. In the case of wolves, the cooperative behaviors that underlie their ecology and dynamics are hindered through the social break-up of the family group, and such social instability highly constrains their ecological effects because "the pack is the apex predator, not the single individuals" (Wallach et al. 2009). We note that none of this literature relevant to harms to wolves as individuals, social units and population(s) is included in the plan, with the outcome that such trade-offs seem non-existent or inconsequential for wolf policy. Such omissions provide further evidence of bias within the plan and department in favor of the use of lethal methods and the instrumentalization of wolves, as the resulting harms are neither acknowledged nor highlighted as concerns for future research.

Moreover, the plan states that "These findings highlight the importance of considering factors outside of abundance that contribute to wolves' long-term fitness and persistence of populations (Rutledge et al. 2010)." (p.21) However, except for abundance, no other factors inherent to wolves' wellbeing, physiology (barring disease) or social dynamics (see list above and reference list) seem to be adequately considered anywhere in the plan, and especially for allowing public hunts, despite the ample literature documenting negative ecological and evolutionary implications of exploitation. For example, Rutledge et al. (2010) (cited by the department in the quote above) point to the importance of maintaining stable social structures for long-term fitness, and lists evidence of its importance for various ecological processes such as resource use (Sand et al. 2006; Stahler et al. 2006) and pup survival (Brainerd et al., 2008; Schmidt et al., 2008). Yet, such evidence is dismissed when it comes to setting policy, including the sanctioning and promotion of liberalized killing.

The concerns over the omitted literature and its resulting bias are exacerbated by yet another statement seeking to inspire confidence on the *alleged, not evidenced,* reliability of wolf populations to exploitation: "Nevertheless, numerous wolf populations exposed to harvest and other sources of human-caused mortality have been studied over the last several decades and collectively have suggested that wolf populations are *remarkably resilient* to human-caused mortality, including regulated harvest." (p. 21) This is the third instance of such a statement (see above) attempting to normalize the killing of wolves for recreation and suggesting wolves can sustain substantial human-caused mortality seemingly without any consequences to be considered for wolf dynamics, ecology or evolution. Repeated in the document (see other instances below), and in a context where evidence of the internal, emotional, cognitive and social capabilities and dynamics of wolves are omitted, such statements promote a particular ethical view of wolves as expendable and are insensitive to those who consider wolves as beings worthy of care and respect. As stated previously, the bias towards lethal interventions and dismissal of wolves is made even starker when considering the amount of science relevant to negative impacts of killing on wolves that has been dismissed with the glib acknowledgment that other factors besides abundance should be considered.

Lastly, the reference list is missing the 'Bassing et al. 2019, 2020' studies cited in this section, which actually further add to the arguments above (see reference list).

Section 2: Human Dimensions and Cultural Significance

Although it is true that "...lethal control options (e.g., damage tags) may empower local residents and provide *a sense* of security." (p. 27), the scientific evidence against the functional effectiveness of lethal methods suggests it is a false sense of security given it notes the ineffectiveness and counterproductive effects of lethal interventions for conflict mitigation (e.g., Bruns et al. 2020, Eklund et al. 2017, Khorozyan and Waltert 2019, Lennox et al. 2018, Miller al. 2016, Treves et al. 2016, van Eeden et al. 2018a,b; see Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018a,b for a comparative study from the Great Lakes region). According to the scientific literature on the (in)effectiveness of lethal methods, such a 'false' empowerment and sense of security comes at the cost of not only actually preventing, but also exacerbating conflicts; i.e., the cost of this sense of empowerment is the *actual* security of individuals and domesticated animals (e.g., Haber 1996, Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018a,b, Treves et al. 2016,van Eeden et al. 2018b). Moreover, research from the Great Lakes has also documented the effectiveness of non-lethal methods in conflict prevention and mitigation (Davidson-Nelson & Gehring 2010, Gehring et al. 2010). This scientific evidence has yet to be added to the plan, hence the tradeoffs are not acknowledged, the public is misinformed and policy is not only ineffective, but increases harms to wolves, domesticated animals and their guardians. The relevant scientific evidence easily fits into the discussion on page 28 as well as any sections on conflict mitigation.

This section also blatantly and cursorily misinterprets important peer-reviewed studies challenging the 'killing for tolerance' hypothesis, misinforming the public in the process. Referring to Chapron & Treves (2016) and Santiago-Ávila et al. (2020a), the plan states: "The disappearance of collared wolves from data may also be due to mechanical failure of the collar or from the wolf emigrating out of radio-telemetry range." (p. 27) As the lead author of one of those studies, I would like to note the biased nature of this statement, which glibly disputes and dismisses the lengthy discussion in the articles on this very point without mentioning the studies challenge such a cursory interpretation. Scientific integrity demands that the department omit such a statement or, alternatively, the inclusion of an explicit and lengthy engagement with the relevant arguments in Santiago-Ávila et al. (2020a).

"The top two priorities for lethal control of wolves among survey respondents were to respond to cases involving threats to public safety and to eliminate wolves from areas where they were attacking livestock." (p. 33) These priorities speak to a lack of public understanding on the lack of effectiveness and negative impacts of lethal methods on wolves, which exacerbate conflicts and increase risk of harm to domesticated animals and humans. This should be taken as an indicator that the agency should do a better job of educating on these issues, so as to increase proper understanding of wolf dynamics and reduce such harmful misperceptions.

"3. Most people would worry for the safety of their pets and children when recreating in areas where wolves live." (p.34-35) Likewise, this statement suggests the agency should increase the provision of appropriate information on the low level of conflicts related to humans and pets, and how to prevent them, given many conflicts are due to lack of education or lack of appropriate human behavior and precaution.

"...the top reason for opposition in 2022 was concern that wolves would become endangered again. The least selected reason for opposing a regulated wolf hunting and trapping season in

both 2014 and 2022 surveys was 'I oppose all forms of hunting'." (p. 36) What is included and excluded from this section speaks loudly. For example, even more striking than the quote above is that most of the public opposes wolf hunting for a variety of reasons. Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support for the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season: opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), and feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently sanctioned and promoted by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should be not only acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy. At the very least, such objections of the broad public should be noted somewhere in the plan, yet are not, arguably given the stated opposition to agency policies.

Part Three: Wisconsin Tribal Perspectives and Cultural Significance
We argue the plan enshrines and promotes the instrumentalization of wolves as opposed to their inherent value, lives and wellbeing, given the plan's focus on benefits for humans, especially consumptive benefits (e.g., killing wolves). Despite the agency invitation to First Nations to state their cultural worldviews and values, the inherent value of wolves championed by some tribes, most notably the Ojibwe, is unreflectively misinterpreted as a social/cultural 'benefit' wolves provide tribal members, which is completely contrary to the definition of inherent value as individual beings valuable for themselves, rather than what they can provide to humans. Wolves have intrinsic value for tribal members and many other humans because *each wolf* is considered a person or relative (David 2009). This is not a 'social/cultural benefit' of their existence (i.e., 'existence value'), but rather a worldview that extends respect and protection to all *individual* wolves, not just the population. The denial and misinterpretation of intrinsic value is insensitive and disrespectful to tribes and all others who consider wolves relatives and persons. Those individuals are harmed each time an individual wolf is killed, rather than consider the 'benefit' of a wolf population. In addition, such misinterpretation does a disservice to respectful intercultural dialogue and understanding. The state should also note that the view of wolves and the wolf policies advocated by the Ojibwe (e.g., self-regulation of wolf populations for ecological purposes, no lethal management) are far more holistic and aligned with current scientific understanding than those promoted by the state (Gilbert et al. 2022).

<u>Section 3: Gray Wolves in Wisconsin</u>
Population Mortality Patterns (in *Historical Overview of Wolves in Wisconsin*)
This section is missing two notable references analyzing wolf mortality patterns in Wisconsin, as they relate to lethal management methods, seasonality and other environmental and policy factors: Santiago-Ávila et al 2020a, 2022b). Other relevant studies from other wolf populations include Louchouarn et al. 2021 and Santiago-Ávila et al. 2022a.

Wolf Harvest Management
Quota Setting Process — Despite mention of the "numerous factors" the department allegedly considers when developing quotas, there is only explicit mention and discussion of quota effects on wolf population *size*. There is absolutely no discussion of how the following factors are considered into the quota process: projected impacts of wolf harvest quotas on wolf physiology, dynamics, social structure, wellbeing, conflicts, disease, illegal killing, ecological relationships

or evolution (see comments on ‘Impact of Regulated Harvest on Wolf Dynamics’, Section 1, and reference list, e.g.,: Haber et al. 1995, Almberg et al. 2015, Bryan et al. 2015, Wallach et al. 2015, Kuijper et al. 2016, Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018, Pereira et al. 2022).

“Upon determination of a suitable quota, the total quota is allocated among the six wolf harvest zones (Figure 20). The application of harvest pressure geographically may further be informed by different philosophical and management objectives.” (p. 68) Other than vaguely describing factors to consider, the plan does not explain the process for “determination of a suitable quota”, despite acknowledging that substantial agreement on this and other matters has proven elusive. Given this substantial disagreement in perspectives about wolf killing, any process and criteria for determining a quota should be explicitly described, to ensure equitable consideration of wolves, nature and the broad public. This description should explicitly include which matters, objectives or criteria were prioritized in such a process. For example, what priority is given to hunter/trapper opportunity and allowed methods relative to conflict mitigation and ecological benefits, and how is that represented in the current plan. This is particularly important given the broad majority of the public feels that killing wolves is unnecessary and culturally offensive, and does not agree with many methods (see comments on omitted information in Section 2).

Wolf Harvesting License Issuance – Please explain the process, criteria and discretion relevant to establishing a specific hunter/trapper success rate for issuing licenses. This is a critical part of the process and it seems to have fluctuated enormously in a discretionary and obscure fashion (10:1 to 20:1 ratio).

Wolf Harvest Registration and Hunter/Trapper Surveys – Please consider limiting registration time to 6-12 hours, given it can be done via website or phone and season closures depend on accurate, timely registration and updating of season quotas.

“The department has also surveyed successful license applicants following the completion of each wolf season to collect more data on hunter/trapper activities. This data provides more information on hunter effort and success, use and timing of various legal methods, hunter/trapper experiences and preferences, and applicant motivations. These surveys provide data to paint a fuller picture of the social parameters surrounding the wolf harvest season.” (p. 71) The social parameters surrounding the season are not limited to those who want to kill wolves. This type of overemphasis on hunters/trappers biases the department’s perspective towards promoting killing. To correct this bias, the department should also develop and promote an informed questionnaire for the non-consumptive public to gather more information on their perceptions of use/timing of various methods and motivations used for killing wolves. That will certainly provide a broader, clearer social context surrounding the season. That certainly forms the broader social parameter under which the wolf harvest season is held, and can initially be informed by the omitted statements for why the majority of individuals do not support wolf killing (see comments on Section 2).

As for licenses, it should be noted in the plan that State Licenses Purchased were always much lower than those awarded, and purchased licenses have always totaled <1,600. This provides a glimpse into the narrow group of individuals actually invested in hunting and trapping of wolves, as opposed to, for example, the majority of individuals that disagree with hunting them (62% of

8,750 = 5,452 only within the survey sample, a blatant underestimate) and with the methods used for doing so (70%, 6,125; see survey section above). Hence, the interests of hunters/trappers seem to be disproportionately prioritized relative to those of others, including not only wolf advocates and tribes, but also ranchers that are actually interested in science-based conflict reduction (which hunting/trapping may exacerbate).

Wolf-related conflict
"...the costs to individual livestock producers can be high, particularly in areas of chronic depredation activity." – The department should have data on the costs to individual livestock producers given their compensation program. This data should be provided to the public like any other data in this section, to evidence such a statement. How many farms experience chronic depredations, and what's the economic cost?

Non-depredation Impacts on Livestock – Although the thoroughness of this section is commendable, it provides a blatant contrast to the magnitude of missing scientific literature on wolf ethology, including sentient and cognitive capabilities, and the impacts of lethal methods on wolves, their physiology, psychology and social dynamics, despite the plan being about wolves (not 'livestock') and such science being of comparable or more important to the majority of the public who is not a domestic animal guardian and is favorable to wolf protections.

Abatement options – Alteration of animal husbandry practices (if more adequate ones exist) should be required prior to implementation of any other non-lethal methods given their potential to mitigate conflicts effectively, feasibly and economically, and especially given non-lethal methods may require particular changes in husbandry to be effective. Additionally, non-lethal methods should be required and exhausted prior to the consideration of lethal methods to mitigate the risk of subsequent conflicts. Non-lethal methods have been proven more effective, while lethal methods have been characterized as ineffectiveness and counterproductive for conflict mitigation (e.g., Bruns et al. 2020, Eklund et al. 2017, Khorozyan and Waltert 2019, Miller al. 2016, Lennox et al. 2018, Treves et al. 2016, van Eeden et al. 2018a,b; see Davidson-Nelson & Gehring 2010, Gehring et al. 2010 and Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018a,b for the Great Lakes region). This scientific evidence has yet to be added to the plan, hence the tradeoffs are not acknowledged, the public is misinformed and policy is not only ineffective, but increases harms to wolves, domesticated animals and their guardians. The relevant scientific evidence easily fits into the discussion on page 28 as well as any sections on conflict mitigation. In addition, this section should include an explanation of the decision-making process, criteria and discretion involved in determining when to implement lethal methods in response to verified conflicts.

"However, rendering facilities rarely service areas in northern Wisconsin where most depredations occur, and burial can be impractical and pose groundwater contamination and bio-security hazard risks. Composting is often recommended, but can be costly and requires proper site selection, a facility and equipment." (p.77) – That is beside the point if it is required, and it should also be a requirement prior to implementation of any interventions given it predisposes farms to predation.

Hunting Dog and Pet Conflicts – "Lethal controls may also be considered in response to verified pet conflicts" (p. 81) As with any other type of conflict, lethal interventions should be considered only after verification and exhaustion of non-lethal alternatives, including: responsible guardianship (not increasing chances of conflict, pets on leashes, pets indoors at night, not roaming, reducing attractants, etc.). Such measures should be required prior to any intervention, especially lethal(s). Conflict mitigation should also begin with implementing the appropriate non-lethal interventions *after* modifying human behavior to effectively reduce hazards of conflict.

Human Safety and Risk Perceptions – As with any other conflict(s), lethal control should follow similar requirements as predation on domesticated animals regarding not only verification, but also non-lethal abatement requirements on the part of the individual(s) reporting the conflict. Such measures should be required prior to any intervention, especially lethal(s).

- Please clarify the following missing but crucial information:
    - How is a concern for human safety verified/determined (given the mentioned criteria)? What evidence or documentation is presented? Where does this discretion lie?
    - What's the criteria for implementing lethal methods in such cases?
    - Why is there no standardized evaluation of risk?
    - The documentation of evidence of risk in such cases, especially prior to the implementation of lethal methods, is essential given the uneducated public may misperceive normal wolf behavior as threatening and may exacerbate the risk through their behavior.

Integrated Wolf Conflict Management

"In determining a conflict management strategy, preference is typically given to nonlethal methods when they are deemed practical and effective. However, non-lethal methods may not always be applied as a first response to each conflict. The most appropriate initial response to a wolf conflict could be a combination of nonlethal and lethal methods." (p.84) – Please substantiate the claim that the best initial response is a combination of methods. Such a statement is not supported by the scientific evidence, especially when considering the additional harms of lethal methods to wolves, their dynamics, and conflicts. Moreover, this statement should clarify the criteria for determining that a non-lethal method is "practical" and "effective" and if/how those considerations are weighed against the killing of a wolf.

"Other times, such as a farm experiencing chronic depredation by wolves which have been conditioned to non-lethal techniques, the most appropriate strategy may be application of lethal methods alone." (p. 84) – Please present data to substantiate such a statement, perhaps on chronic farms and their husbandry practices, including carcass disposal and other abatement measures prior to any implementation of lethal methods.

"Regardless, it is important to note that no abatement measure, whether lethal, non-lethal, or a combination thereof, has been proven to be 100% effective in eliminating wolf conflict. Decades of experience in addressing depredation conflict Wisconsin have shown that using both lethal and non-lethal abatement techniques is more effective in reducing livestock conflicts than a solely non-lethal approach. Therefore, a fully integrated approach which allows the broadest

range of options to be tailored to each conflict scenario typically offers the most practical and effective conflict reduction program." (p. 84) Our recommendations above regarding requirements of abatement measures, changes in husbandry practices and a combination of non-lethal methods will likely mitigate instances of use of lethal methods, are based on the most recent scientific literature, and have yet to be implemented. Hence, we propose such requirements be incorporated if striving for the most practical and effective conflict mitigation program. Given it goes against the established body of scientific evidence cited above, the department should also present data of those decades of work to substantiate the claim above that a combination of methods, rather than non-lethal methods implemented first and foremost, works best for conflict mitigation.

'The highly selective lethal removal of individual wolves or wolf packs by governmental agencies is considered by many professional biologists to be an important part of recovery and conservation programs for wolves (Boitani 2003, Breck and Meier 2004). David Mech wrote, "lethal control will remain the ultimate means of curbing wolf damage to livestock and pets," and, "direct lethal control is still usually the only practical course under most conditions" (1995). The Wildlife Society stated in their technical review of the restoration of wolves in western North America that, "control of wolves preying on livestock and pets is imperative and should be prompt and efficient if illegal killing is to be prevented and human tolerance of the presence of wolves is to be maintained" (Peek et al. 1991). A more recent review of large carnivore management by The Wildlife Society in 2012 stated, "…a large share of the North American public tolerates their presence (large predators) and realizes that management (harvest/agency control) at some level is at times necessary" (Peek et al. 2012).' (P. 84) – These statements present outdated scientific evidence, now >20 years old, that has been debunked by the best available and most recent science on the effectiveness of non-lethals over lethal methods as well as evidence suggesting lethal methods do not increase tolerance, with evidence from WI and beyond (e.g., Hogberg et al. 2015, Louchouarn et al. 2021, Santiago-Ávila et al. 2020a, 2022a). It does not inspire trust in the department's scientific expertise or lack of bias towards wolves that such evidence promoting stronger protections and against lethal methods is omitted, while contrary, older and less robust evidence is foregrounded and presented as evidence for basing policy on.

Wolf Population Health and Captive Wolf Management

This section promotes a cursory and unscientific and reductionist understanding of wolf 'health' as only concerning disease prevalence and transmission. This understanding of 'health' runs contrary to most interpretations that include other physical, mental and social aspects relevant to sentient, conscious and social beings such as humans and wolves. For example, the World Health Organization defines 'health' as "a state of *complete physical, mental and social wellbeing* and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". We see no reason why such a definition would not apply to wolves given their similar internal and social capabilities (see evidence presented above and reference list). We advance that such an understanding would be grounded in better and stronger inference science, and would certainly consider the harmful effects of lethal methods on wolves as individuals and as a population.

Section 4: Wolf Management in Wisconsin: From Recovery to Sustainable Management

"The following section strives to formalize a path forward which supports a healthy wolf population and the benefits therein while minimizing wolf-related conflicts." (p. 98) – Given the evidence presented above, we believe the plan fails to support a "healthy" wolf population (their 'wellbeing' as individuals and population), although arguably a sustainable one, or to promote policies that will minimize wolf-related conflicts, given the emphasis placed on recreational killing opportunities (used for conflict mitigation, which runs contrary to the scientific literature) as well as the lack of requirements for abatement and non-lethal measures that are more effective and considerate of wolf wellbeing.

Wolf Harvesting Zones

The department should explain the justification and science relevant to this type of density 'zone' management. The department seems to assume that lower zonal densities of wolves will lead to less conflicts (Zones 3 and 4, and 1A and 4A) without providing scientific evidence on the matter. Moreover, the approach ignores the large body of scientific evidence indicating that lethal methods and especially indiscriminate killing are ineffective and potentially counterproductive at mitigating conflicts (see prior comments and reference list below). There is some superficial mention of such literature and conclusions in the plan (which should be improved), but such science is never applied to conflict policies. This also contributes to the erroneous perception that objectives A ('Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role') and B ('Address and reduce wolf-related conflict') are in conflict, when in fact ample literature has documented how non-lethal methods preserve wolf dynamics while being more efficient at mitigating conflicts (than lethal methods; see above comments and references). Likewise, there is also a lack of justification for managing Zone 6 "at very low wolf densities" (which will already be the case given the mentioned suboptimal habitat) through killing rather than ensuring that *healthy* wolves (see discussion above on the impact of lethal methods on wolf dynamics) are able to persist in these zones (Objective A) while mitigating conflicts (Objective B) through non-lethal abatement measures (see above discussion and reference list). Hence, we find the department crafted a wolf zoning policy without much regard to the weight of scientific evidence and inference relevant to its stated objectives, or without explicitly conveying the trade-offs involved between objectives or user groups (e.g.; see Borg et al. 2016 on how killing affects viewing opportunities), and in a way that will likely increase harms to wolves, domesticated animals and their guardians. Given the clear contradiction of policies with the scientific evidence, such actions by the department could very well be interpreted as placing the *consumptive* interests within Objective C (which are not *all* public interests) above a healthy and sustainable population (A) and conflict-mitigation concerns (B), while erroneously using the latter (B) as justification. In that process, the department is also misinforming the public and failing Objective D ('Increase public understanding of wolves in Wisconsin'). We recommend the department follow the weight of scientific evidence in aligning objectives A and B through mitigating the exploitative component of Objective C, which will also increase benefits beyond ecological ones to a broader public throughout Wisconsin wolf range.

- Subzones 1A and 4A, "However, if livestock conflict becomes reduced over time to lower levels deemed more tolerable, one or both subzones could be deactivated such that it would effectively function as part of the greater zone. Their use may also be restricted if public harvest pressure interferes with site-specific conflict abatement efforts (e.g., wolves becoming 'educated' to trapping efforts and reducing abatement trapping

effectiveness).” (p. 104) Please define the criteria to reach such “lower levels” of conflict for deactivating such zones. It should be noted that indiscriminate killing has been proven to increase the risk of conflicts (see discussion above and reference below), and therefore increasing licenses is not an appropriate means of realizing Objective B.

- Subzones 1B and 2B, “Their use would be intended to respect tribal interests in these areas while also continuing to allow reasonable wolf harvest opportunity.” (p.106) It is discouraging and disrespectful to see this type of ‘respect’ for tribal interests: limiting the killing of their brother and relative to those that live on reservations, while not only allowing, but promoting and attempting to optimize killing opportunities through most of the state. Did the department consider closing such areas entirely to indiscriminate killing? This seems yet another example of the clear and exaggerated priority given in all segments of the plan to providing opportunities for indiscriminate wolf killing throughout the state. Even more evidence of this type of bias is how any reduction in killing opportunity is noted explicitly, e.g., “...initiating an anticipatory subzone closure prior to fully meeting the subzone limit may result in *significant reductions (up to 50%) of reasonable harvest opportunity* in these areas”, when in fact such reductions equal 4-2 wolves. Meanwhile, the plan remains silent on any reductions in ecological benefits or other “values-based” enjoyment given the killing of hundreds of wolves annually through hunts and ineffective lethal methods (e.g., how does harvest affect wolf-viewing opportunities and positive interactions?).

Objective A: Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role
It remains to be seen if this plan ensures a sustainable population, given the many concerns over the new SOM wolf population methodology (see Treves & Santiago-Ávila 2023) and decisions over public killing (hunting/trapping/hounding). What is clear is that it cannot in any way be said to ensure either a ‘healthy’ wolf population or that population fulfilling its ecological role. The plan does not consider a more appropriate scientific understanding of health for conscious, social beings (see comments on wolf ‘health’ in Section 3 and referenced scientific literature on wolf capabilities). Moreover, the plan ignores scientific evidence suggesting that exploited wolf populations will be unable to fulfill their ecological role (e.g., Wallach et al. 2009, Ordiz et al. 2013, Kuijper et al. 2016) or how much value in terms of ecological and “value-based” benefits the public will be sacrificing to the desire for a minority to kill wolves (e.g.; Borg et al. 2016) despite the majority of the public also opposing most reasons to kill wolves.

- Strategy A1, Product A1a and Strategy A2 – the department should include measures of health, such as various cortisol levels (e.g. Bryan et al. 2015, Pereira et al 2022), pair/pack persistence (e.g., Brainerd et al. 2008, Cassidy et al. 2023) and impact of management on such measures (see references in ‘Impact of Regulated Harvest on Wolf Dynamics’, Section 1, above).

Objective B: Address and reduce wolf-related conflict
This objective lacks clear and measurable benchmarks for its stated metrics. For example, what number of farms (suffering predation issues) constitutes “few” when only less than 50 farms are affected annually (of thousands)? Moreover, downward to stable trends in number and distribution of conflicts with hunting dogs seems to rely more in regulating and restricting hounding and hound training than any possible intervention in wolf policy. There should be some acknowledgment that the burden for addressing and reducing conflict with hunting dogs is

primarily on hunting dog guardians, while the state should mitigate such conflicts in the least harmful way rather than killing more wolves in response.

The department also assumes conflict between Objectives A and B given its omission of the scientific literature relevant to how unexploited wolf populations are healthier and are involved in less conflict with domesticated animals (see Section 1 comments and reference list); e.g., stable wolf families deterred by non-lethal methods engage in less conflict than disrupted families (see e.g., Haber et al. 1996; Santiago-Ávila 2018a,b). Such an apparent conflict between objectives A and B is non-existent, given wolves' ecological role as apex predators is optimized along with their wellbeing as individuals and families (see comments on Objective A above), which would suggest mitigating lethal methods to the extent possible, and precluding indiscriminate killing. In dismissing this conclusion, the department falls short in its ability to interpret the scientific literature for purposes of harmonizing and optimizing objectives and, most importantly, for mitigating harm for all involved.

Strategy B1 – Given the body of scientific evidence, all implementation of abatement measures should begin with *required* (rather than "encouraged") changes to husbandry practices (if necessary), followed by required implementation of non-lethal interventions prior to any consideration of lethal methods, so as to optimize objective B (and A).

- Please make available the document 'Guidelines for Conducting Wolf Conflict Management in Wisconsin', which seems unavailable to the public. In addition to making it public, it should also be subject to public comment as part of the planning process.
- Product B1f – see comments above on wolf zoning and how indiscriminate killing is not only not effective, but potentially counterproductive to conflict mitigation. Hence, such a product suggests once again lack of reliance on scientific evidence along with a prioritization of indiscriminate killing. At the very least, certain areas should be maintained free of lethal methods for the purpose of researching the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions in their absence (which may be higher; see Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018a,b; van Eeden et al. 2018a,b).
- Product B1h – any mitigation plan should require first and foremost, rather than "focus on", non-lethal abatement by producers

Strategy B3, Product B3a: Continue to work cooperatively with USDA WS to fulfill wolf conflict management in Wisconsin – We recommend the department provide the agreement with USDA APHIS-WS and seek public comment on it as part of the planning process.

Strategy B5: Continue to research conflict mitigation, prevention measures and develop new techniques for addressing conflicts – Please note the prior recommendation of focusing such research on non-lethal interventions (which are preventive and more effective and reliable than lethals). Moreover, such research should set aside areas where wolf killing is prohibited to successfully evaluate the effectiveness of non-lethal methods in preventing conflicts (e.g., lethal methods focused on conflict areas will confound evaluations in addition to potentially exacerbating conflicts).

Strategy B6: Increase public awareness of wolf conflict program and abatement techniques – Much work is required here given the plan fails to include much scientific evidence, especially in areas related to wolf ethology, wellbeing, effect of management on mortality, and effect of lethal

methods on conflicts which should be resolved to be comprehensive. Without correcting such omissions, the information used by the department cannot be considered accurate, current or comprehensive, and will certainly misinform the public.

Objective C: Provide multiple benefits associated with the wolf population
This objective should include a quantification of the ecosystem benefits of wolves given it does not explicitly and transparently acknowledge or consider the potential lost value of ecological services provided due to wolf killing (e.g., Ordiz et al. 2013). Furthermore, the objective includes indices of satisfaction for hunters/trappers, but not for non-consumptive users whose chance of enjoying wolves is being reduced by consumptive users (e.g., Borg et al. 2016). Such a conflict is not even acknowledged, and it is assumed throughout the plan that an exploited yet sustainable wolf population provides the same ecological benefits and the same levels of non-consumptive experiences (for a broader public) without any supporting scientific evidence, and contrary to some omitted evidence (e.g., Borg et al. 2016, Kuijper et al. 2016, Ordiz et al. 2013, Wallach et al. 2009). Such omission of evidence and trade-offs added to the emphasis on the satisfaction of consumptive groups suggests this objective is meant to optimize the recreational killing of wolves, rather than all values, without an explicit accounting of tradeoffs and opportunity loss with other "user" groups.

- In its discussion of reasons for opposing a wolf season, the department mentions concerns over sustainability and harvest methods. However, it dismisses similarly majoritarian perspectives that convey agreement with the lack of necessity for hunting wolves and grave concerns over cultural insensitivity. Such concerns are not explicitly acknowledged in Strategy C1.

Strategy C1: Provide a well-regulated wolf harvest season consistent with public preferences and management plan objectives

- Product C1a: Utilize public harvest to help manage wolf populations consistent with zone specific objectives – See above comments (e.g., Objective A) on the misguided use of harvest zoning to manage populations and conflicts and the scientific literature that suggests this is not efficient management for ecological benefits (A), reducing conflicts (B) or even providing for broad benefits (C). The department suggests that legal harvest will "provide the primary mechanism to manage wolf abundance and distribution at the landscape scale" without providing adequate and comprehensive scientific evidence for that type of management. For example, why do wolf abundance/distribution need to be managed if the body of scientific evidence suggests they self-regulate and lethal methods are inefficient or counterproductive to conflicts? Where is the scientific evidence supporting this type of management? Again, such prioritization of killing without adequate evidence conveys bias in the plan towards the use of lethal methods, and in particular optimizing hunter/trapper opportunities at the expense of all other objectives or public perspectives. Moreover, it immediately betrays the statement: "Department research scientists should ensure these methods remain based upon the most appropriate and science-based information (see Strategy A2)." (p. 124).
- Product C1c: Develop wolf educational materials and provide such materials to all wolf harvesting license holders – All educational materials should be comprehensive and provide an unbiased and holistic perspective of wolves as conscious, sentient, self-aware, autonomous agents with families.

Strategy C2, Product C2g: Determine the number of licenses to be issued for each zone based upon evaluation of zone-specific harvest rates, method-specific estimated success rates, zone-specific quotas, and timing of past zone closures – First, the department should not be promoting such a harmful activity for domestic animals and wolves, especially given broad public opposition to the practice. If constrained by statute to do so, the department can strive to minimize the quota. To paraphrase a judge in a recent decision on the matter: a quota of '0' is still a number. The department can also severely restrict methods, and limit timing to only the period the zone in question is open.

Strategy C3, Product C3b: Recognize the existence, cultural and bequest values of wolves – Please acknowledge that tribal and non-tribal individuals connect with wolves because they consider them persons and relatives, rather than as a population or types of a species (see comments above). Such views are not reducible to 'spiritual' or 'cultural' values and should be acknowledged and considered. Moreover, please explain how you believe you are giving due consideration to those values when lethal management is explicitly signaled as the tool to 'manage' or 'control' wolves.

Objective D: Increase public understanding of wolves in Wisconsin
Such a goal should incorporate all the included scientific literature on wolf ethology (emotional, cognitive and social capabilities) and agency (Edelblutte et al. 2022), as well as how such capabilities and wellbeing is greatly harmed by killing them. Unfortunately, almost all such scientific literature is missing from the plan, which thoroughly betrays this objective. Moreover, given the emphasis on lethal methods throughout the plan and the various reminders that exploitation can be done sustainably, such omission of scientific evidence suggests a biased plan favoring a particular, instrumental view of wolves *that is ethical rather than scientific, but that is nevertheless presented as comprehensive science* (Treves & Santiago-Ávila 2020; Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018c, Santiago-Ávila & Treves, 2021). Given the above, the plan contains grave ethical and scientific misunderstandings and inadequacies that betray its ability to increase appropriate and holistic public understanding of wolves. More importantly, the department should clarify what it means to "foster public support for wolves" given such glaring omissions of science from the plan. Such omitted evidence would only allow for promoting the narrow, instrumentalized understanding and support of wolves promoted by the plan, which is a biased and unscientific perspective, and contrary to that of the broad public according to the department's latest survey. We urge the department to correct the omission of science relevant to wolves in the plan prior to doing any type of educational outreach.

Strategy D1, Product D1f: Share scientific information and research results via popular media outlets and in-person presentations – To promote transparency, independent review, replication, trust and accountability, scientific information including data, methods and statistical code for all analyses and scientific, peer-reviewed publications from the department should be made available to the public free of charge through the department's website.

Strategy D2: Ensure educational materials are reflective of the latest science and accumulated management experience – We recommend the department include the scientific literature and

topics we have identified as missing from the plan so that its educational materials actually fulfill this criteria (see reference list below).

- Product D2b: Continue to provide Wolf Ecology Courses – Given the scientific deficiencies identified in the plan and department documents, currently the department presents a view of wolf ecology limited to information relevant to instrumental enjoyment, such as ecological and recreational benefits (which a focus on killing), while dismissing relevant science germane to viewing them holistically. To correct such harmful biases, we recommend any course of wolves or wolf ecology begin with an exploration of wolf sentience, sapience and sociability, and address how ecology is mediated through those internal qualities and interests of individual wolves. Moreover, such courses should also include an introduction to the scientific evidence on how lethal methods impact wolf ecology.
- Product D2c: Foster relationships with partner groups to deliver science-based educational materials to the public. – Such a 'product' should include partnering with wolf advocacy groups and tribes for preparing educational materials, given such groups present a more comprehensive view of wolves grounded in ethology, more robust science, and generally include information dismissed by the department or consumptive users (e.g., see comments on Product D2b above).

Objective E: Conduct Scientific Research to Inform Wolf Management and Stewardship
In general for this objective, we recommend the department focus its research on the science we have identified as missing from the plan, such as researching holistic wolf health and wellbeing (beyond disease), how management and interventions affect such health at the individual (e.g., cortisol levels and reproductive hormones) and population scales (e.g., pack persistence, survival, distribution, size), and how to improve humans' views of wolves as individuals from a holistic, rather than instrumental, perspective. Moreover, given how the risk of anthropogenic mortality will permeate the landscape, including deep into core wolf range, if further hunts are held, it seems essential to also research the effect of indiscriminate killing on territory size and population model estimates. We are disappointment with the omission of any research on the impact of lethal methods on population dynamics and size, especially when the current SOM methodology was developed and validated with data from years during which wolves were under full Endangered Species Act protections (see Treves & Santiago-Ávila 2023 for a critique). Nor this section concerns itself with research on how widespread killing will affect ecological influences (research on this topic is not included either). We are deeply concerned about such omissions, especially given lethal management seems the preferred alternative by the department, which give the impression of strong, unscientific bias in favor of such methods to such extent that ecological and evolutionary consequences of such policies are not even considered for research.

Strategy E1: Continue to evaluate and improve methods used to monitor wolf population size and abundance. – Please see the attached critique of the SOM methodology, which discusses several concerns that limit the model's reliability, especially in the context of liberalized killing (Treves & Santiago-Ávila 2023).

- Product E1b: Evaluate the potential effects of variability in territory size on population model estimates – Given how the risk of anthropogenic mortality will permeate the landscape if hunts are held, it seems essential to also evaluate the effect of lethal

interventions on core range, territory size, pack size, and population model estimates. Dismissal of this pervasive and widespread effect suggests bias by the agency on what scientific questions are prioritized, namely those that do not question the use of lethal methods.

- Product E1c: Develop a wolf population estimate independent of the scaled occupancy model to enable comparisons – This should have been done prior to establishing the SOM as the only model, given concerns over estimation in addition to lack of precision of the estimates (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023). Additionally, we recommend that any methods developed strive first and foremost for least harm and be non-invasive.

Strategy E3, Product E3a: Continue to cooperate with universities, USDA WS's National Wildlife Research Center, and the department's Office of Applied Sciences to evaluate and develop new techniques for wolf conflict management – The first step in this path is to update the scientific evidence you and most (if not all) the above organizations are basing wolf policy on, so as to provide unbiased scientific guidance to what is an ethical.

Strategy E6, Product E6a: Publish research findings in peer-reviewed scientific research journals. – To make the science as transparent, replicable and reliable as possible, we recommend all peer-reviewed science from the department be published as open access, with the aforementioned data, methods and relevant statistical code included free of charge, following the hallmarks of strong, reproducible science (Artelle et al. 2018).

Objective F: Provide Leadership in Collaborative and Science-Based Wolf Management in Wisconsin

We have identified a number of shortcomings and concerns, both scientific and ethical, with the current draft that if not appropriately addressed will inevitably degrade trust in the department and hurt its ability to provide either leadership or science-based education and policy. We recommend revising this plan and incorporating the relevant literature and our comments as the first step to providing trustworthy leadership.

Strategy F1, Product F1a: Establish and maintain a department Wolf Advisory Committee that is inclusive of the views of all stakeholders, tribes and partners – Currently, the stakeholder group definitions bias the composition of the WAC in favor of the instrumental concerns of narrow interest groups, which hold views that are opposed to those of the majority of Wisconsin residents who support wolf protections and consider it wrong to kill them recreationally. To correct for this bias in perspective of the WAC, the recommend the department modify the group definitions to separately include 'environmental/conservation organizations' whose mission includes conservation of wildlife and natural landscapes (e.g., The Rewilding Institute, Sierra Club) and 'wolf/animal advocacy organizations' (e.g., Project Coyote, Friends of the Wisconsin Wolf, Alliance for Animals).

Strategy F2, Product F2d: Continue fostering alliances with conservation organizations – We would like to note that the inclusion of Wisconsin Trappers Association (WTA) as a 'conservation organization' conveys an ethical bias in the plan. The WTA is explicitly an interest group invested in promoting a consumptive activity, regardless of their feelings towards conservation. Consumptive use of wildlife does not imply a conservation mission.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

February 24, 2023

Attn: Wolf Management Plan Comments
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster St.
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Submitted via email: DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov

Dear Secretary Payne,

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan (Plan). RMEF's mission is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage. We represent more than 225,000 members nationwide with 23 chapters in Wisconsin. Since inception in 1984, RMEF has conserved or enhanced more than 8.6 million acres of North America's most vital habitat for elk and other wildlife, including nearly 10,000 acres in Wisconsin.

RMEF remains a long-time advocate for state management of wolves, which is in line with the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. More than 1,100 wolves occupy Wisconsin, stretching across the northern and central portions of the state. Wolves continuously emigrate and immigrate to/from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan, resulting in a self-sustaining regional population now numbering more than 4,000 and connected to the larger wolf population in Canada. RMEF agrees that the wolf population is fully recovered and encourages additional advocacy to delist wolves and bring them back under state management authority.

With significant interest in helping maintain healthy elk populations in Wisconsin, RMEF offers the following comments specific to the Plan components:

- RMEF appreciates Wisconsin's strong research program to ensure sound management that supports a wolf season framework.
- RMEF understands the approach to avoid numeric population goals in the current plan. However, RMEF suggests continued monitoring to help keep tabs on the distribution and population trajectory of wolves. In addition, following delisting of the species, RMEF recommends revisiting this approach to consider population thresholds for management.
- RMEF recommends consideration of the healthy *regional* population of wolves when setting objectives and in estimating populations; the Wisconsin wolf population is not isolated.
- RMEF expresses concern about the wolf predation pressure experienced by elk, particularly the northern herd. In managing the ecological and social impacts of wolves on prey species, RMEF recommends including information on how elk population demographics and distribution may be altered by wolf behavior.

- RMEF supports inclusion of the post-delisting framework for a future wolf season, in anticipation that hunting will again be available as a management tool.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

Sincerely,

Karie Decker
Director of Wildlife & Habitat

February 28, 2023

Via email: DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov

Public Comments Processing
Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Safari Club International Comments on Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

Safari Club International ("SCI") appreciates the opportunity to comment on Wisconsin's 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan. SCI supports Wisconsin's efforts to collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including SCI's Wisconsin Chapter, to develop and implement a management plan for wolves. Importantly, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") should aim to ensure that wolves do not negatively impact Wisconsin's deer, elk, and other wildlife populations. SCI appreciates that the draft plan contemplates allowing DNR to have the appropriate flexibility for managing an increasing wolf population, including annual harvests once the population is removed from the federal list of endangered species. However, SCI remains concerned that the draft plan does not include a specific state-wide wolf population objective and DNR may be underestimating the current number of wolves throughout Wisconsin. SCI also requests that DNR re-evaluate how it considers public input on wolf management and regulated wolf hunting.

Safari Club International

Safari Club International, a nonprofit IRC § 501(c)(4) corporation, has approximately 50,000 members and advocates worldwide, many of whom live or hunt in Wisconsin. SCI also has members who outfit and guide hunts in Wisconsin and depend on this for their livelihoods. SCI has five chapters in Wisconsin and many more in surrounding states.

SCI has participated in multiple cases involving the federal listing status and management of wolves in the United States. For example, SCI has intervened to defend the delisting of the Western Great Lakes Distinct Population Segment wolves, Northern Rocky Mountains Distinct Population Segment wolves, and Wyoming wolves. E.g., *Humane Soc'y of the U.S. v. Kempthorne*, 579 F. Supp. 2d 7 (D.D.C. 2008); *Defs. of Wildlife v. Hall*, 565 F. Supp. 2d 1160 (D. Mont. 2008); *Alliance for the Wild Rockies v. Salazar*, 672 F.3d 1170 (9th Cir. 2012); *Humane Soc'y of the U.S. v. Jewell*, 76 F. Supp. 3d 69 (D.D.C. 2014); *Defs. of Wildlife v. Zinke*, 68 F. Supp. 3d 193 (D.D.C. 2014).

SCI recently defended the 2020 delisting of gray wolves in the lower 48 U.S. States from the Endangered Species Act ("ESA") lists of endangered and threatened species. SCI believes that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service correctly removed wolves from the ESA's protections—recognizing, once again, that gray wolves have exceeded recovery criteria for decades. Along with the National Rifle Association, SCI was the first party to appeal the district court's vacatur of that 2020 rule and continues to participate in the protracted appeal.

SCI has also submitted numerous public comments regarding the federal listing status and management of wolves throughout the United States.

Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

SCI supports many aspects of the draft management plan. The draft plan appropriately provides for an adaptive management approach. SCI also commends DNR for including in its Objectives, Strategies, and Products various items, such as:

- Maintaining sustainable populations of wolves primary prey:
    - Supporting efforts to manage for healthy white-tailed deer populations;
    - Consideration of elk population objectives in relation to wolf management objectives;
- Utilizing a public harvest season to address human-wolf conflicts;
- Providing compensation for loss of hunting dogs;
- Working with dog hunting organizations to promote wolf conflict awareness and avoidance;
- Providing a well-regulated wolf harvest season consistent with the management plan objectives (which is currently required by law, once wolves are federally delisted);
    - Recognizing that providing a public wolf hunting opportunity is a benefit in and of itself;
    - Utilizing public harvest to help manage wolf populations consistent with zone-specific objectives;
    - Developing educational materials for wolf harvesting license holders;
    - Pursuing administrative rules to establish a designated season for dog owners to train for wolf hunting;
- Supporting science-based wildlife management and collaboration with other stakeholders.

However, the draft management plan should be revised to address several concerns. First, DNR should establish a science-based population objective and manage for that objective. The lack of a population objective undoubtedly causes anti-hunters and others to always advocate for more wolves, regardless of cultural or biological carrying capacity. Without setting a definitive guideline on which to base discretionary management decisions, any effort to stabilize or even reduce the wolf population will be questioned and likely challenged. Establishing a population objective would provide DNR with a specific goal to point to as it makes decisions like setting annual harvest quotas and methods of harvest.

Data in the draft plan shows that Wisconsin's wolf population has been subject to several hunting seasons with significant offtake, but the wolf population has remained robust despite these management efforts. The draft plan should state more clearly that regulated hunting is not a threat to the species. Regulated hunting is fundamental to maintaining the population within management goals and cultural carrying capacity. The draft plan suggests that harvests exceeding a certain percentage (e.g., 30%) would lead to long-term extirpation of wolves in Wisconsin, but SCI questions the assumptions in that model and would like to see more information about that analysis.

Second, SCI disagrees with some aspects of the "occupancy model" used to estimate the wolf population, as they may result in underestimation of the number of wolves in Wisconsin. Although the minimum count methodology may no longer be appropriate given the large number of wolves in the State, relying on volunteer trackers and limiting the average pack size to six wolves for calculating total population likely results in underestimating overall population. Moreover, the model does not count lone and dispersing wolves, despite evidence from hunting seasons that they make up a significant percentage of wolves throughout the State. Of course, any underestimation of the wolf population will likely lead to lower hunting quotas in the management zones. Therefore, SCI encourages DNR to modify its methodology to ensure that chronic underestimation does not hamper effective management of the wolf population.

Third, the draft plan's discussion of human dimensions and public opinions should be revised to give more weight to the impacts and opinions of those who live within wolf habitat and whose lives and livelihoods are affected by wolves. Wolves must be conserved and managed properly, to maintain their populations for future generations to enjoy. But the draft plan should not provide equal weight to the opinions of those who are not affected by the expanding wolf population but might object to or wish to unnecessarily restrict lethal control and regulated hunting. SCI encourages the draft plan to more fully consider the views of hunters and users of other species, like deer, which are affected by wolf populations. The draft plan discusses how wolves are apex predators and can and do have ecosystem-wide effects. That same concept should be carried through the discussion in Section 2, especially Section 2, part 2.

Finally, it is important to discuss and address the concern of those who oppose a hunting program for fear of the risk that "wolves become endangered again." No one wishes for that outcome, including hunters. We all seek to protect and conserve the resource. Modern, regulated hunting has never been responsible for putting any species at risk of extinction, particularly a productive species like wolves (which is also not endangered in other parts of its range, like Canada). But some harvest numbers can look unsustainable to those who do not have the benefit of biological context. Anti-hunting groups take every opportunity to take advantage of lack of public understanding of harvest data.

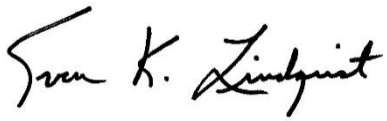
Accordingly, SCI encourages DNR and State policymakers to stick to science-based decisionmaking when crafting and implementing the plan. The draft plan discusses public perception of wolf hunting generally and of certain methods of harvest. Respectfully, public opinion should not drive DNR decisionmaking regarding wolf seasons; rather, science should steer all population objectives and harvest quotas. Far too often, the court of public opinion

disfavors hunting and certain methods of harvest, especially for predator species, simply because many non-hunters do not understand the need for effective and substantial population management. Such considerations should thus be ignored in relevant decisionmaking.

Conclusion

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Wolf Management Plan. If you have any questions or need anything further, please contact Bee Frederick, State and Local Liaison, at [redacted]

Sincerely,



Sven Lindquist
President, Safari Club International

Sierra Club – Wisconsin
754 Williamson St., Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3546
Telephone: (608) 256-0565E-mail: wisconsin.chapter@sierraclub.org
Website: sierraclub.org/Wisconsin

February 27, 2023

Randy Johnson
Large Carnivore Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave.
Rhinelander, WI 54501

Re: Sierra Club of Wisconsin's Comments and Recommendations on the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

Dear Randy Johnson and DNR Wolf Management Plan Team,

We would like to thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. I am submitting these comments on behalf of Sierra Club's 20,000 members and supporters that care deeply about science-based natural resource management. I am also submitting these comments as amember of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource's (DNR) Wolf Management Plan Committee.

Overall, we find that the plan centers science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources, incline with our public trust doctrine. Additionally, the Department has done an extensive job incorporating diverse opinions from the Wolf Management Plan Advisory Committee (Wolf Advisory Committee), 2022 public opinion survey, and consultation with the tribes. We want to thank the Department for the broad stakeholder group that made up of the committee, including the incorporation of many of Wisconsin's federally-recognized Tribes.

We also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive scientific survey on the public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin (2022). This is a request made by our organization and many others during the Wolf Advisory Committee meetings. It was great to see this suggestion was not only heard but quickly applied. This data shows a sizable shift in public opinions supporting wolves in our state and is strong statistical evidence for the new draft wolf plan.

Overall, we have included some items we would like to have the Department consider for *even further improvements to the draft plan*, overall, we are supportive of the plan as written.

Most importantly, upon review of the draft plan following the comment period, we want to see the Department build on the plan and want to make sure some of the most important features of the plan(listed below) are maintained. Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin.

Important components of the plan that should be kept in the final version::

- **Gals of the Wisconsin draft plan** are right on target - and we fully endorse the outlined objectives and the focus of the plan on the ecological benefits of wolves.

- **Removal of a numeric population goal**: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. As written in the plan, the goal should be for the state to have a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles.

- **Creation of low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it**: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and ***further*** reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. The Department should do extensive outreach to all 11 Tribes and make sure they get feedback and accomadate any requests for changes in the plan.

- **Reflection of the public opinions survey** that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. The plan acknowledges that hunting is rapidly declining, and values are shifting more toward wildlife stewardship versus consumption.

- **Expressed commitment to science and continued research** with partners and acknowledgement that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem".

- **Education of non-lethal deterrent techniques:** The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. We especially support collaborative efforts with natural resource educators to develop classroom lesson plans focused on Wisconsin's native wildlife, including wolves.

- **Recommendations to pursue more administrative rules:**
    1. Reduce the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less (reduced from the outdated 24 hours in past hunts)
    2. Make purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal.

Things we would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized:

- **Recommendations of legislative changes:** The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes be made to the current state statutes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan.

- **In-person registration:** If wolf harvest must occur related to state law, in-person registrationand issuance of wolf harvesting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license should be added to the plan.

- **Better regulation of e hound training on wolves:** The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities ***as*** each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. Not to mention the disruption this practice causes to other wildlife and humans who are out enjoying nature and/or wolf population tracking.

- **Guidance in plan for next review or update:** there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades). Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being "valid until it is replaced."

- **Creation of a permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee** to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. The scientific committee would ensure the best available science and facts are used with less biases to inform decision making.

- **Idenfication of specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin.** Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state.

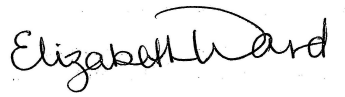
- **Prioritized non-lethal deterrents:** The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts bu**t** stops short of recommending that the DNR ***prioritize*** these opportunities. This is important because:
    - The best way to stop loss is to prevent it all together. The focus should be on prevention not payment for livestock loss.
    - Scientific studies demonstrate that killing wolves, particularly through recreational hunting and trapping, can lead to increased conflicts, while non-lethal deterrents can be highly effective at deterring conflicts when used correctly.
    - Using the best available science, rather than prioritizing a wolf harvest to help with livestock conflicts, the plan SHOULD focus on non-lethal methods as a win-win.
- **Creation of "Chronic Waste Disease (CWD) zones" on a temporary basis, in areas where new outbreaks beyond the current range occur, like Shawano and Langlade Counties.** It would be unwise to disregard potentially one of the best tools we may have to address this concern. Also worth noting, CWD is a huge issue for many Tribes. The Lac Courtes Orielles Band especially may face a greater threat since it is right on the edge of zone 3. The need for "CWD zones" should be annually evaluated.
- **Population reduction in zones 3 and 4** given that density will naturally be lower in these zones anyway, and reducing it further simply lessens the ecological benefits wolves provide.
- **Separation of private land and public land hunting permits.** Without them, the disproportionate harvest of wolves from prime areas of large public lands is almost certain to continue. It is poor stewardship to hit wolves hardest in the areas that are most suitable for them. In addition, this does affect the Tribes and their ability to exercise treaty rights.
- **Educate about falsehoods about wolf incidents:** The plan seems to include "perceived" harms from wolves as potential justifications for reducing wolf numbers. Wolf attacks on humans in the lower 48 states have never been documented. Wolves take far less than 1% of Wisconsin's livestock and Wisconsin's deer herd is robust. Rather than using "perceived" loss of deer hunting opportunities as justifications for wolf hunting, the DNR should focus on correcting such misinformation, providing robust public education to help residents better coexist with wolves, just as it does with black bears for example. The DNR hosted a black bear coexistence webinar with 800+people in 2022 but has been careful to avoid discussing wolves publicly. Until old myths are confronted publicly, wolves will remain misunderstood and controversial.
- **Include plans for more extensive research:** *We cannot manage what we don't understand.* The plan should recommend significantly *more research* both within Wisconsin and collaboration with Minnesota and Michigan to better understand the Great Lakes wolf population, the CWD connection, non-lethal deterrent techniques for livestock owners, and genetic diversity. Additionally, funding needs to be requested to continue wolf research in support of the wolf plan objectives.
- **Potential impacts of pack destabilization: Studies indicate** human-caused mortality can trigger pack instability in gray wolves. Studies indicate we could be creating the very problems that wolf hunting claims to reduce. The breakdown in social structure can trigger instability and negative consequences to the species by disrupting the breeding behavior, self-regulating mechanisms, and intricate social structures.
  According to a recent scientific study of gray wolves, "Most wildlife studies focus on population size and growth rate to inform management, but relatively few examine species biological processes at scales aside from that of the population. This is especially important for group-living species such as the gray wolf, for which the breeding unit is the social group." Link to study:
  https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/fee.2597

In closing, we support the Department's efforts to recognize the importance of dispersal and genetic diversity to wolves' long-term sustainability in Wisconsin. In short, the mere presence of farm and livestock does not recommend hunting and trapping of wolves, especially as best science indicates that recreational killing of wolves serves to destabilize wolf packs and lead to more livestock-wolf conflicts as stated above.

In these mixed areas of Wisconsin, the wisest and most economical course is to keep recreational wolf kills in check while also ***incentivizing, funding and enforcing non-lethal measures to prevent livestock-wolf depredations, focusing on the value of coexistence and improved animal husbandry practices.***

Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. We look forward to continuing to work with the Department as the plan is finalized and beyond.

Sincerely Yours,



Elizabeth Ward,
Sierra Club Wisconsin Chapter

CC:
Adam Payne, WDNR
Eric Lobner, WDNR
Jodi Habush Sinykin, Sierra Club of Wisconsin - Primary Representative to the Wolf Plan Advisory Committee
Diane Cain, Sierra Club of Wisconsin - Alternate Representative to the DNR Wolf Plan Advisory Committee

February 28, 2023

Randy Johnson
Large Carnivore Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave.
Rhinelander, WI 54501

Re: Superior Bio-Conservancy's Comments and Recommendations on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022

Dear Randy Johnson and DNR Wolf Plan Team,

We would like to thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. I submit our groups' collective thoughts below for consideration.

We find that the plan is a strong step forward in using science and inviting public input; however, it fails miserably regarding respecting Ojibwe Tribal Rights in the ceded territory on all public land. Hunting wolves for them is a cultural afront and disrespectful. Every indigenous nation in the Great Lakes region opposes the slaughter of wolves and supports the recognition of religious and cultural practices which recognize the gray wolf as not only biologically necessary, but also a sacred component of the ecosystem in which they belong.

The Superior Bio-Conservancy is not an anti-hunting organization. Grey wolves are a keystone predator and necessary for the health of the forests. It is wrong to think of them as a game species. We are opposed to the hunting, trapping, and killing of gray wolves on public lands. We are also opposed to hound hunting practices in the Great Lakes region as barbaric sport.

Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin.

Things we support and "LIKE" about the draft plan as written:

- . As written in the plan, the goal should be for the state to have a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles.
- **The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves and that wolves are connected to forest health and plant diversity.**
- The plan acknowledges that hunting is rapidly declining, and values are shifting more toward wildlife stewardship versus consumption.
- **There is expressed commitment to science and continued research** with partners and acknowledgement that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem".

- **The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques.** We especially support collaborative efforts with natural resource educators to develop classroom we lesson plans focused on Wisconsin's native wildlife, including wolves.
- **We support the plan's recommendations to pursue more administrative rules:**
    1. Reduce the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less (reduced from the outdated 24 hours in past hunts)
    2. Make purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal

Things we would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized:

It's important to think about landscape scale and prey base ratios in relationship to wolf populations. The forests need wolves to modify and pressure the deer browsing behavior.

Forests are an organism of the land. Wolves act as the immune system of the forest, by changing the forage behavior of the deer to the benefit of the forest structure. From the perspective of the Forest, "The enemy of my enemy is my friend." Healthy forests need wolves to keep the deer in check. (Flagel 2016, Rooney 2015, Waller, Cote, Bradshaw 2016) (Flader 1974)

The ratio of predator to prey populations is a critical balance point in understanding forest landscape health. Wolves work for free and the resulting economic value of having healthy forests benefit all for the future. Predation affects foraging behavior which is manifested over time as an increase in forest biodiversity.

These wolf population densities vary across the north woods within the established ranges. The highest densities are closer to areas that have wilderness attributes (few roads, low population densities and dominant forest canopies). Voyageurs National Park in northern Minnesota for example has wolf densities as high as one for every 10 square miles, they also feed extensively on beavers in that area. (Gable). Wisconsin wolf range densities generally range from one wolf for every 13 to 15 square miles within occupied territories (Wydeven et al 2012).

The Wisconsin current predator/prey ratio is approximately one wolf for every 300-350+ deer (in wolf range). Wolves provide ecological services that provide economic benefit to the health of the north woods. Deer need wolves to keep herds healthy from disease. Wolves have been undervalued by the very State agencies and policy makers that promote themselves as the trustees of our public lands under the Public Trust Doctrine. This is demonstrated by the past State WDNR agencies and policy makers promoting hunting seasons for wolves. Where is the logic in promotion of a hunting season when a single wolf, has a significant role in keeping 9,000 to 15,000 acres of forest healthy, robust, diverse and flourishing? Wolves are the friends of forests. **Perhaps the most valuable regulating element on the Northwood's forest landscape - is the wolf.**

- **The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes be made to the current state statutes so that the DNR is**

able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan.

- If wolf harvest must occur related to state law, **support in person registration**, and support recommendation that the department **issues wolf harvesting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license**.
- **The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves.**
    - The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities ***as*** each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. Not to mention the disruption this practice causes to other wildlife and humans who are out enjoying nature and/or wolf population tracking.
- **There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update** – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades). Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being "valid until it is replaced."
- **There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin.**
    - **The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight.** The scientific committee would ensure the best available science and facts are used with less biases to inform decision making.
- **We recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin.**
    - Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state.
- **The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts** but stops short of recommending that the DNR ***prioritizes*** these opportunities.
    - The best way to stop loss is to prevent it all together. The focus should be on prevention not payment for livestock loss.
    - Scientific studies demonstrate that killing wolves, particularly through recreational hunting and trapping, can lead to increased conflicts, while non-lethal deterrents can be highly effective at deterring conflicts when used correctly.
    - Using the best available science, rather than prioritizing a wolf harvest to help with livestock conflicts, the plan SHOULD focus on non-lethal methods as a win-win.
- **The DNR should create "CWD zones" on a temporary basis, in areas where new outbreaks beyond the current range occur, like Shawano and Langlade Counties.** It would be unwise to disregard potentially one of the best tools we may have to address this concern.

    - Also worth noting, CWD is a huge issue for the tribes, and the LCO tribe especially may face a greater threat since it is right on the edge of zone 3. The need for "CWD zones" would be annually evaluated.
- **The state should have separate private land and public land hunting permits.** Without them, the disproportionate harvest of wolves from prime areas of large public lands is almost certain to continue. It is poor stewardship to hit wolves hardest in the areas that are most suitable for them. In addition, this does affect the Tribes and their ability to exercise treaty rights.
- **The plan seems to include irrational, "perceived" harms from wolves as potential justifications for reducing wolf numbers.** Wolf attacks on humans in the lower 48 states have never been documented. Wolves take far less than 1% of Wisconsin's livestock. And Wisconsin's deer herd is robust. Rather than using irrational fears or "perceived" loss of deer hunting opportunities as justifications for wolf hunting, the DNR should instead focus on correcting such misinformation, providing public education to help residents better coexist with wolves, just as it does with black bears for example.
    - The DNR hosted a black bear coexistence webinar with 800+people in 2022 but has been careful to avoid discussing wolves publicly. Until old myths are confronted publicly, wolves will remain misunderstood and controversial.
- **Human-caused mortality triggers pack instability in gray wolves.** Studies indicate we are creating the very problems that wolf hunting claims to reduce. The breakdown in social structure can trigger instability and negative consequences to the species by disrupting the breeding behavior, self-regulating mechanisms, and intricate social structures.
    - According to a recent scientific study of gray wolves, "Most wildlife studies focus on population size and growth rate to inform management, but relatively few examine species biological processes at scales aside from that of the population. This is especially important for group-living species such as the gray wolf, for which the breeding unit is the social group." Link to scientific study

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Robert Boucher,

President

Superior Bio-Conservancy

CC: Adam Payne, WDNR

Eric Lobner, WDNR

The Nature Conservancy
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The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin
633 West Main Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

tel 608/251-8140
fax 608/251-8535
nature.org/wisconsin

February 27, 2023

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist

Randy.Johnson@Wisconsin.Gov

Also submitted via DNR Public Comment Website

Dear Mr. Jonson and DNR Wolf Plan Team:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2022 Wolf Management Plan. For over 60 years in Wisconsin, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has collaborated with landowners, businesses, and communities to protect more that 233,000 acres of lands, waters, ecosystems, and species, including threatened species like the Gray Wolf. TNC is also the world's largest conservation nonprofit operating in all 50 states and 79 countries around the globe, and here in Wisconsin we work closely with other environmental groups, sporting groups, agricultural groups, and Tribal nations to implement natural resources stewardship to the benefit of all.

As an initial matter, TNC would like to extend our deep gratitude to you, your team, and all your colleagues at DNR for the tremendous amount of thought and effort put into the 2022 Plan. Your efforts are especially appreciated given the fluctuating protection status of wolves in federal court decisions. It is laudable that such a worthwhile plan was put forward during a time of great judicial and regulatory uncertainty. DNR deserves kudos for focusing on this work amidst often contentious debates.

The Plan's proposal to move beyond a numerical quota for wolf hunting and to instead take a more holistic approach to the issue is most welcome. Numerical

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Madison, Wisconsin 53703

tel 608/251-8140
fax 608/251-8535
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quotas are an extremely blunt instrument to address the very complex set of issues involved in any future wolf hunt. Adaptive management is a much sounder approach already utilized for critically important Wisconsin species like deer and wolf. Drastically reducing the number of Gray Wolves in our state through hunting without regard to regional distinctions based on the newest available data would be a grave mistake. Without adaptive management approaches, there is also no guarantee that a high-quote hunt would actually result in the decreased depredation events which many cite as the need for a wolf hunt in Wisconsin. Occupancy modeling, volunteer surveys, and an emphasis on combating illegal wolf kills are crucial tools in future management of the wolf population.

TNC partners with many Tribal nations throughout Wisconsin on land Stewardship. Many Tribal leaders have movingly spoken about the spiritual significance of the wolf to their people throughout the Plan process. Some Tribes regard the wolf as a brother and a family member, and this means a wolf hunt is viewed directly as an attack on their family. DNR's extensive efforts to consult with Tribes while formulating the Plan are deeply appreciated, as are proposals to create buffer zones between Tribal lands and hunters. As DNR continues work on the Plan and on the Gray Wolf, it is TNC's hope DNR will consider some commonsense changes to the draft Plan. These changes include, but are not limited to: specific metrics for assessing wolf health and sustainability in each proposed hunting zone, shortening training periods for hunting dogs when a particular zone is open, and practical timelines for hunting and trapping seasons, Plan implementation, and guidance on how the Plan will be funded.

TNC takes a data-oriented, purposeful approach to public policy on wolf hunting as on all other issues which impact wildlife. We remain concerned that there is simply insufficient data to demonstrate that there can be a "safe" hunt of this iconic apex predator, and if the 2022 Plan recommended a specific quota, it is likely TNC would

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Madison, Wisconsin 53703

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fax 608/251-8535
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have instead recommended a zero quota for a new wolf hunt at this time. This position is arrived not arrived at hastily or lightly, but instead after lengthy consultation with large animal biologists, other scientists, conservation allies, and our nearly 25,000 members in the State of Wisconsin. For this reason, we believe U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey White's decision re-listing the Gray Wolf as an Endangered Species is correct. The revival of Wisconsin's Gray Wolf population, as others have noted, is a true conservation success story, one that should never be reversed.

TNC again thanks and applauds the Department of Natural Resources for its creation of the 2022 Plan and for the continuing outreach to stakeholders and the public at large to ensure any future wolf hunt provides as much protection for the species as possible. If you have any questions about TNC's views on the Wolf Plan, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or cell at any time.

Alexander R. Madorsky, Associate Director of Government Relations
[redacted]
[redacted]

Submitted by Timber Wolf Alliance

Dr. Erik Olson

First, we would like to commend the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their hard work pulling together this draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. This draft document is a testament to the dedication of the staff of the WDNR and their efforts to properly manage and conserve wolves for both current and future generations.

We believe this draft management plan is a huge step in the right direction. The degree of effort taken to summarize the current literature – while deserving attention in a few spots – is incredible. The amount of new scientific information regarding wolves and human attitudes towards wolves is exceptional. The process used to obtain input from a diverse array of stakeholders to lay the foundation of this plan – solid. The proposed management strategy, outcome-based population management goals, and the proposed modifications to the wolf management zones are supported by Wisconsin citizens, even those in wolf range, and past Wolf Management Plan Committees. We believe these approaches to wolf management to be appropriate, in-line with neighboring states, and based on the best integration of scientific knowledge, human attitude data, and expert knowledge of the system. We strongly support the establishment of extremely low quota zones surrounding tribal reservations. Assuming a wolf harvest season were to occur, we encourage the state to consider closing these zones relatively early for the first few seasons to ensure these zones are not overharvested. The February 2022 harvest raised serious concerns regarding the ability of the WDNR to mitigate overharvest due to policies that are out of managers hands. Once harvest rates are better understood, then we would expect the WDNR to reevaluate the timing of closure for those zones.

Beyond these generic comments of support, we wish to provide more specific comments. A number of groups and individuals have already provided input on the WDNR draft Wolf Management Plan. To avoid replicating much of what other groups have already commented on, we would like to take the opportunity to amplify the voices of one group and one individual. I.e., we wish to reiterate their comments.

We support and wish to amplify the vast majority of comments made by Wisconsin's Green Fire (see attachment). We also support and wish to amplify the public comments of Professor Timothy Van Deelen of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, especially in regards to the role of density dependence in wolf populations.

Beyond those comments, we have a few additional points that we would like to raise.

Page 113: Our main comment – objectives should have definitions for success (i.e., measurable attributes or metrics with thresholds for determining success). These should be realistic and connected to monitoring/data collection efforts that will provide the basis for actually assessing whether or not you are achieving success.

Objective D – we are especially please that the WDNR will interested in working with wolf education organizations such as Timber Wolf Alliance and reinvigorating the WDNR's participation and support for Wolf Awareness Week.

Objective E – we encourage the WDNR to consider joining forces with the tribes, organizations and universities to generate smaller areas in wolf range, where wolves can be monitored intensively using a variety of techniques. The current approach casts a wide net, but misses a lot of the specific details and nuance that can be captured in an intensively monitored population. Northland College, Timber Wolf Alliance, and the Timber Wolf Information Network currently monitor wolf populations fairly intensively in much of Zones 1 and 5 via howl surveys and track surveys. Such intensive monitoring can also be used to ensure population estimates from occupancy modelling are also tracking with different population monitoring strategies at zone scales. Additionally, such studies – if invested in, could provide opportunities to better address some of the other questions highlighted in this section. One additional research question that feels overlooked is pup survival. The WDNR should support collaborative efforts to better assess pup survival and recruitment in the WI wolf population.

We notice that there are no references to the development of a WI Wolf Science Committee. We believe that such a committee would be extremely valuable for helping guide research, building collaborative relationships, and gaining insights that may inform management. We encourage the WDNR to consider reactivating the WI Wolf Science Committee.

References to “Chapron and Treves, 2016” need to also refer to the three separate comments published in response to the publication of that article.

On page 39, “Pre- and post-surveys around the 2012 wolf hunting season in Wisconsin” needs to be qualified by reporting the timing of the “post-“ hunt survey and exploration of how quickly behaviors can be expected to shift.

TWIN
Timber Wolf
Information Network
"conservation through education"

Wisconsin DNR Wolf Management Plan Team –

Our sincere thanks and congratulations to the DNR team that put the extensive effort into composing the proposed plan, and to the all the organizations that took part in the Wolf Management Plan Committee process. We recognize the tremendous amount of work that went into the final product – and all who contributed should be proud.

And we would be remiss if we didn't congratulate the citizens of Wisconsin, for fostering a recolonizing wolf population and allowing it to reach its current robust status. This amazing success story is too often lost in the controversy and rancor that surrounds the gray wolf. It's obvious that there is broad support for the gray wolf in Wisconsin, or we would not have been able to witness this amazing recovery.

We find the plan to be very thorough and well-researched, drawing upon the extensive volume of existing research around gray wolves, and including the always-important social dynamics surrounding this controversial species. It is especially gratifying to see the 2014 public attitude research repeated in formulating the proposed plan – we would hope to see public attitudes revisited once the plan has been in operation for a few years, as a gauge to help guide potential future revisions. We would also strongly encourage a thorough review of the latest science at regular intervals, as emerging tools and techniques continue to shed new light on wolf biology and ecology.

Following are our specific areas of concern - some in agreement with the draft, others offering our suggestions for improvement or refinement.

Population Goal – while undoubtedly this will be the most contentious area of disagreement by those opposed to wolves, it is time to move beyond setting any numerical goals or thresholds. Numerical goals are useful while a population is in the recovery or recolonization phase (as with the current elk reintroduction) but become less meaningful as populations grow past the point of vulnerability and transition to active management.

Wisconsin DNR does not currently manage any species other than elk towards a specific numerical goal – and it is noteworthy that neither of the new wolf management plans for Michigan and Minnesota set any sort of numerical goal. Adaptive management is designed to manage wildlife populations to reduce conflicts and enhance benefits, and this should be the goal of forward-looking wolf management.

Wolf Management Zones – we support the creation of subzones 1A and 4A, to help address these perennial depredation hotspots. While hunting has been shown to not be the most effective tool to address depredation, reduction of wolf numbers in these small conflict areas may be beneficial. We also support the buffer subzones around tribal lands – largely ignored when the initial wolf management zones were established.

We are not in favor of removing western Lincoln County from Zone 2 and making it part of Zone 3. The area was home to the first disjunct pack outside of Douglas County during the early days of wolf recolonization, and it contains important wolf habitat. The number of wolf and hound conflicts in the area supports the fact that it is vigorously defended core wolf habitat. Our organization can certainly attest to the importance of the area to wolves – the New Wood Wildlife Area is our most frequent destination for the wolf-tracking field trip portion of our annual Treehaven UWSP wolf ecology workshop. We recommend that this area remain in Zone 2.

Wolf Occupancy Modeling – we strongly support continuing development of the Patch Occupancy Model (POM) for estimating wolf abundance and distribution in Wisconsin. Recognizing that the model will get better with time, we encourage the DNR to focus additional GPS collaring effort in the Central Forest Region, which has been shown to contain some exceptionally small wolf territories. It is important to understand this distinctive characteristic and apply it towards continual improvement of the POM.

We also support the development of a parallel means for estimating the state's wolf population, using emerging technologies. Genetic analysis is another rapidly evolving methodology for population modeling, and should be investigated for application in Wisconsin, along with any other promising new techniques.

Wolf Conflict Management – we strongly support continuing research and testing of emerging non-lethal conflict abatement treatments. USDA Wildlife Services has a new Non-Lethal Initiative program, and we encourage Wisconsin DNR to take maximum advantage of any new support programs, methodologies, and funding. We've seen some presentations demonstrating the use of drones to disperse wolves away from livestock, and we encourage the department to investigate all non-lethal abatement technologies.

Understanding that sometimes lethal treatments are the best answer, we support targeted lethal removal when necessary, including landowner permits for those who qualify.

Wolf Harvest Management – we strongly support reducing the wolf harvest reporting window to eight hours. On a human-dominated landscape like Wisconsin, it seems reasonable to assume that an individual should be able to report their harvest within this time frame, and this will reduce the possibility of a significant over-harvest as was experienced in February of 2021.

We also support zone-specific harvest tags, which are currently used for black bear and turkey, and which enable the DNR to direct hunter density and hunting pressure most efficiently.

We are opposed to manipulation of permit issuance to maximize hunting opportunity (i.e., length of season). We understand that wolf tag holders have expressed dissatisfaction with early zone closures, however extending the season toward its maximum length creates interference with wolves' natural breeding cycle and makes winter track counts more difficult. There is already significant overlap between winter track counts and coyote hunting – in some cases making it difficult to provide good data. We are also concerned that extended hunting seasons might interfere with the wolf ecology field trips we lead throughout January, part of our education and outreach efforts.

We are also opposed to allowing hound training to occur in closed harvest zones until all harvest zones are closed. Again, this could create unnecessary overlap with winter track counts and in some cases could conflict with the late-winter breeding season – not to mention continuing to chase animals that have survived the open season. We would expect that this scenario might create some conflict between hound training and hound hunting as well, since there would still be hunters in the zone attempting to fill their permits.

We strongly support the use of robust data in establishing wolf harvest quotas, should a harvest season be held again. Harvest quotas should be set based on an annual mortality model that includes all human-caused mortality (including depredation control) and an estimated natural mortality input based on the best available science.

Wolf-Related Tourism – this term comes up often during discussions of the benefits of having wolves on the landscape, but a means to measure this effect needs to be developed. Currently it is easily dismissed by wolf opponents because there is no measure of credibility to this claim.

As those of us who conduct track counts, howl surveys, and camera traps know very well, wolves are cryptic animals that tend to avoid human presence and are not easily detected on Wisconsin's forested landscape.

If Wisconsin DNR is to promote the tourism benefits of having wolves on the landscape, some metric needs to be developed to demonstrate that there is a measurable financial benefit.

Wolf Advisory Committee – we strongly support the formation of the proposed Wolf Advisory Committee, to steer wolf management from the perspective of a diverse group of professional wildlife managers, tribal representatives, and other stakeholders.

We also strongly favor the formation of a separate Wolf Science Panel, made up of wildlife professionals and researchers, active or retired. The panel should include a liaison from the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Wolf Committee.

This group would conduct regular reviews of emerging wolf science and investigate how new discoveries might be employed in Wisconsin wolf management - free of the political dynamics that are inherent in the Wolf Advisory Committee.

In terms of stakeholder groups, we are opposed to wolf research and education groups being commingled with wolf advocacy groups. Our group's mission is to provide wolf education based on the best available science, and we often find our viewpoint at odds with the positions and information espoused by wolf advocacy groups. We would expect that groups like Timber Wolf Alliance and Wisconsin Greenfire share a similar perspective. We would encourage something like a Conservation/ Education/ Research stakeholders' category on the committee.

Wolf Research and Education – we strongly support rebuilding the DNR science team to its level prior to the cutbacks of a few years ago. There are myriad opportunities for continuing research into predator/ prey, predator/ predator, and predator/ livestock dynamics, as well as many other avenues waiting to be explored – all of which can be informative to wolf management going forward.

Collaboration with NGOs in ongoing education is mentioned in the proposed plan, and obviously our organization is in strong support of the concept. We have received somewhat sporadic DNR support for our wolf ecology workshops in past years - it has mostly consisted of listing our workshops on the DNR website. We would welcome any opportunities for increased collaboration in furthering our educational objectives.

Again, thanks to all who worked on the proposed plan, and thank you for considering our comments.

Ray Leonard
Timber Wolf Information Network
[redacted]
Plover WI 54467



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources -

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the DNR's draft wolf management plan. **The Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association (WBHA) represents nearly 3000 members in the state** that are dedicated to promoting the rights of sportsmen and sportswomen as well as supporting youth hunting, conservation, and sound wildlife management.The WBHA works tirelessly to ensure that future generations have opportunities to enjoy hunting, fishing, and trapping here in Wisconsin.

The members of the WBHA have been anticipating the release of the wolf management plan for some time now, with hopes for a detailed, thoughtful plan that would adequately lay out a vision for the management of Wisconsin's wolf population. **Unfortunately, the plan as currently constituted falls well short of our expectations and of those of anyone that lives in and around wolves here in the state**.

For any plan to be successful, there needs to be metrics by which one can measure the effectiveness of measures taken to control the population of wolves. The plan as drafted contains nothing that we can see that will give the public and the DNR the tools necessary to measure the effectiveness of the plan. The most glaring omission from the plan is a numeric population goal. **The 1999 plan rightly set a population goal of 350 wolves** based on the social carrying capacity here in the state. **The WBHA strongly supports including this goal in the final plan.**

For any plan to be successful, input from those directly affected must be not only considered, but also incorporated into the plan. **The methodology utilized to gain input from the public was seriously flawed and needs to be reconsidered, giving much more weight to those that live in the wolf range.** While general public opinion towards wolves is nice to know, it is almost wholly irrelevant if individuals have no direct experiences living amongst them.

For any plan to be successful, the process for conflict resolution must contain measures that will result in an end to the conflict. The plan as drafted contains very little when it comes to active measures to reduce conflicts, such as increased harvest rates. **All legal measures to**

control wolf populations, especially when there are conflicts, must be included in the plan.

For any plan to be successful, the rights of individuals must be protected. Hunters in Wisconsin have a right to hunt with dogs, but the plan seems to incorporate biases against hunting with dogs. This is unacceptable. The rights of landowners are also under threat in the draft management plan. **Developing buffer zones outside of recognized tribal reservation boundaries is a taking of private property rights and an abdication of authority by the state.**

While there are many other concerns that the members of the WBHA have regarding the draft plan, we remain resolute in our efforts to assist the DNR in development of a plan that can garner the support of our organization. **However, unless significant changes are made based on the comments above, the WBHA will not be able to support the plan**.

Additionally, there is now a growing effort by anti-hunting groups to ban hunting with dogs in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. This, if successful, would not only be a violation of Wisconsinites' hunting rights, it would also require the complete reworking of the wolf plan to include much stricter management of the wolf population.

Attached you will find a list of further objections from the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. The WBHA agrees with the WWF on their objections to the wolf plan.

Thanks for your consideration.

Carl Schoettel
President, Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association

Public comment

1. The 60-day public comment period is not an adequate amount of time to gather input considering the timing of the release overlaps with hunting seasons and multiple holidays. WWF asked for a 90-day comment period.

2. Not all residents have email or computer access in their homes. The DNR should provide multiple and widely distributed announcements of opportunities and methods for public input.

3. There is no means for submitting additional supporting information to the DNR for consideration. The WWF requests the DNR provide the public with an email and mailing address to submit comments and information.

4. The WWF strongly requests the DNR hold public hearings across the state and hold more in wolf-affected zones.

Inclusion/exclusion

5. There is no provision for the inclusion of comments from county and local governments. Many county and local governments have taken positions on wolf population goals and must be included in the process.

6. A functional advisory committee with a balanced mix of impacted stakeholders would vastly improve this process.

Public survey methodology

7. The public survey does not adequately represent those impacted by wolves. Use of county and zip codes to select samples does not accurately reflect those exposed to wolves and impacted by wolves. WWF suggests the DNR seek out those impacted by wolves and place greater emphasis on their perspective.

8. Survey design is flawed. Survey length discourages responses from some individuals. Terminology is undefined and could be seen as biased. Some questions lack balance in positive and negative responses, causing an imbalance in responses. All these features of the survey alienate some individuals, causing them to not respond.

Population estimates

9. Approximately 40% of the wolf tracking units are not tracked to the required three-time standard and not all units are tracked.

This lends itself to under-counting and under-reporting wolf population in those wolf tracking units.

10. Lone and dispersing wolves are not counted in the population model, as

is done in western states. Some states add 12% or 15% to their estimates to account for lone and dispersing wolves. WWF urges lone wolves be included in Wisconsin's population estimate.

11. The DNR is not taking full advantage of public reporting of wolf sightings. The online tool for reporting should be better advertised and the DNR should clarify that personal information is protected and not available as public record.

12. GPS collar tracking provides the DNR with useful information on travel patterns and pack locations for counting. Increased use of GPS collars should be considered.

Conflict management

13. The draft plan is passive and lacks active conflict management for depredations of non-agricultural domestic animals, such as dogs and other pets. Increased harvest is not a method identified in the draft plan to reduce such depredations. Include targeted population reduction in areas of heavy depredation of dogs and other non-agricultural domestic animals. This should include all legal methods of harvest for targeted population reductions.

14. The draft plan does not address a numeric conflict reduction goal. WWF requests a goal be set and included in the plan so effectiveness of methods can be measured.

15. The draft plan appears to have biases against hunting with dogs. Hunting with hounds has the same statutory and state constitutional protections as agriculture and should have equal active measures preventing depredations.

16. WWF opposes the plan wording encouraging low road densities in large tracts of public lands, which is another means to prevent hunting, fishing, trapping, and other public land use.

17. WWF opposes wording that implies hunting conflicts are the fault of the hunter. The draft plan needs to address using population management of wolves as a method to reduce hunting conflicts. Hunters have constitutional rights to hunt lands open to them despite wolf presence.

18. There are multiple systems for sending alerts for livestock, hunting dogs, and nonagricultural animals, but the plan is missing human health and safety alerts. Receiving the same notification with a 4-mile radius map is necessary to help prevent potential conflicts for land users, pet owners, and dog hunters around those areas. The DNR should provide equal notifications for equal protections for all land users.

19. Those who have experienced conflicts with wolves may have traumatic experiences and stresses. The psychological impacts on humans caused by livestock and domestic depredations by wolves is real and needs to be considered. The draft plan ignores the psychological impacts wolf conflicts have on humans and this needs to be addressed in the plan.

Zone changes

20. The plan would create buffer zones surrounding reservations, effectively giving the management of the wolf population on public and private lands outside of reservations to the tribes. WWF opposes the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners and public land stakeholders. WWF also opposes giving away state wildlife management authority.

21. The agricultural areas in these newly created buffer zones in the draft plan will go largely unprotected and have inadequate protections for pets and livestock.

Landowners will have unequal treatment under the law for which they are protected under the constitution.

22. The zone restructure is now based on wolf occupancy and not based on suitable habitat. The unmanaged wolf population has forced wolves out of prime suitable habitat into inappropriate areas, creating conflicts. Not all areas are appropriate for wolves. WWF requests the zone structure returns to the original science-based, habitat-based zones.

Goal statement/objectives

23. The plan's goal statement does not address where wolves are appropriate. The draft plan needs to take a hard look into what is good for wolves and what is good for humans. Low interactions between the two are best. Wolves should only reside in high-quality wolf habitat and not be managed to the maximum biological carrying capacity. No other species in Wisconsin is managed to its maximum biological carrying capacity.

24. The draft plan implies the elimination of hunting with dogs, which is constitutionally protected. It also implies wolves have more rights to the land than hunters. This narrative is not science-based and all such implications should be removed.

25. Objective B is missing long-term controls for agricultural conflicts. Wolves are known to move "down the road" and create conflicts with just short-term controls.

26. The goal statement or objectives do not address any form of population control. The official position of the WWF is a population goal of 350 wolves in the state. WWF strongly requests the numeric population goal of 350 wolves be maintained in the final plan.

Numeric population goal

27. The draft plan allows for a subjective process for managing wolves. The population goal was established in the 1999 plan due to lack of confidence in a subjective wolf management strategy. There is no accountability without a numeric population goal.

The only scientific analysis of wolf habitat done to date of Wisconsin landscape quantified the social carrying capacity as 350 wolves. The WWF strongly requests maintaining the numeric population goal of 350 wolves in the final plan.

28. For increased accountability the population goal needs to have a timeline for completion. The goal timeline allows measuring of progress towards meeting the set population goal with milestones along the way. The WWF requests a population goal timeline be added to the plan.

Quotas/permits

29. The western states have 13 years of harvest data in establishing quotas to reach their wolf population goals. WWF recommends including this data in the draft plan to aid in setting quotas.

30. Permit issuing methodology should be based on the likely harvest methods used in the season they will be issued.

31. Western states have been unable to reduce their wolf numbers consistently despite high levels of human harvest. As wolf expert David Mech said, “Wolves are prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new areas where humans will allow them, and are difficult to control when populations become established.”

Delisting

32. For lethal wolf conflict control and population management to take place, federal delisting is required. To date the Wisconsin DNR has had no visible involvement in planning, researching, and federal delisting efforts with the USFWS, or with legal representation in delisting efforts. The WWF strongly requests the DNR have a strong and visible presence, and active involvement in all federal delisting efforts that impact Wisconsin and in support of all other states actively working towards delisting wolves in their states.

Wisconsin County Forests Association

Joe Waichulis
President
Clark County

Phil Schneider
Vice President
Rusk County

Bill Bialecki
Treasurer
Lincoln County

Norman Bickford
Director
Burnett County

Myron Brooks
Director
Taylor County

Ed Kelley
Director
Florence County

Bill Schradle
Director
Barron County

Rick Seefeldt
Director
Marathon County

Hank Novak
Director
Marinette County

Hank Graber
Director
Washburn County

Alan VanRaalte
Director-at-Large
Rhinelander, WI

Michael Luedeke
Director-at-Large
Spooner, WI

Jeff Barkley
Director-at-Large
Madison, WI

Henry Schienebeck
Director-at-Large
Rhinelander, WI

Rebekah Luedtke
Executive Director

February 27, 2023

RE: Comments regarding Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

Please accept these comments from the Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) regarding the draft DNR Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

The Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) represents the forestry interests of the 30 counties in Wisconsin with lands enrolled under Wisconsin's County Forest Law (§28.10 & §28.11). Our member counties collectively manage over 2.4 million acres in Wisconsin, making them the largest public ownership in the State. The counties' partnership with the DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management is critical to the counties' success in providing a wide array of habitat for game and non-game species including the gray wolf.

Specific Comments:

Page iii: County Forest Association. Please change Forest to Forests.

Page ix: Plan Development – This section states 2015 management plan updates were halted in late 2014 due to a change in federal wolf legal status. WCFA has been a Wolf Advisory Committee member since the early 2000's. It is our recollection and opinion that the Committee wished to carry the 2015 plan to completion. However, DNR chose to leave this plan unfinished. If a change in federal protections for gray wolves was the reason for the 2015 plan remaining unfinished, we can only presume the same would hold true for the current plan. The Department has continued with the development of this updated plan even though the gray wolf became federally protected on February 10th, 2022. WCFA recommends the Department acknowledge their decision in halting the 2015 plan update rather than cite a change in federal protections with this responsibility.

Page 24: Identity Groups and Attitudes – "In contrast, negative attitudes towards wolves are more common among those living in wolf range, rural residents, foresters, livestock farmers and hunters." We suggest removal of the group, foresters, in this statement. Should the Department have research or survey information to show foresters hold negative attitudes towards wolves it should be cited as such.

Page 25: Identity Groups and Attitudes – "Though smaller-bodied predators…", "coyotes could serve as a proxy to gauge how urban residents may respond when faced with the impacts of wolf co-existence." Coyotes and wolves serve distinctly different ecological roles on the landscape. Their habitat and prey requirements often differ significantly. Wolves also pose a markedly different threat to human life and safety than coyotes, whether this is based in perception or reality. Unless, the Department decides to adopt coyotes as proxy for co-existence between wolves and urban residents, we recommend removing this section from the plan.

Wisconsin County Forests Association

Page 28: Many times, the plan references increasing "tolerance, support, and understanding", of wolves by the public. While it appears these terms are used interchangeably, we recommend switching the terms tolerance and support to understanding. We believe this brings clarity to the Department's desire of increasing the public's knowledge of wolves through education and outreach while also allowing the public to determine their own tolerance and support for wolves based on their unique individual experiences.

Page 28: "Building partnerships and trust between the various groups interested in the outcomes of wolf recovery will be crucial to ensuring that management of this species reflects the needs and interests of the public and is grounded in science-based decision-making." We believe this to be a core statement of the plan and if adhered to, will guide the Department and Wolf Advisory Committee to desirable outcomes.

Page 99: Implementation of Wolf Management Goal: "The first step specific to harvest recommendations should typically be determining the zone-specific population objectives i.e., given the current conditions in this zone and prevailing scientific knowledge, will increasing, maintaining, or decreasing the wolf population in this zone be most likely to complement efforts to improve or maintain satisfactory overall progress towards plan objectives?" We recommend separating this thought into multiple sentences as it is difficult to read and understand. Please see the follow text for our suggestion. "The first step, specific to harvest recommendations, should be determining the zone-specific population objectives given the current conditions of this zone and prevailing scientific knowledge. Efforts to improve or maintain satisfactory overall progress towards plan objectives may be achieved by increasing, maintaining, or decreasing the wolf population in this zone."

Page 102: Objective D: "fostering public support for wolves through education". We recommend changing the words "support for" to "understanding of". We believe it is important to provide the public with accurate and up to date information through education and outreach, thus increasing their understanding. We also believe it is important that a public agency then allows the public to determine the level of support or tolerance they wish to exercise without pressures from that public agency.

Page 117: "Some level of wolf-related conflict occurrence will be inevitable given that a wolf population of any size continues to exist in Wisconsin. Therefore, it is unrealistic to expect management actions to reduce conflict levels to zero. Instead, benchmarks by which to evaluate the success of this objective include…", "adequate levels of public support towards wolves…". This statement can appear, to those who experience wolf conflict, disingenuous in its attempt to reduce actual conflict. Increasing support for wolves in and of itself does not reduce conflict. Social science studies have shown that general support for wolves is most likely to occur in people who do not live in wolf range and have not interacted with wolves. It is our recommendation to remove this benchmark in the evaluation of reducing wolf-related conflict.

Page 127: "Further, there are people in the state and beyond who will likely never directly interact with the wolf population, yet may engender a sense of satisfaction, and thereby drawing a benefit, by simply knowing a wolf population exists in the state." This plan states the area of bequest value to be relatively understudied. We recognize the bequest value of wolves in Wisconsin and their spiritual and cultural significance to both tribal and non-tribal individuals. For this reason, we recommend the Department highlight this area for future research as applied directly to wolves in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin County Forests Association

Page 140: “Benchmarks by which to evaluate success towards this objective include, but are not limited to…”, “fostering public support for wolves…” As stated previously in our comments, we recommend replacing the word support with understanding. While support may occur through public education, we believe it is important to allow individuals to develop their own opinions through their life experiences and information consumed.

We are happy to discuss any of our comments and thank you for the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

Sincerely,



Rebekah Luedtke
Executive Director
Wisconsin County Forests Association

Wisconsin Animal Protection Society
P.O. Box 210603
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

Public Comments for the draft Wisconsin DNR 2022 Wolf Management Plan
(February 16, 2023)

The Wisconsin Animal Protection Society (WISAPS) appreciates the opportunity to submit public comments regarding the draft Wisconsin DNR 2022 Wolf Management Plan. We will use the format offered by the DNR, on its website, noting our "likes" and "dislikes," and highlighting portions, (in bold).

Thank you for spending the considerable time and effort required to create such a thorough and comprehensive plan! As the Humane Society of the United States suggests, in their comments, we feel that the plan should include a provision that it be **updated at least every five to ten years.**

Initially, we must point out that **WISAPS opposes the intentional killing of wildlife by humans**. Applying the terminology referenced in the plan, our "wildlife value orientation" would be that of "mutualism." As mutualists, we believe that "humans have a moral obligation to treat wild animals with respect," and that "wildlife and humans are part of one community." (Plan, page 25).

We wish that the plan would be **ethics-driven**, in addition to its being "science-driven," and that the DNR would recommend that state law be changed so that it does not require a wolf hunting season when gray wolves are de-listed from the Endangered Species Act. Population control is no more a justification for killing wolves than it would be for killing humans. Needless to say, we are concerned with the DNR's use of the word, "harvest," for killing wolves. Referring to the killing of wild animals as a "harvest" has become a popular way to disguise or soften the appearance of the act of killing an animal.

WISAPS encourages the DNR's exploration of **additional funding options**, as the plan suggests, in Product B4d, "to prevent the need to prorate wolf damage claims." Additionally, the DNR should explore the request for **donations from conservationists who oppose hunting and trapping.** This could be similar to the sale of the Endangered Resources license plate. Alternative funding options would lessen the reliance upon funding from the sale of wolf hunting licenses and permits.

While we appreciate the plan's reference to the pursuit of administrative rules to limit the time period within which dogs may be trained for wolf hunting activities - by designating a season - we wish the department would pursue regulations or rules ***prohibiting*** **the use of dogs to hunt wolves**. (Product C2h, p.127).

With regard to **livestock depredation**, the **Minnesota Wolf Management Plan**

2023-2032, refers to **insurance**, stating: “Alternative approaches to mitigate livestock depredation, such as insurance and cooperative damage management programs, exist and should be considered among the suite of tools to incentivize coexistence of livestock agricultural practices and wolves, and to equitably distribute the costs of this coexistence.” (*See*, Minnesota Wolf Management Plan 2023-2032, p. 27). The DNR may want to explore insurance options and requirements, if it has not already done so, in order to reduce the government’s depredation expenditures.

(Note: Pages 129 and 136 of the plan are both misnumbered as 140).

Likes and Dislikes.

Like

● The plan’s attention to **long-term stewardship and sustainable management** of wolves in the state. (Executive Summary, p. iv).

●Section 1: Gray Wolf Biology, Ecology and Population Dynamics. (Begins on p.1).

●Section 2. Human Dimensions and Cultural Significance. (Begins on p.22).

●Historical Overview of Wolves in Wisconsin. (Begins on p.45).

● “**Building partnerships and trust** between the various groups interested in the outcomes of Wolf recovery will be crucial to ensuring that management of this species reflects the needs and interests of the public and is grounded in science based decision-making.” (p.28).

●“Population management objectives have been developed by the department, based upon.....along with **input from Wolf stakeholder committees and consultations with tribal partners.**” (p.69).

● “The primary **non-lethal abatement methods** implemented at conflict sites, particularly livestock depredation sites, include visual and auditory harassment tools, predator-proof and electric fencing, and alteration of animal husbandry practices (Figure 24). Visual and auditory harassment tools include Fox Lights, scare radios, turbo fladry, and Radio Activated Guard Boxes (RAG Boxes). Predator proof fencing is woven wire fencing that is 75” tall with a 42” horizontal apron and electric fencing (scare wire) is typically a single strand electrified wire approximately 8” off the ground below the bottom strand of an existing barbed-wire fence but may include other configurations. Alteration of animal husbandry practices is implemented by the livestock producer and may include moving livestock to a different pasture, night penning livestock, proper livestock carcass disposal, increasing vigilance, and/or the use of guard dogs.” (p.77).

● “In determining a conflict management strategy, preference is typically given to **non-lethal methods** when they are deemed practical and effective.” (p.84).

● ”In addition to onsite conflict management, the department’s Wolf conflict program also focuses on **proactive public education efforts designed to promote coexistence with wolves and prevention of negative interactions**.....The department and USDA WS have also worked with farming and ranching organizations to host training sessions designed to discuss animal husbandry practices, fencing, carcass management, and agency implemented non-lethal wolf conflict deterrents.” (p.85).

●”An **alternative to numeric population goals** is to prioritize management actions in response to existing conditions as observed in the field and scientific data. This approach strives to find an effective balance between potentially competing objectives associated with wolf management i.e., facilitating wolf-related benefits while minimizing wolf-related conflicts.” (p.97).

●Goal Statement. “The goal of this Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan is to effectively balance the tradeoffs between the following key objectives: • Ensure a **healthy and sustainable wolf population** to fulfill its ecological role (Objective A) • Address and reduce wolf-related conflict (Objective B) • Provide multiple benefits associated with the wolf population (Objective C) In support of these primary objectives, the plan also strives to:
• Increase public understanding of wolves in Wisconsin (Objective D)
• Conduct scientific research to inform wolf management and stewardship (Objective E)
• Provide leadership in collaborative and science-based wolf management in Wisconsin (Objective F).” (pp. iv, 98).

●Implementation of Wolf Management Plan Goal. “To effectively implement the plan goal, the use of a formal yet adaptable approach to evaluating objectives and guiding decision-making is recommended. This process should be **values-based**, **informed by science,** and include routine evaluation aimed at measuring progress towards management plan objectives (Figure 33). This plan recommends **engaging the department’s Wolf Advisory Committee in the process to annually assist** in reviewing data, metrics and trends related to existing conditions on the ground in each wolf management zone. It is recommended to evaluate conditions in each zone against each plan objective based upon the information contained in the objective’s definitions and guided by zone-specific priorities.” (p.99).

●Product B1d: “Continue to evaluate chronic conflict sites to determine the suitability of **permanent fences** as long-term solutions for preventing conflicts. Chronic conflict sites are defined as those farms which have had verified wolf depredation in two or more years in the past five-year period. Addressing depredation on chronic farms is recommended to remain a priority, including evaluation of permanent fences as

long-term solutions when feasible." (p.117).

●Product B4d: "**Explore additional funding options** to prevent the need to prorate wolf damage claims. If approved depredation claims exceed the funds available in a given year, claims must be paid on a prorated basis per state law. Although this scenario has not occurred to date, it remains a possibility, particularly in years without the sale of wolf harvesting licenses or preference points. Therefore, the plan recommends that the department explore additional funding options to attempt to minimize the likelihood of this scenario." (p.120).

●Product C1d: Continue to **exclude 'reservation wolves' from harvest** consideration when developing wolf harvest quotas. (p.124).

●Strategy C3. **Non-consumptive** recreation and tourism. (p.127).

●Product D2b. **Wolf ecology courses.** (pp.130, 131).

●Product E3c.To **reduce hunting dog deprivations** by wolves. (p.134).

●Objective F: "Provide Leadership in **Collaborative and Science-Based Wolf Management in Wisconsin**. ..... This should include ample opportunities for public input and engagement, engagement and consultations with tribal nations, and collaboration with other government and university partners." (pp. viii, 136; misnumbered in plan as p.140).

●Strategy F1: **"Utilize the department's Wolf Advisory Committee to assist in implementing the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.**" (p.136; misnumbered in plan as p.140; emphasis in original).

●Product F1a: **"Establish and maintain a department Wolf Advisory Committee that is inclusive of the views of all stakeholders, tribes and partners."** (Begins on p.136; misnumbered in plan as p.140; emphasis in original).

● "Stakeholder Group Definitions:....Wolf Advocacy/Education Organizations: Organizations whose mission includes ensuring the **humane/ethical treatment of wildlife** in Wisconsin, specifically promoting the continued use and advancement of educational tools to increase the public's understanding of wolves and fostering wolf-related coexistence." (p.137).

●Product F1b: **"Ensure communication with and among the department's Wolf Advisory Committee is timely and sufficient to support representative input and effective wolf management decision-making processes."** (Begins on p.137; emphasis in original).

●Product F1c: **"Convene the department's Wolf Advisory Committee at least annually and regardless of listing status."** (p.138; emphasis in original).

●Strategy F2. Support **science-based wildlife management**.. (p.138).

●Product F2d: "Continue fostering **alliances with conservation organizations**." (pp.138,139).

Dislike

●Objective C: " .....providing sustainable **harvest opportunity** via a regulated wolf season (within department authority)...." (p.123).

●Strategy C1: "Provide a well-regulated **wolf harvest season** consistent with public preferences and management plan objectives." (p.123).

●Product C1a: "**Utilize public harvest** to help manage wolf populations consistent with zone-specific objectives." (Begins on p.123).

●Product C1b: "Continue to support the Wisconsin Cooperative **Trapper** Education Program. The Wisconsin Cooperative Trapper Education Program (WCTEP) is jointly administered by the Wisconsin Trapper's Association and the department to provide quality trapper education to individuals wishing to pursue trapping or learn more about the activity." (p.124).

●The inclusion of the Wisconsin Trappers Association in the list of *conservation* organizations, contained in Product F2d, along with the Timber Wolf Alliance (TWA), Timber Wolf Information Network (TWIN), and the International Wolf Center (IWC). (pp.138,139).

We would like to note that **trapping is an inherently violent practice**. Traps that are used, including body-gripping traps, are inhumane devices that inflict great pain and suffering. The traps are designed to crush animals in a vice like grip. (*See*, Fur Free Alliance website). In a letter to Congress, (in 2016), Dr. Collin Wolff, a **board-certified veterinary surgeon**, wrote: "The undeniable truth is these bone-crushing devices are inherently indiscriminate and inhumane." Each year over 5 million wild animals are caught and killed in wild traps, mainly in the U.S.,Canada and Russia. (Fur Free Alliance).

●"Product F2e: "Apply for CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) authority." (p.139).

Thank you for considering our comments. We look forward to any opportunity to work with the Wolf Advisory Committee, in the future, as a stakeholder. The Wisconsin

Animal Protection Society is a Wisconsin, non-stock corporation. For more information please see our website at: wisaps.org.

Sincerely,

Mark Silverman
President
Wisconsin Animal Protection Society

February 27, 2023

VIA EMAIL ONLY TO DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov
Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: **Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association Comments on Proposed Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan**

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing on behalf of the Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association (WCA) to provide our comments and concerns on the Department of Natural Resources' (Department's) Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan (the "Plan").

The WCA is the state trade association representing Wisconsin's beef producers. Our mission statement is, "To promote the Wisconsin beef business through advocacy, leadership, and education." We are deeply concerned about the proposed Plan and its potential to exacerbate the increasing numbers of conflicts between wolves and livestock in our state and perpetuate flawed abatement techniques that are preventing farmers from adequately addressing and managing problem wolves in Wisconsin at great personal economic and psychological expense.

WCA Urges DNR to Only Encourage Wolf Populations in Areas of Wolf Habitat. Wisconsin is home to some prime wolf habitat. However, not all land in Wisconsin is suitable or appropriate for wolves. We support the management of wolves in high quality wolf habitat areas, but we oppose the concept of simply managing the wolf population to the highest number of animals that the State can support on any landscape. No other species in Wisconsin under the Department's management is managed in this way. This is detrimental to both wolves and to our farmers who are also using agricultural lands to support livestock grazing in open areas and on agricultural lands.

WCA Supports a Wolf Population Goal of 350 Wolves. Wisconsin has far exceeded its goal for a sustainable and recovered wolf population. As a result, we are seeing devasting effects on Wisconsin farmers. When the DNR analyzed what a sustainable wolf population would be for Wisconsin, they wrote in Wisconsin's 1999 Wolf Management Plan that they sought a population recovery goal of **350** animals.[1] We are perplexed as to why the Department has not included a numeric wolf population goal in this Plan. Is the Department's plan to manage this species or to just create an environment in which it cannot be managed? How is an unlimited number of wolves in Wisconsin a management goal? We strongly urge the Department to set a numerical standard that is based on science and habitat that the State can support and manage the wolf population according to that goal. We believe 350 wolves is an adequate goal.

[1] Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, October 27, 1999 (https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/ER/ER0099.pdf).

WCA Opposes the Proposed Buffer Zone. The Plan creates new buffer zones surrounding tribal lands. There is agricultural land within these buffer zones that will become even more vulnerable to wolf depredations if these buffer zones are created. This is private land that should and must be afforded the same protections under the law as other private lands under this Plan. This is unnecessary and will only harm Wisconsin livestock farmers further.

Conflicts with Livestock are Growing - Wolf Depredations are Costly - Wisconsin Farmers Need Improved Conflict Management Tools. Wisconsin farmers need an effective way to protect their livestock from depredating wolves and an effective mechanism to manage the population. The Plan correctly acknowledges that as the wolf population has grown in Wisconsin, so have livestock conflicts. We also appreciate that the Plan recognizes that, "Even though the total number of farms and livestock involved in wolf depredation and harassment incidents across Wisconsin are numerically low, the costs to individual livestock producers can be high, particularly in areas of chronic depredation activity. Direct losses of livestock due to depredation are conspicuous and economically significant; however, in some cases this metric underestimates the total economic impact because it does not consider the non-depredation impacts. Shelton (2004) suggested that the value of depredated livestock from predators is the "tip of the iceberg" concerning the actual costs that predators can impose on afflicted livestock producers." Pg. 74.

Not only do acts of depredation increase stress to farmers and their families, in some cases triggering severe mental health concerns. But they also consume valuable time and negatively impact a farmer's bottom line. Depredations are quantifiable and measurable factors that can be charted and accurately determined. Wolf damage also includes unquantifiable factors that cattle and other livestock experience from stress due to increased predatory pressures such as loss of pregnancy; reduced pregnancy rates; decreased rate-of-gain; changes in calving/birthing procedures due to the unsafe nature of leaving pregnant livestock to give birth in pastures; increased mowing of tall grasses around pastures; upgrading fencing and other wolf deterrent practices. All of these factors are costly. They can be difficult to measure but are directly related to the increase in the wolf population and interactions wolves are having with livestock in Wisconsin.

However, the Plan's acknowledgement of the direct and indirect impacts to livestock producers in Wisconsin does not help us address or manage wolf-livestock conflicts. The documented non-lethal management tools are not effective in the long term. Wolves may be temporarily deterred by noises or visual stimuli, but they will simply move onto the next farm and come back later. And, while we understand that we are limited to non-lethal management tools while the wolf remains on the Endangered Species List, we respectfully request the Department's immediate assistance and zealous advocacy to appeal to Congress to provide us with some additional relief and conflict management options for Wisconsin farmers.

WCA Asks the Department and the State of Wisconsin to Aggressively Support Federal Delisting of Gray Wolves in Wisconsin. Under the umbrella of the federal Endangered Species Act, the gray wolf's federal status has undergone extensive changes over the last 20 years. This is not due to the biological or scientific evidence that population numbers have met and exceeded their recovery goals, but rather is due to flaws in the Act that make these decisions prone to politics and legal battles based on procedural technicalities. While the recovery status of the gray wolf in the Western Great Lakes region is repeatedly fought over in courtrooms, Wisconsin farmers are left with no effective way to protect their livestock from depredating wolves and no effective mechanism to manage the population. This should be as unacceptable to the Department and the State of Wisconsin as it is to the farmers who face these challenges on a daily basis. It is time for the Department to advocate for a solution that is workable in our State. We urge you to support delisting of the gray wolf and return management of this species to the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time and attention to these comments and concerns.

Sincerely,

Brady Zuck, President
Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association

https://wisconsinchapterofthewildlifesociety.wildapricot.org/

WCTWS.Secretary@gmail.com

Position Statement on:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Draft Wolf Management Plan

By the
Wolf Issues Committee
Of the
Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society (WCTWS)

To:
Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist

WI DNR, 107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501

Dear Mr. Johnson and the WDNR Wolf Plan Team:

Congratulations on the tremendous achievement by you and your team in developing the draft wolf management plan. The Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society (WCTWS) appreciates the great effort in incorporating the latest science while paying careful attention to stakeholder concerns, cultural issues, and the public's attitudes toward wolves in Wisconsin obtained using the latest comprehensive attitude survey. The Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management plan (dated 11/09/2022) aligns closely with the guidelines set by The Wildlife Society Issue Statement on "*Wolf Restoration and Management in the Contiguous United States*" (TWS 2017).

The Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society is made up of 383 wildlife professionals across all career stages (i.e., from students to retired members) working for Tribal, State and Federal agencies, local governments, colleges and universities, and within the private sector in Wisconsin. Together, our membership contains years of experience in supporting sound science in wildlife conservation and management. We offer the following comments in support of and offer recommendations to help strengthen the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

WCTWS supports these elements of the Draft Wolf Management Plan:

- **Removing numeric goals** from the plan is appropriate given current wolf distributions and population numbers. This would create consistency with population objectives also used for deer, bear, wild turkey, and ruffed grouse management. We are pleased to see the Department move away from a population goal of 350 wolves, which is no longer consistent with estimates of potential carrying capacity or public attitudes toward wolves.
- **Redrawing wolf zones across Wisconsin** and the creation of **buffer zones around tribal reservations** will improve management effectiveness and help maintain viable wolf packs on Tribal Reservations and Lands.
- The plan appropriately includes a **rigorous focus on wolf population monitoring,** including using **occupancy modeling** to estimate wolf numbers.
- The plan stresses use of a **science-based management approach** for wolf conservation in an adaptive management framework.
- The plan continues to include **mandatory harvest registration** and **require in-person verification.**
- The plan strongly supports **continued education and outreach efforts.**

WCTWS recommends the following additions and modifications to strengthen the Draft Wolf Management Plan:

- **Core wolf areas in western Lincoln County were added to Zone 3 in transitional wolf range, but should be included to Zone 1,** where there is greater emphasis on ecological fulfillment.
- More **specific metrics of how wolf populations will be managed to achieve goals for each zone should be in the plan,** including average pack size, wolf density, pack turn-over and persistence, dispersal among zones, disease spread, and livestock and pet depredations. Metrics should be quantifiable and be monitored to measure success.
- **The plan needs to include a process to carefully balance numbers of permits issued for legal harvest to assure quotas can be met in a reasonable time period**. The plan should acknowledge trade-offs between satisfaction for a small number of hunters and trappers over a long season versus providing opportunity for many hunters and trappers over a shorter season. Long seasons risk disruption of snow track surveys needed to adequately survey the wolf population and could disrupt wolf breeding activity. Completing seasons by early December would limit disruption of surveys needed to assess the wolf population.
- The plan should **limit the training of dogs on wolves only during periods when wolf hunting or trapping is open in a specific zone.**
- The plan should **include a timeline for implementation.**

- The plan should **include a budget for plan implementation.**
- There should be a **periodic public attitude follow-up survey in the plan**.

Again, thank you for your extensive work on developing the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, and thank you for giving the Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society an opportunity to comment. Good luck moving forward with this new plan in guiding wolf conservation in Wisconsin over the coming decades.

Sincerely yours,

Ken Pemble,

President WCTWS

CC: Randy Jurewicz, Chair,

Wolf Committee, WCTWS.

Position of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress concerning the current Draft Wolf Management Plan January 13, 2023

Without a new Wolf Management Plan, federal law will not allow us to self-manage the state's robust, newly recovered, still growing wolf population. No meaningful controls will be put in place in Wisconsin until a plan is in place, and wolves are again delisted. Over the preceding years, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and the public which they represent have been frustrated by work stoppages and delays in the preparation of the plan. The final plan is long overdue and has been overdue for many years.

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress opposes the Draft Wolf Management Plan as posted for the following reasons:

Wolf population levels should be monitored, and management prescriptions should be designed to maintain a stated population ceiling. The draft plan proposes to manage wolves based upon measurable criteria reflecting important biological and social factors; a system which has become popular with wildlife managers in and outside of Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Conservation Congress believes that it is important that we track population levels, and that we apply appropriate controls before the anticipated biological and social factors become unmanageable. The committee opposes the reactive management of wolves which is proposed by the draft plan. (The Congress' historic position is that the population ceiling should be 350 wolves.)

The concerns of people living within wolf range must be considered separately and with greater concern than the more idealistic concerns of their metropolitan counterparts. Whether the restored species is tigers in Nepal, elephants in Africa, or wolves in Wisconsin, the burden of restoration is born by the local rural residents, not by the distant folks in Madison, Milwaukee or Waukesha. Wisconsin can do better than that. This plan spends a lot of ink rationalizing support from wolf zone residents and itemizing the benefits already provided to them to offset wolf conflicts. Measurable, documentable thresholds must be established which trigger control actions. Local rural residents must be intimately involved in establishing and monitoring those thresholds.

Areas which are not identified by the current plan as wolf range should not be classified by this plan as primary or secondary wolf habitat, even if those areas are now occupied by wolves.

Wisconsin Conservation Voters

February 28, 2023

Randy Johnson
Large Carnivore Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501

Re: Wisconsin Conservation Voters Comments and Recommendations on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022

Dear Randy Johnson and DNR Wolf Plan Team,

Wisconsin Conservation Voters work with our network of over 40,000 members and supporters to engage voters to protect our environment. We appreciate the tremendous work that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' staff underwent to engage stakeholders and the public in developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan.

In general, Wisconsin Conservation Voters generally approves of the Draft Wolf Management Plan, and offers only a few limited comments or recommendations for change. In particular, strongly support these elements of the draft plan, and offer these additional comments/suggestions:

Non-Numeric Population Goal: WCV strongly supports the move away from a specific population goal and towards outcomes-based/adaptive management. This move will allow the DNR flexibility to reach multiple goals and to address the needs of multiple stakeholders. We wonder if the addition of a minimum population goal might strengthen the ability of the plan to meet multiple goals.

Science-based management: WCV encourages the strong commitment to science-based management and the plan to continue a research agenda that aligns with the plan's management goals.

Social Science Research: WCV is particularly pleased that the DNR responded to recommendations of the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan Advisory Committee to conduct more social science research on attitudes towards wolves in Wisconsin. The current draft management plan seems well-aligned with the 2022 study of current attitudes towards wolves, which notably reflect both continued support for the presence of wolves on the landscape, the desire to move beyond the 350-wolf goal of the 1999 plan, and conditional support for wolf hunting and lethal control of wolves as needed.

Include Education/Awareness in Objective C: A healthy wolf population can also be an opportunity for education in many settings – in formal settings and in the k-12 curricula, and also in

the field and at events around the state. A greater level of education and awareness about the benefits of a healthy wolf population, and of the implications of human-wolf interactions, might be added to the "multiple benefits associated with the wolf population." Education certainly qualifies as a "non-consumptive opportunity." This is addressed elsewhere in the management plan, but adding an education component to Objective C will provide added emphasis for this goal. This would elevate the importance of education and awareness by tying it more concretely to a primary objective of the plan.

Tribal/Citizen/Stakeholder Involvement: WCV is pleased with the emphasis on continued recognition of tribal sovereignty and the recognition of the need for continued collaborative leadership on wolf management, as well as the role of citizen involvement in wolf management in the form of a Wolf Advisory Committee. In addition to the groups designated for inclusion on the Wolf Advisory Committee (on p. 137 of the draft report), we also recommend the inclusion of Wildlife/Conservation Science organizations: Organizations whose mission includes protecting wildlife and habitat through science-based management and ensuring that this is done in a way that is responsive to the general ecological and economic health of Wisconsin's communities.

In addition to the above points, WCV supports the recommendations made by Wisconsin Green Fire to further strengthen the draft report in these ways:

Length of Season: We support adequate issuing of licenses to avoid long extended hunting and trapping seasons. The plan discusses concern about "accelerated zone closures (p. 125)," concern about "low hunter/trapper satisfaction resulting from very short season lengths (p. 126)," and maximizing "hunter/trapper opportunity and satisfaction (p. 126)" through numbers of licenses issued for each zone. There is a tradeoff between allowing a few hunter/trappers to hunt over a long period of time or allowing many to hunt and trap over a short period. A shorter period would give more hunters/trappers the opportunity to participate in the harvest. Long harvest season can be disruptive to snow-track surveys that are done for population monitoring from December through March. Bobcat hunting activities in December and January are already disruptive for trackers. Also, the longer hunting/trapping seasons are likely to be disruptive to wolf pack territory maintenance and breeding activity, especially if these extend into late January and February. We feel that numbers of permits should be adequate so that most zones can be closed by early December to minimize disruption of winter track surveys and disruption of normal pack activity and breeding season.

Dog Training: We commend the Department in attempting to develop a regular training period for dogs used to hunt wolves but have concerns about the administrative rules being proposed (p. 127). **We do not support allowing training of dogs on wolves throughout the state as long as any harvest zone is open.** Running dogs after wolves throughout the winter and into the wolf breeding season of late January and February is likely to be disruptive to trackers attempting to survey wolves over winter, and disruptive to wolf pack territory maintenance and breeding activity. We agree that any dog training should begin on the first Monday following Thanksgiving but should be closed when the specific zone is closed to hunting and trapping.

Statutory Considerations: We strongly recommend the WDNR and NRB request statutory changes in the Wisconsin wolf hunting regulations under 2011 ACT169. These regulations limit the Department's ability to fully use an adaptive management approach for managing the state wolf population. This ACT169 has created major opposition to state and tribal wolf management, making it difficult to federally delist and keep gray wolves off the Federal Endangered Species Act. We recommend the statutory changes authorize WDNR, with extensive public input, to determine

when, where, and the methods of take for harvesting wolves, along with setting quotas, harvest zones, and determining numbers of permits. WDNR should obtain authority to determine if and where wolf harvest occur in the state. Improving authority for WDNR will likely improve the ability to keep wolves off the Federal Endangered Species list and maintain state and tribal management of Wisconsin's gray wolf population.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the draft Wolf Management Plan. We appreciate your service.

Jim Feldman
Wisconsin Conservation Voices Board Member (WI Conservation Voices is the 501c3 sister organization to Wisconsin Conservation Voters)
Representative to Wisconsin Wolf Plan Advisory Committee

Jennifer Giegerich
Government Affairs Director
Alternative Representative to Wisconsin Wolf Plan Advisory Committee

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For more information, contact Jennifer Giegerich at [redacted] *or* [redacted]*. Visit Wisconsin Conservation Voters at www.conservationvoters.org.*

February 27th, 2023

VIA EMAIL ONLY TO Randy.Johnson@Wisconsin.gov
Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Comments on Proposed Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

Dear Mr. Johson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Wisconsin's Wolf Management Draft Plan. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (WFBF) is the state's largest general agriculture organization with over 47,000 members. WFBF represents farms of different sizes, commodities and management styles. WFBF appreciates the department's outreach during the drafting of the plan and the ability to take part in the Wolf Management Plan Committee.

WFBF supports many of the goals and objectives in the Wolf Management Draft Plan. WFBF supports the ongoing efforts of the department to maintain a healthy wolf population. WFBF supports a healthy population of 350 wolves. The 1999 plan established a state-delisting goal of 250 wolves and a management goal of 350 wolves. WFBF supports returning to 1999 management goal for a healthy wolf population. This could be achieved by strong harvest quotas over a number of years.

WFBF supports the reconvening of the Wolf Advisory Committee biannually regardless of listing status. Updating participants with reports by the department on population monitoring, harvest, conflict and other pertinent data would help outreach efforts and relationship building between stakeholders and the department. The soliciting of feedback from a broad spectrum of stakeholders would provide balanced opinions to the department to help inform management decisions moving forward. Without a more balanced plan, it will be difficult for members of the committee to provide objective feedback to the department.

In addition, WFBF supports the continuation of the wolf damage compensation program with strong support for objectives B2a and the related products with strong emphasis on B4b and B4d. The wolf damage compensation program is an essential policy that must continue compensating producers for damages resulting from wolf depredation. Wolf damage is often significant to individual producers in more than financial ways. The loss of livestock and pets can be emotional and taxing. With the success of the wolf recovery program comes the responsibility to protect local residents from an unreasonable level of livestock losses caused by wolves.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau has concerns associated with the draft version of the Wolf Management Plan. Our principal concern, and one we advocated for as a member of the Wolf Management Plan Committee, is the lack of a numeric population goal. The current plan has a numeric population goal of 350 wolves. The draft plan instead favors an adaptive management approach in which a set of ambiguous objectives are set. The lack of a set numeric goal makes setting consistent zone harvest

quotas virtually impossible as these objectives are broadly stated and easily redefined by the department.

Additionally, WFBF takes issue with the expansion of Zone 4 into Marathon County and central parts of the state previously designated as inappropriate habitat for wolves. This area of the state is now designated as secondary range for wolves, greatly expanding suitable habitat for wolves in the state and putting additional farms at risk of depredation. There is no scientific reason behind the zone change and was made simply because wolves had inhabited the area. In fact, the human population has increased in the area raising the chances of wolf/human interactions. This is in direct conflict of the draft plan's Objective B, to reduce wolf-related conflict.

The plan includes the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations, effectively ceding management of the wolf population on both public and private lands to tribal governments. We oppose the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners and public land stakeholders. We also oppose giving away wildlife management authority. (Pg 106)

The department excludes 'reservation wolves' from harvest consideration when developing wolf harvest quotas. Creation of subzones around tribal lands increases the wolves DNR can exclude from population estimates. "Reservation wolves" should be included in the overwinter population count so the public has as accurate of a wolf population as possible. (C1d)

Additionally, WFBF has concerns relating to:

- **Vague benchmarks to evaluate the success of reducing wolf-related conflicts. (Objective B)**
    - The draft plan only mentions "benchmarks" by which wolf-related conflicts would be measured but no specifics how what would define success. Minimizing conflicts should be the goal of the plan with specifics benchmarks to measure success moving forward.

- **Lack of long-term solutions for preventing wolf depredation beyond permanent fencing. (Objective B1d)**
    - Permanent fencing is not a solution applicable to many farms facing chronic conflict. Farms facing chronic wolf/livestock conflict are facing large monetary losses and installing permanent fencing is not a viable solution. Instead, the department should increase lethal control methods and harvest quotas in zones with farmers experiencing chronic conflict.

- **Expansion of DNR authority into animal husbandry practices. (Objective B1e/B1h)**
    - The department suggests alteration of animal husbandry practices that may not be conducive to the producer's agricultural interest. WFBF opposes DNR's expansion into animal husbandry practices and would suggest the department broaden the array of abatement options instead. The inclusion of recommended animal husbandry practices assumes farmers are not already utilizing best management practices on their herds. The inclusion of maintaining healthy, well-fed animals and conducting calving/lambing activities near a barnyard is standard animal husbandry. The suggestion to alter this practice shows a lack of understanding of livestock animal husbandry.

- **Development of wolf-related tourism. (C3a)**
    - The department cites the tourism value provided by wolves in Yellowstone National Park. Wisconsin does not have a national park conducive to wolf-related tourism and a majority of wolf habitat is privately owned property. Therefore, this goal is misguided and could increase trespassing on agricultural lands. WFBF requests the elimination of this goal as it is beyond the scope of a management plan. If tourism is generated by wolf activity, it should be market-driven and not an objective of the department. In fact, the hunting of Wisconsin game animals dwarfs any wolf tourism that would be generated and wolf expansion could harm Wisconsin's reputation as a sportsman's paradise. This objective was not a consideration of the Wolf Management Plan Committee and was only mentioned as an option to study for future consideration. Its inclusion in the draft management plan is inappropriate and premature.

- **The continued use of the 2022 opinion survey (Bradshaw et al., 2022) to advocate for wolf expansion.**
    - The survey was not intended to influence wolf management plan implementation but simply as a public opinion survey. The department's use of the survey to justify wolf expansion and protection is inappropriate. The survey identified mistrust of the department by residents within wolf habitat and hunters/trappers, finding many that fit into either category felt their opinions would be ignored. The Wolf Management Draft Plan continues to disregard the opinions of these residents and will only lead to additional mistrust of the department. Without the support of hunters, trappers and rural residents, confidence in the department's management decisions will continue to erode.

In conclusion, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation opposes the Wolf Management Draft Plan. Wisconsin farmers support the inclusion of wolves on the landscape and their role in the state's biological ecosystem but wolf management cannot be left to vague management goals without clear definitions for success. This plan will continue to disintegrate trust in the department and waste an opportunity to find agreement among a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

The department should implement an extensive public outreach campaign that includes multiple in-person public hearings located in primary wolf habitat. Wisconsin farmers and rural residents who live with the results of DNR wolf management decisions deserve a management plan that takes their opinions into consideration.

Thank you.

Tyler Wenzlaff
Director of National Affairs
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

February 27, 2023

Randy Johnson
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501
715-499-0010
Randy.Johnson@Wisconsin.gov

Re: Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Wildlife Management

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I am writing on behalf of the Wisconsin Farmers Union (WFU) to comment on the proposed "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022" from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Wildlife Management. The Wisconsin Farmers Union does not support the listing of gray wolves under the Endangered Species Act. Policy set by our grassroots membership of farmers and rural Wisconsinites supports the management of gray wolves by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Just as advances have been made in agricultural sciences and livestock management over the last 50 years, humans' understanding of the ecological role and value of many wild species has grown and we appreciate the opportunity to adjust policies and management plans based on information and experience.

Wisconsin Farmers Union supports the full implementation of the DNR's wolf management plan, with the following changes to the current draft to represent the perspective of smaller livestock operators/ farmers.

I. Wolf-Related Conflicts- Wolf/ Livestock Conflict

The percentage of reported conflicts that are subsequently verified to be wolf-related conflicts range from roughly 35-66%. This indicates an area in which public education, both in general and with targeted information to farmers, ranchers, and hunters, could result in a more informed public. Education on how to more accurately identify wolf-related conflict could result in lower costs to the DNR and USDA Wildlife Services in responding to and investigating conflicts.

We recommend future research to guide the specific populations and geographic areas to be targeted by outreach and educational efforts.

II. Non-Depredation Impacts on Livestock

As described in the draft plan, in addition to direct losses of livestock through depredation, the presence of wolves can have a variety of other impacts on cattle/livestock. While wolves very rarely spread disease directly, their presence can cause stress in cattle/livestock which can result in weakened immune responses. As listed, stress can also reduce productivity and cause weight loss, lessening the value in affected livestock. Cattle may be nervous or aggressive after a wolf presence, and re-grouping cattle in cases where they escape pastures can be time-consuming. Loss of fencing and damage to row crops have also been reported.

These non-depredation burdens currently fall on the farmer's shoulders. In an industry with frequently tight profit margins, this impacts the economic viability of farms and reduces economic returns to farms in highly-affected areas.

Wisconsin Farmers Union proposes farm impacts, both depredation and non-depredation conflicts, be more fully analyzed, and at minimum give the ability for non-depredation impacts to be reported for compensation when appropriate.

III. Impacts on Grazing

Other non-depredation impacts are to grazing operations. At times, farmers may be forced to abandon the use of a field or pasture used for grazing due to higher risk from wolves. In many cases farmers are told to move their livestock closer to the barn, in some cases this option is difficult due to limited pasture and a system that is not intended to bring livestock in from alternating pastures every night. In some cases, these actions could endanger operations' Grassmilk and/or Organic certifications.

Those of us who promote rotational grazing and reliance on perennial crops for pasturing livestock are losing ground on the promotion of this husbandry when wolves are involved. We recommend future study around the impacts of wolf management practices on dairy versus beef cattle, as research has shown different impacts on these groups.

IV. Abatement Options

There are tools available to reduce predation on livestock. While some managers are willing to incorporate those into their plans, others may believe they are too expensive or too time-consuming to do so.

Knowledge of various deterrence methods (dogs, fladry, lights, noise, etc.), including costs and effectiveness, needs to be disseminated among livestock managers. Increased awareness and understanding may be sufficient for some managers to implement changes, but for others cost-sharing programs may be deemed necessary, as farmers are already operating under increasingly tight profit margins, especially in this era of high input costs and rising inflation.

Reducing depredation by utilization of more effective deterrence methods could free state and federal monies to be used for other management activities. Perhaps collaborations with various agencies and organizations could be developed to support breeding programs for livestock guardian dog breeds that are more effective at reducing depredations from wolves than the breeds currently available in Wisconsin, the Western Great Lakes Region and other areas supporting wolf populations in the US. Developing breeding programs run by farmers and ranchers could bring in a new source of revenue to those individuals.

V. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Lands

Wisconsin Farmers Union expresses appreciation for the contributions of our Tribal colleagues. We have respect for their status as representatives of Sovereign Nations and believe tribes should have the right to manage the wolf population in their region. We see a great value in working in partnership with our Tribal colleagues on this issue and others.

Despite its challenges, recovery of the gray wolf population in Wisconsin is a success story. The previous recovery goal of 350 animals has been far exceeded. The state of Wisconsin has successfully administered a hunting season to manage the population. WFU calls upon the DNR to continue to implement measures to balance the population, taking into account pack populations regionally. The number of farms with verified wolf depredations has averaged about 30 farms from 2011-2023, with wolf depredations rising to a high of 48 farms affected in 2021. (Figure 22 - page 74) It is clear that management of the population must occur to alleviate this increase in depredation incidents. WFU also recognizes, however, that abrupt shifts in population can upset pack dynamics and increase the potential for predation on livestock; therefore, we call upon the DNR to analyze regions where depredation is occurring and use best practices to address individual incidents.

In ongoing efforts to manage the wolf population in the state, WFU encourages the DNR to continue to include farmers' voices, balanced with other stakeholder groups, when considering shifts in management moving forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed Plan. If you would like to further discuss WFU's position on this matter, please contact Linda Ceylor, WFU DNR Wolf Management representative, via e-mail at [redacted]

Sincerely,

Linda Ceylor

Wisconsin Farmers Union Board of Directors, District 1,

WFU DNR Wolf Management Representative

Owner, Hillside Dairy Farm

January 20, 2023

Randy Johnson
Large Carnivore Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501

Re: Wisconsin's Green Fire (WGF) Comments and Recommendations on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022

Dear Randy Johnson and DNR Wolf Plan Team,

We would like to congratulate you and your team on the extensive effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. My colleagues and I on Wisconsin's Green Fire's wolf management team have reviewed the plan and they have helped inform these comments I submit as a member of the department's Wolf Management Plan Committee.

The plan clearly represents a great deal of work by you and your colleagues. While we note some areas of concern and suggested modifications, overall, we find the draft plan to be comprehensive, objective, and meeting high professional standards. The plan represents an extensive review of the scientific literature, background, and carefully planned management strategies that consider the science and the diverse range of views on the appropriate conservation for wolves in Wisconsin. The Department has done an extensive job incorporating diverse opinions from the Wolf Plan Advisory Committee, 2022 public opinion survey, and consultation with the tribes.

We also commend the social scientists for conducting a very extensive, representative, and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin (2022)." WGF member Thomas A. Haberlein especially captures the value of this recent wolf attitude survey:

"Normally I am a pretty critical reviewer. But I have to say I was overwhelmed by the quality of the whole report and particularly the human dimension section. I wish I had been part of it. This truly shows how far the field of Human Dimensions of Wildlife has come since I began doing studies for the Department in the 1970's and in the last three decades since Kellert and I conducted our survey of attitudes toward wolves in Michigan. The 2014 Wisconsin survey received a 59 percent response which was huge (see Stedman et al. 2019 who document falling response rates in natural resources surveys). This high response shows that the questionnaire made sense to the respondents and that follow up procedures were adequate. We can trust these data. The research is further remarkable because it measures change in attitudes between 2014 and 2022. This is rare in human dimensions research and gives a particularly unique perspective. Seldom do we get data on changes over time. The lower 38% response rate in the 2022 survey is good, but consistent with the declines documented by Stedman et al. (2019). Change data are rare in the human dimensions field and we should welcome the insight they give about changing attitudes toward wolves. The Human Dimensions section starts with an excellent discussion of values, and identities the media. This helps put the data in context and should be required reading. Bravo to Ms. Bradshaw."

Throughout this review, I will use the pronoun "I" to refer to specific comments or recommendations directly from me as a member of Wolf Plan Advisory Committee, representing WGF. I will use "We" to refer to general comments, recommendations, and concepts from WGF.

I will initially discuss the aspects of the plan which we in Wisconsin's Green Fire's Wildlife Work Group strongly support, discuss some issues of concern, and include a full review of the documents with edits and recommendations in Appendix A. Any new literature cited will be in the Literature Cited section at the end of Appendix A, but I do not list literature already cited in the WDNR draft wolf plan.

Wisconsin's Green Fire supports the following elements of the current draft Wolf Management Plan:

Wolf Population Goal

The removal of numeric goals from the wolf plan and focuses on ecological benefits and sustainable populations, while addressing conflicts, and providing multiple benefits from the wolf population. Removing numeric goals from the wolf plan is appropriate given their current status and consistent with population objectives with population objectives used for other iconic species such as deer and bears. We support moving away from one fixed goal toward a goal of sustainable ecological function, using adaptive targeted management. The management goal of 350 animals established in the 1999 plan was developed at time when there were 200 or fewer wolves in the state, and best available science based on estimates of suitable habitat and population viability analysis suggested a potential wolf population of about 500 wolves. More recent estimates suggest potential carrying capacity might be about 1242 wolves, and research has demonstrated current wolf populations of 900-1000 wolves are providing many ecological benefits, and attitude surveys show most of the public support current population levels. **Reducing the wolf population to 350 wolves would require removing wolves from 2/3 – 3/4 of wolf range in the state, drastically reducing ecological benefits from wolves, reducing ability of many Indian reservations to support wolves, and likely only having a minimal impact on reducing wolf conflicts compared to targeted controls at depredation sites.**

Wolf Management Zones

- **The designation of wolf zones across Wisconsin**, with exception of some core areas removed from Zone 2 to secondary wolf range in Zone 3 (see below).

- **The designation of Zones 1, 2, and 5 as core areas of wolf range where ecological benefits and population sustainability are the emphasis**. It appears that that harvest rates will be kept low and should generally manage for relatively stable populations near current population levels, except the designated 1a subzone where livestock depredation rates are high. In general, population reductions would normally not be recommended for these zones, unless conflict levels are unusually high**.**

- **The designation of Zones 3 and 4 as secondary wolf range and traditional range** where there is greater emphasis on reducing conflicts and providing multiple benefits from the wolf

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population, but still provide ecological benefits and maintain sustainable populations. Plans to allow reductions, stabilize, or allow increase would vary from year to year depending on levels of conflicts. We urge the Department to avoid drastic reductions in wolf densities, especially if there is a threat of Chronic Wasting Disease near areas of wolf range.

- **The designation of Zone 6 as an area mostly unsuitable for wolves** and placing emphasis on reducing conflict and providing multiple benefits from the wolf population. Wolves will typically exist at low density and their ability to provide ecological benefits are limited.

- **The designation of subzones 1A and 4A as locations allowing more liberal harvests to reduce conflicts in areas with high levels of livestock depredations**. This would eliminate need to reduce a wolf population throughout a large area such as Zone 1, when livestock depredations are mainly focused on only a small fraction of the zone.

- **The creation of subzones 1b and 2b as buffer areas around Indian reservations to better protect reservation packs and core areas by maintaining low harvest thresholds around the reservations**. Such sanctuary areas provide overall benefits for wolf conservation in the region (Mech 2021). If regulations change and WDNR regains authority to determine portions of Wisconsin open and closed to wolf harvest, **we recommend that these buffer areas become 0 quota areas but recognize current regulations does not allow this**. We agree that normal depredation control activities, including lethal controls when wolves are delisted and when appropriate, will continue in these subzone areas.

<u>Wolf Population Monitoring and Research</u>

- **Research on wolf ecology, population dynamics, wolf depredation management, alternate and auxiliary survey methods and supporting additional research by collaborators** to assure that best available science informs state wolf conservation.

- **Greater emphasis on reducing illegal kill rates across the state.**

- **Commitment to using a scientifically informed adaptive management approach** to wolf conservation in Wisconsin.

- **Intense and continued population monitoring, including continued use of occupancy modeling (OM) and volunteer track surveys,** as well as ongoing evaluation of the occupancy modeling system and using other data source to inform wolf management. *

*Wisconsin's Green Fire supports use of OM as a data driven statistical estimation procedure. Occupancy models (OM) have been widely applied and rigorously tested on everything from “beetles to bears” and used not only to estimate distribution, but vital rates of populations (Bailey et al. 2014). Just

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as the previous Wisconsin "minimum counts" method applied, OM estimates the number of wolves on the landscape at a fixed point in time, and both methods can be used to estimate the change from year to year. OM does not include hidden assumptions about mortality, illegal kills, reproduction etc., all of which contribute to the number of wolves estimated.

OM has the distinct advantage of explicitly accounting for differences in detection probability, which minimum counts do not. The OM methodology allows using covariates like weather conditions, habitat, presence of disturbance, etc. to model detection, in a given year and place, and thus accounts for variation that would influence the estimated occupancy. The OM results in estimates with credible intervals, which is not possible with minimum counts. The "wide" credible intervals (CI), which some perceive as a weakness rather than a strength, can be useful for setting harvest limits.

Wolf Harvest Regulations

- **Zone-specific permits that only allow hunters and trappers to harvest wolves in a single zone, and once the zone is closed, the harvest permits are no longer valid for other zones,** but agree hunting and trapping could continue in subzones of a zone, until subzones are also closed**.**

- **Mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification requirements** that should include requirements to provide biological samples as needed for monitoring and research.

- **Commitment to education and outreach efforts and working with partners** to promote educational efforts.

Wisconsin's Green Fire recommends the following changes or additions to the draft Plan:

Population Management

- Western Lincoln County was placed from Zone 2 (core wolf area) into Zone 3 (secondary wolf range). This was the first area occupied by wolves in northcentral Wisconsin after wolves moved into northwest Wisconsin in Douglas County in about 1978-1979. Western Lincoln County was always located in the most suitable wolf habitat in the state in wolf habitat assessments (Mladenoff et al. 2009) and has not been mapped as an area with likely wolf livestock conflicts (Treves et al. 2004, 2011) No livestock depredations have occurred in the area in recent times (Fig. 38, p. 120). **We recommend that this area be included with Zone 1, having a western boundary consisting of Roads, Co.C, WI 102, WI 86, & Co. D (eastern Taylor and southeast Price Counties), southern boundary of US 64, and eastern boundary of U.S. 51.**

- **We recommend outlining how wolf populations in each zone will be managed to achieve goals outlined in the plan** including defining "sustainable population," maximizing the potential for ecological benefits, and controlling the spread of diseases like Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

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- **We recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management** in Wisconsin. Example of metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state.

Harvest management

- **We support adequate issuing of licenses to avoid long extended hunting and trapping seasons.** The plan discusses concern about "accelerated zone closures (p. 125)," concern about "low hunter/trapper satisfaction resulting from very short season lengths (p. 126)," and maximizing "hunter/trapper opportunity and satisfaction (p. 126)" through numbers of licenses issued for each zone. There is a tradeoff between allowing a few hunter/trappers to hunt over a long period of time or allowing many to hunt and trap over a short period. A shorter period would give more hunters/trappers the opportunity to participate in the harvest. Long harvest season can be disruptive to snow-track surveys that are done for population monitoring from December through March. Bobcat hunting activities in December and January are already disruptive for trackers. Also, the longer hunting/trapping seasons are likely to be disruptive to wolf pack territory maintenance and breeding activity, especially if these extend into late January and February. **We feel that numbers of permits should be adequate so that most zones can be closed by early December to minimum disruption of winter track surveys and disruption of normal pack activity and breeding season.**

- We commend the Department in attempting to develop a regular training period for dogs used to hunt wolves but have concerns about the administrative rules being proposed (p. 127). **We do not support allowing training of dogs on wolves throughout the state as long as any harvest zone is open**. Running dogs after wolves throughout the winter and into the wolf breeding season of late January and February is likely to be disruptive to trackers attempting to survey wolves over winter, and disruptive to wolf pack territory maintenance and breeding activity**. We agree that any dog training should begin on the first Monday following Thanksgiving but should be closed when the specific zone is closed to hunting and trapping.**

Plan Implementation

- **We do urge the Department to carefully plan the Wolf Advisory Committee to be representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state, tribal concerns, and adequately represent the science needed to properly manage wolves in Wisconsin**. Along with listed stakeholder groups on page 137, **we recommend including Wildlife/Conservation Science organizations:** Organizations whose mission includes protecting wildlife and habitat through scientific and thoughtful management; promoting the use of the best available wildlife/conservation science and management techniques.

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- **We recommend outlining a timeline for plan implementation and revision** and identifying mid-point check-ins to assess the plan implementation process.

- **We recommend including a forecast outlining specific budget** needs to fully implement the actions outlined in the plan in addition to the summary of funding and expenditures for plan implementation.

- We commend the Department for their efforts to assess public opinion on wolves through multiple public attitude surveys. **We recommend that the Department conduct follow-up public opinion survey to gather information on changes in public opinion and assess public perception of zone-specific management strategies.**

Research Recommendations

- While Occupancy Modeling is the current preferred method for estimating wolf numbers in Wisconsin, public acceptance and understanding of the method is still poor. **The Department will need to continue to educate people on OM, provide assurance of data used in the method, and support other surveys and auxiliary data on the wolf population**.

  For example, Figure 16 (p. 50), should show results of OM for 2018 and 2019, showing overlap of 95% credible interval with minimum counts. Such a graphic would help to show how the two survey systems related to each other over a period of three years, demonstrating that OM gradually replaced minimum counts, rather than appearing in one year. Also, the draft wolf plan states that OM was started in 2020 (p. 113), when it has been used since 2018, and research on alternative methods to survey wolves had been occurring for several years.

- **We recommend the following research priorities:**
  - **Monitoring the connectivity and gene flow among Wisconsin's wolf zones and interchange with Michigan and Minnesota**. We recommend genetic research like Reding et al. (2012) on bobcats, or Rick et al. (2017) on wolves in Minnesota.

  - **Inter-state collaboration with Minnesota and Michigan.** There is a strong mixing of wolf populations among these states, there should be a unified research agenda to address management issues as cost-effectively as possible.

  - **Documentation of the role that wolves play in regulating the spread of CWD within Wisconsin.** We encourage the Department to indicate in the Draft Plan that temporary, small-scale, local harvest/research/surveillance zones may be established around newly documented Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) outbreaks within wolf range. Within these temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones, wolf harvest should be kept to a minimum in order to maximize the opportunity for wolves to potentially control CWD expansion.

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These temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones would also be focus areas for intensive surveillance and research, to document relationships between wolves, deer, and CWD. Predation as a natural control has a theoretical basis (Wild et al 2011, Brandell et al. 2022), and studies have found other predators such as cougars select for disease-compromised cervids (Krumm et al 2010; DeVivo et al 2017). Removal of infected animals by predators could benefit disease management efforts (Baune et al 2021).

Statutory Considerations:

- **We strongly recommend the WDNR and NRB request statutory changes in the Wisconsin wolf hunting regulations under 2011ACT169**. These regulations limit the Department's ability to fully use an adaptive management approach for managing the state wolf population. This ACT169 has created major opposition to state and tribal wolf management, making it difficult to federally delist and keep gray wolves off the Federal Endangered Species Act. **We recommend the statutory changes authorize WDNR, with extensive public input, to determine when, where, and the methods of take for harvesting wolves, along with setting quotas, harvest zones, and determining numbers of permits.** WDNR should obtain authority to determine if and where wolf harvest occur in the state. Improving authority for WDNR will likely improve the ability to keep wolves off the Federal Endangered Species list and maintain state and tribal management of Wisconsin's gray wolf population.

Thank you again for your tremendous work on assembling this draft Wolf Management Plan. Detailed comments on the plan and literature cited follow in Appendix A below. We look forward to the updated version of the plan, thank you for taking the time to consider our input to the Plan. Please let me know if you have question about any of my comments or suggestions.

Sincerely Yours,

Adrian P. Wydeven,

Wisconsin's Green Fire, Co-Chair of the Wildlife Working Group, WGF Rep. to WI Wolf Plan Advisory Committee

CC: Fred Clark, WGF

Adam Payne, WDNR

Eric Lobner, WDNR

Tim Van Deelen, WGF, alternate Rep to Wolf Plan Advisory Committee

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Appendix A. Comments and recommendations on "Wisconsin Wolf Plan 2022"

P. 1, under taxonomic discussion may also want to cite Nowak (2009) Fain et al. (2010), and Wheeldon et al. 2010.

P. 1 bottom of page *Cervus elphus* should be *Cervus canadensis.* Most wildlife scientists have returned to recognizing elk as a distinct species from the red deer.

P. 2, discussion of genetics could include a statement about recent research in MN, something like the following, "At a finer genetic scale, in Minnesota researchers detected 3 genetic clusters of gray wolves across the state, but these increased to 4 genetic clusters after wolf harvest began (Rick et al. 2017). Similar research may be conducted in Wisconsin in the future, or perhaps across the Great Lakes region as has been done for bobcats (*Lynx rufus*) (Reding et al. 2012)."

P. 2, name at bottom of table 1 should be Stewart.

P. 3, name at bottom of table 2 should be Stewart.

P. 4 would also be useful to show current wolf range across all of North American.

P. 5, 2nd para. "During early recolonization……", an additional reference would include Wydeven et al. 1995.

P. 5, 2nd para. the following statement is not totally accurate, "Fuller (1995) suggested that clusters of 2-3 packs (area of 200 square miles) represents the minimum number of packs necessary to support a viable population". The actual statement in Fuller (1995) was "The smallest demographically viable population not too far from other wolves…. might include two or three adjacent packs of four wolves each ….". This is not the same as saying 2-3 packs form a viable population. The statement needs to be rephrased.

P. 5, this section on habitat should also include other reference on potential wolf range in WI such as Smith at al. 2016 (Supplement to main paper) estimates 55,059 km^2 (21,258 mi^2) of suitable wolf habitat in Wisconsin, and Gantchoff et al. 2022 estimate 27,757 km^2 (10,719 mi^2) area of most suitable wolf habitat in winter. Also, you may want to cite ven den Bosch et al. 2022, as additional reference on wolf habitat in WI, and how the areas of wolf habitat are well connected across MI and MN, and adjacent areas of Canada, but poorly connected to other areas of potential wolf habitat across the US. This section could also use a reference to Stenglein et al. (2015b) that 1242 wolves are the most recent estimate of the potentially biological wolf carrying capacity for WI.

P. 5, last para., it might be better to report at least 256 packs detected in Wisconsin in 2020. The estimates of packs by scaled occupancy modeling, unlike overall wolf count, has not overlapped with minimum counts on packs in the state. Thus, it remains unclear on the ability of SOM to be able to accurately estimate packs, and might be best to use a recent minimum count of wolf packs. The 256 packs were the highest number of packs ever detected by direct counts in the state, and at a time the

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population was the highest number ever estimated by either minimum count or SOM. It seems highly unlikely with decline in wolf numbers in 2021 and 2022, that pack numbers would have continued to increase.

P. 5, last para. includes discussion on current wolf range in WI. It may be more accurate to say, "…. overall wolf range has grown to as much as 73,796km^2 (28,493 mi^2), of which 55,219 km^2 (21,320 mi^2) had a >40% probability of being occupied by wolf packs. Thus, likely occupied wolf range is similar to estimates made by Smith et al. 2016 and is somewhat high than described by Mladenoff et al. 2009."

P. 10, the following seems incorrect, "Lone wolves, often dispersing wolves, are considered to be their own pack until they join." I assume this was intended to be "are considered to be on their own until they join….".

P. 11, under "Reproduction" should clearly state that "multiple litters" are 'from additional breeders in the pack' and not the same pair.

P. 12, section on dispersal lists Callan (2013) as a reference on dispersal. It is not listed in LITERATURE CITED, but the article Callan et al. (2013) is an examination of trophic cascade, not about dispersal. Treves et al. (2009) would be a better reference here.

P. 12 may want to include a statement that apex predators are normally controlled by members of their own species, other apex predators, prey base, or humans.

P. 13, on trophic cascade, it would be good to include Gaynor et al. (2019) on human disturbance interacting with predator impacts.

P.13-15, under discussion of trophic cascade, you may want to include Sinclair and Krebs (2001) that trophic relationships are complex, and the effects are non-linear; sometimes being top-down, other times bottom up, and often a mixture of both.

P. 13, Callan et al. 2013, & Mech et al. 2012 are missing from LITERATURE CITATIONS

P. 14, Bouchard et al. 2013 is cited in 2nd para. under "The 'Landscape of Fear' and Ecosystem Effects". This citation is missing from the LITERATURE CITATIONS.

p. 14, "Wild Canines" should probably be "Wild Canids."

P. 14, in last par. "Crimmins et al. 2019" should be "Crimmins and Van Deelen 2019".

While Crimmins & Van Deelen (2019) did not detect wolf impact on coyote distribution at the scale of 10-mile snow-track surveys in Wisconsin, Levi and Wilmers (2012) did find difference between wolf and coyote distribution using scent post surveys set a at 0.3-mile intervals along 2.7-mile transects in Minnesota. Different scales or different wolf densities might be factors between the sites. Newsome and Ripple (2015) found that on a continental wide basis, displacement of coyotes by wolves was not distinct until 200 km (120 miles) into wolf range. Because wolves have more recently colonized Wisconsin compared to Minnesota, and most wolves in Wisconsin are less than 120 miles from the edge of wolf range, they would less likely be impacting coyote distribution. Though research such as Flagel et

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al. 2017 and Chandler et al. 2020 demonstrate that on localized basis, wolves may be impacting coyotes' distribution and allow for greater presence of foxes.

P. 15 Chandler et al. 2020 is cited but missing from LITERATURE CITED

P. 15, section on "Wolves and Black Bear" should include reference to Ballard et al. (2003) that includes 9 cases of wolves killing black bear (p.264). You also may want to reference 2 cases of black bears killing wolves including an adult female at a den in Ontario (Pimlott et al. 1969, p. 62-63), and killing a wolf pup in the same area (Mills et al. 2008). Mortalities on young wolf pups are rarely detected and bears may be an occasional mortality factor.

P. 15, discussion of bear baits should cite Bump et al. (2013) and include that wolf use of bear baits can exacerbate wolf-hunting dog conflict.

P. 17, the sentence at top of the page seems to be rather dismissive of the potential impact by wolves on CWD, while the prior discussion seems to show good evidence of potential impact. Perhaps a fairer statement would be "While evidence from modeling, information on selectivity by other predators, and lack of CWD spread in areas of wolf pack occupancy, demonstrates potential for wolves to control or limit spread of CWD, additional research is necessary to more definitively demonstrate the ability of wolves to limit the spread of this disease".

P. 18, section on deer survival study in Sawyer County should cite actual papers such as Norton et al. (2021, JWM 85:1232-1242), Olson et al. (2021, Can. J. Zool. 99:912-920), Walsh et al. (2017, Ecol & Evol. 8:509-520), Warbington et al. (2017, JWM 81:824-833), Norton et al. (2016, JWM 80:1323-1331)

P. 18, the title "Prey Regulates Wolf Populations", takes sides on a contested wolf ecological relationship. It would be more appropriate to title as "Regulations of Wolf Populations". Several papers below, as well as continuing research, suggests that this issue is more complex than just prey regulating wolf populations. Evidence is continuing to mount that social factors through territoriality and negative density dependence regulate wolf populations in many places.

P. 18 section on wolf population dynamics under "prey regulates...", Fuller et al. (2003) would be a more correct and specific citation but should also cite papers that imply social factors may regulate wolf abundance below limits set by the prey base (Mech 1970, Van Ballenberghe et al. 1975, Cariappa et al. 2011, Cubaynes et al. 2014, Cassidy et al. 2015, O'Neil et al. 2017, 2020, Smith et al. 2020).

P. 19 under "Human-Caused Mortality", you may want to cite portions of Stenglein et al. (2015b), even though it is mentioned later in the report. Stenglein et al. (2015b) indicates that long-term harvest of30% across the wolf population would lead to declines and possible extinction. But Stenglein et al. (2015b) also demonstrates that varied harvests of 5-20% in primary wolf range and harvests of 75% in marginal areas could lead to stable population of about 1000 wolves. Thus Stenglein et al. (2015b) demonstrates that conservative harvests in core wolf areas and more liberal harvest in marginal areas could lead to a stable population.

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P. 19, also under "Human-Caused Mortality" you may want to cite Hill et al. (2022). Hill et al. (2022) conducted a meta-analysis of 21 wolf studies monitoring fates of 3564 wolves and determined that human-caused mortality accounted for 61% of all mortality. They determined that rates of lethal removals for depredation control were lower in wolf populations that were hunted. Hills et al. 2022 did not detect lower illegal kill rates in hunted populations, but proportion of human-caused mortality was lower in hunted populations, and rates of illegal kills increased in areas with more fragmented natural habitat. Stenglein et al. (2018) also determined that rates of human-caused mortality and illegal kills were higher at the edge of wolf range.

P. 20, Impact of Regulated Harvest, may want to include, "In some situations wolf harvest may impact the ability to enjoy and observe wolves in protective areas (Borg et al. 2016). Mech (2021) has recommended creation of wolf sanctuary areas in large blocks of public forest and around Indian reservations to minimize impact of harvest in such areas." These papers may also be useful for the justification of buffer areas around Indian reservations in Wisconsin later in this report.

P. 20. Harvest and other forms of human-caused mortality can also reduce pack size, pack persistence, and reproduction/recruitment (Ausband et al. 2015, 2017, Cassidy et al. 2023).

P. 20, another potential impact of harvest or human-caused mortality can include greater risk of wolf hybridization with dogs as has been detected in Italy (Santostasi et al. 2021).

P. 20, citations by Bassing et al. 2018 and Bassing et al. 2020 are missing from the LITERATURE CITATIONS.

p. 21. For third paragraph, may want to include this statement at the end. "Stenglein et al. (2015b) did determine that a mix of conservative harvests in core wolf range and liberal harvest in marginal wolf areas did allow for sustainable population of about 1000 wolves."

P. 21, you may want to include a statement about harvest impact on wolf depredations. "Although controls directly at depredation sites are generally the most effective means for reducing wolf depredations, several studies have shown that wolf harvests can reduce depredations or reduce wolves removed at depredations sites (Stenglein et al. 2015b, DeCesare et al. 2018, Hill et al. 2022). During the 3 years wolves were harvested between 2012 and 2014, numbers of farms with depredations declined drastically (Fig.22). Similar results have been observed in Montana (DeCesare et al. 2018)."

P. 22-23, the introduction on human dimensions, could reference Schanning 2009, who provides a good historical background on human dimensions research in relationship to wolf recovery in Wisconsin and the Great Lakes Region. You may also want to reference Shelley et al. 2011 on some Native American attitudes toward wolves in Wisconsin.

P. 27-28, the section on "Common Ground and Management", is somewhat one-sided and misleading. Chapron & Treves (2016) is cited as evidence that authority for lethal controls will not reduce illegal kills but fail to cite 3 separate analyses that refutes that publication (Olson et al. 2017, Pepin et al. 2017, Stein 2017). Also, the publication by Olson et al. (2015), showing reduced illegal kill when the state had authority to use lethal controls, was not cited. Recently additional research in

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Sweden (Liberg et al. 2020) demonstrated that legal culling resulted in reduced rates of poaching. Apparently under some circumstances, authority for lethal controls can result in reduced rates of illegal killing. In a recent meta-analysis of 21 wolf studies, Hill et al. (2022) did not detect reduced illegal killing with public harvest but found illegal kill rates increase with reduced natural cover. The paper by Santiago-Avila et al. (2020) is biased to assumption that nearly all collar disappearance is due to illegal killing and not from any direct measures of illegal kill rates. Unfortunately, there has not been a comprehensive analysis of illegal kill rates since 2012 when the first legal harvests occurred in Wisconsin.

P. 28 along with statement about Hogberg et al. 2016, may also want to quote, Richardson (2022) with evidence of greater tolerance toward wolves after 10 years of wolf hunting.

There is also somewhat of dismissal of effectiveness of lethal controls in this section. While there continues to be disagreement on effectiveness on lethal vs non-lethal control, there are papers that show support for effectiveness of lethal control through simulation modeling at livestock depredation sites (Haight et al. 2002, Stenglein et al. 2015b). Careful examination of depredation management programs in the field have also shown support of lethal management (Harper et al. 2008, Bradley et al. 2015, Poudyal et al. 2016, Kompaniyets et al. 2017). Direct reactive approaches at depredation sites are generally most effective at addressing depredations but regulated harvests also can contribute to reduced depredations (Haight et al. 2002, Stenglein et al. 2015b, DeCesare et al. 2018, Hill et al. 2022). WI DNR and USDA-WS in WI have done extensive work with non-lethal controls on wolves, especially 2015-2020. While this effort has stabilized levels of livestock depredations, they have not been able to reduce levels of depredations as extensively as was seen between 2012 and 2014, when the state had the most flexible levels of depredation management including lethal controls at depredation sites, and public wolf harvest. Similar declines in depredations were observed in Idaho and Montana when flexible state management was available. Using an integrated approach of an array of lethal and nonlethal tools will continue to be the most effective way to deal with wolf depredation on livestock. You may want to cite some of these other articles to give a more complete picture of potential controls using lethal methods.

P. 30, bottom of page. It lists state wolf count of 660 wolves in 2014 when the public attitude survey was conducted. While it is correct that was the population while the attitude survey was being conducted, but that wolf population information was not published until after the public attitude survey. Thus, the most recent estimate of the wolf population was 809 counted the previous winter. If people filling out the survey would have been aware of the latest wolf count, this would have been the number that was last published by DNR prior to the attitude survey.

P. 31 it states that Bayfield County is considered a metropolitan area. That apparently was intended to be Douglas County.

P. 46, 2nd para., along with early reintroduction attempt in 1974 (Weise et al. 1975), a recent reintroduction has again occurred in the Great Lakes region on Isle Royale to re-establish a genetically diverse wolf population on the island (Harvey et al. 2021).

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P. 46, Could include "Wydeven et al. 1995" as reference for early wolf colonization.

P. 50, Figure 16. It would be useful and informative to include occupancy modeling (OM) results for 2018 and 2019 in this figure. A lot of distrust and confusion exist on the new OM population estimations. It would be extremely useful to show the 3 years of overlap between 2 methods, as well as demonstrating that minimum counts fell within the 95% CI of OM during all 3 years. It also shows that the new method was gradually phased in, instead of sudden change in one year. It would also be useful to include the 2022 numbers so readers can better interpret the impact of the February 2021 wolf hunt on the wolf population.

P. 51 the statement in the last paragraph is incorrect, " …annually, 9.4% of all mortality was due to illegal kill…….". This is not percent of all mortality, but percent illegal kill of the population. Overall mortality rate averaged 24%, thus illegal kill of all mortality would be 9.4/24 or 39% of all mortality.

P. 51, Stenglein et al. 2018 is not included in CITED LITERATURE

P. 54, after Cariappa et al. 2011, can also list, Cubaynes et al. 2014, Cassidy et a. 2015, O' Neal et al. 2017, 2019, Smith et al. 2020.

P. 61, near top should include term "shall" in reference to wolf hunting and trapping season to make it clear the WDNR does not have any discretion whether to hold a harvest season.

P. 61, 1st para. May want to modify "use of dogs beginning with first Monday that follows the last day of the regular season that is open to hunting deer with firearms…" to "use of dogs beginning with first Monday after the firearms deer season (first Monday after Thanksgiving) …". This might be easier for non-hunters or people from other states to understand.

P. 62-63 provides useful information on historical funding of the wolf program, but it would be useful here to also show a proposed budget for future wolf management and research work. Projected budgets for the next 5-10 years would be meaningful and can be helpful in attempting to secure funds from cooperators and collaborators.

P. 65, 8th para about end of howl surveys may want to add that howl surveys continue to be conducted in portions of Wisconsin by volunteer efforts with Timber Wolf Alliance and Timber Wolf Information Network in cooperation with Northland College (Shively et al. 2021).

P. 66, wolf depredation investigations can be another source on wolf presence and abundance that could be listed.

P. 68, table 11. Column for "% Human Caused Mortality ", should be "Ratio of Human Caused Mortality" The text that refers to Table 11, should perhaps include a statement that "population growth", is calculated by comparison of Winter Counts from one year to the next. Some members of WGF have recommended using lambda" λ "to show population change, though population growth or decline may be easier for general audiences.

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Also in table 11, the column for "Number killed by humans", should perhaps be "Detected Number killed by Humans", because not all vehicle collisions and most illegal kills would not have been detected.

Table 11 could also be extended to 2022, and convert OM modes to estimates of minimum counts, assuming the minimum count would be ~ 14.5% less than OM mode estimates, and thus 2020-2021 would be ~963, and 2021-2022 would be ~831, Population Growth for the 2 periods would be -0.07 and -0.14 respectively. Such an extended table would demonstrate that population declines occurred even when wolves were not harvest (2017-2018, & 2020-2021), as well as demonstrating decline from 2021 harvest in 2022 (-0.14), but less than decline from harvest in 2013 that lead to decline of -0.18.

Table 11 has the title at the top, while other tables mostly have titles at the bottom, though having the title at the top is general preferred for tables.

P. 70, discussion on origin of 6 harvest zones could include mention that the 6 harvest zones were modified from the original 4 management goals from the 1999 wolf plan (WDNR 1999).

P. 72, the table should mention that counts in 2012, 2013, and 2014 represented minimum counts from previous winter, while 2021 model estimate was just prior to the February 2021 harvest. You might want to use an estimate of the minimum count for 2021 (1,126 -14.5% =963 wolves) with footnote at bottom of table to explain how count was obtained.

P. 73, last para. prior to last sentence you may want to include something like, "Also when state managed, landowner meeting certain criteria can be issued permits to shoot wolves on their land if they or an adjacent landowner have had a history of wolf conflict on their land."

P. 74, for final report it would be good to extend figures 21 and 22 to 2022. The number of farms with depredations in 2021 was probably an outlier in Figure 22. It would also be useful to show a figure of verified cattle killed, which tends to be fairly representative of the overall level of livestock depredation.

P. 74 may want to include, "Most wolf depredations on livestock occur more at the edge of wolf range, and in more marginal wolf habitat (Treves et al. 2004, 2011, Olson et al. 2019). Areas of concentrated wolf-livestock depredations occur in a 600 square mile area of the Lake Superior Lowlands of northwestern Wisconsin and 700 square mile area of the Central Plains just northeast of the Central Forest (Fig. 38, p. 110). These areas have high interspersion of forest, agricultural and/or pasture land and have little or patchy public lands (Olson et al. 2019, Figures 36, 37 and 38 on pages 109-110)." [area estimates are rough from Google Earth, and you may want to refine]

P. 77 may want to cite some examples on nonlethal controls such as Gehring et al. 2006, and Shivik 2014.

P. 79, at bottom of page could reference to wolf conflicts at bear baits to Bump et a. 2013.

P. 80, an additional paper to cite on landscape predictors of wolf attacks on hunting dogs would include Olson et al. (2014). Olson et al. 2014 demonstrate that core areas of wolf habitat (Mladenoff et al. 2009), are the most frequent location of such depredations, while livestock depredations occur more frequently in marginal wolf habitat (Olson et al. 2015a, 2019, Treves et al. 2004, 2011)

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P. 81, 2nd para. may want to include the 4-mile radius would cover a 50 square mile area, close to the average historical size of a wolf pack territory. Also, should mention caution areas are created in part because often when a dog depredation begins to occur within a pack area, frequently the pack will continue to attack dogs during the same season, and hunters will want to try to avoid specific locations where depredations occurred.

P. 81-83, Linnell is misspelled.

P. 82, End of last para., may want to include "Occurrence of human safety concerns seemed to have peaked between 2010-2015, but have declined in recent years."

p. 84, in last para., Boitani 2003 is not in LITERATURE CITED.

p. 84, in last para, some additional publications to cite could include Haight et al. 2002, Fritts et al. (2003 p. 310), Harper et al. (2008), Bradley et al. (2015), Stenglein et al. (2015), and DeCesare et al. (2018). May want to add here as well that while wolf harvests have some potential for reducing depredation on livestock, the type of harvested conducted in Wisconsin in February 2021 mostly occurred on wildlands away from areas with livestock-wolf conflicts (Wydeven et al. 2021, p. 10).

P. 85, last para. may want to add this to the end, "In research on Mexican wolves in Arizona, producers were able to detect one of every 3 missing calves in one location, but nearly 4 of every 5 missing calf in a second location (Breck et al. 2011). Apparently, ability to detect predator kills on livestock, varies greatly across different landscapes. "

P. 86, section on "Publications", can include the following, "The department periodically joined with other organizations to produce guidelines such as National Wildlife Federation et al. (2003) pamphlet on 'wolves hunting dogs', and National Wildlife Federation (2005) fact sheet on 'wolves and deer'. The department also help sponsor, produce, and distribute posters for Wolf Awareness Week from 1990-2012. These posters typical featured accurate depictions of wolves in natural habitat, and the back of the posters provided updated information about wolves across the US, and featured events and research important to wolf conservation. These posters would be made available for free distribution to the public from regional and local DNR offices across the state".

P. 90. 1st par. May want to include after "…Wolf Awareness Week in Wisconsin", 'and across the US and North America since 1990. Education posters are made available across the US and are distributed through libraries nature centers, state parks, DNR offices, and Forest Services offices across the state."

P. 91, after 2nd para. may want to include information from Brandell et al. (2021). Possible example could include, " Recently Brandell et al. 2021) surveyed wolves from 17 study areas across North America for four viruses (adenovirus, herpesvirus, parvovirus, and distemper), and two protozoan parasites (*Neospora caninum* and *Toxoplasma gonii*), and found seroprevalence increased with age, wolf density and areas of higher human density. *Neospora caninum* was most prevalent in wolves from the Great Lakes region, possibly because white-tailed deer consumed by wolves are considered an important reservoir for the parasites (Brandell et al. 2021)."

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P. 97. Justifications for changing from a numeric goal (target population goal), to responding to ecological conditions goal, is useful, but might seem less defensive if the first and second paragraphs are switched around, along with some slight modification of introductory sentences. Some of the arguments against numeric goals could include, changing understanding of suitable wolf habitat (Mladenoff et al. 1995 vs. 2009), changing understanding of biological carrying capacity or potential populations (Mladenoff et al. 1997, Van Deelen 2009, Stenglein et al. 2015b), and changing attitudes and public acceptance of wolves (Schanning 2009, Holsman et al. 2014, Bradshaw et al. 2022). As ecological conditions vary and public attitudes vary, numeric goals become arbitrary over time. Also, many who would like to see wolves reduced to much lower numeric goals, also distrust DNR wolf population surveys, and would not still likely be satisfied if numeric goal were achieved.

P.97, In discussion of wolf management, it should be mentioned again that under ACT169 the DNR is required to annually hold a wolf hunting and trapping season, anytime gray wolves are not on the federal or state endangered or species list. Additional ACT169 restricts and limits the DNRs ability to modify portions of the hunting and trapping regulations on wolves such as start of season, potential end of season if quotas are not achieved, limits DNR ability to modify methods of take, prohibits DNR from closing portions of Wisconsin to wolf harvests, and limits other aspects of managing the state wolf harvest. It needs to be clearly stated that ACT169 places sideboards on how the DNR manages wolf harvest in Wisconsin that differs from the adjacent states of Minnesota and Michigan.

P. 97, end of 2nd para., Fuller et al. (2020) is not listed in LITERATURE CITED.

P. 99, the Plan Goal should include timeframe over which the plan is being considered such as 2023-2033, and frequency of plan review.

p. 102, Table 13 of objectives and metrics. Some members of WGF have questioned whether the table identifies metrics vs strategies. The table should perhaps refer to pp. 111-139 where more specific metrics are listed for each objective.

P. 102, under "Objective E" 2nd bullet could include "Tribes" on collaborations. Several tribes are involved in research and active monitoring of the wolf population.

P. 102, under "Objective E", could include a bullet of "strengthening opportunities for citizen scientists' involvement in wolf monitoring and research.

P. 103, Fig. 34, map of proposed zones, in general looks very good, but western Lincoln County probably should have been kept in Zone 1 or 2. This was one of the original two counties with wolf packs when DNR started monitoring in 1979 (Wydeven et al. 1995). The area has always tested as highly suitable wolf habitat (Mladenoff et al. 2009). The area also has not experienced livestock depredation in recent years (Fig. 38, p. 110). I recommend using Co. D, WI/102, WI/86, and Co. C as western boundary and add to zone 1 across US 8 to the north.

P. 104-105, tribal lands listed as "zero quota" areas is repeated in two places, and probably only needs a single mention.

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P. 105-107, important metrics for assessing wolf population health and viability, and fulfilling ecological functions, would include average population, density, average pack size, pack integrity, dispersals among zones (Rick et al. 2017), livestock depredations, pet depredations, human safety issues and spread of diseases such as CWD. In core wolf areas zones 1, 2 and 5, and subzones 1b and 2b, management should attempt to maintain average packs size and population density at levels similar to what have been observed in unharvested populations the last 10-15 years. Average pack size may be a good index for ecologically functioning population in that larger or moderate pack size are more successful in raising pups, maintaining territories, and efficiently catching prey. CWD has not spread much into areas with healthy wolf packs in Wisconsin and should be carefully monitored especially any positive samples near or in areas occupied by wolf packs. In general harvest management in zones 1, 2 and 5 should maintain wolf populations and densities near current levels. In zones 3, and 4 major reductions should be avoided in wolf population, density, or average pack size, especially near areas where CWD has been detected. Any CWD outbreak in or near wolf ranges should be carefully monitored, and research should be conducted to determine degree wolves are able to select infected deer. Genetic monitoring such as Rick et al. (2017) should be used to determine whether portions of the wolf population are becoming isolated and examine whether healthy levels of genetic interchange continue, especially in Indian reservations and for Zone 5.

P. 111, Under "A1a" could include, the following, " …. field observation reports of dead wolves, mandatory harvest registration, collection of biological samples from harvested wolves when necessary, and mandatory reporting of control mortalities."

P. 112 may want to include category supporting collection of data on local wolf population abundance being done by tribes, Timber Wolf Alliance, Timber Wolf information Network, Northland College, or other college or universities that are helping collect auxiliary information on the wolf populations.

P. 113, statement on use of occupancy model, implies that it started in 2020. Seems like it was really started in 2018. It would be useful to show that both methods were used in a gradual phase in and was not just a sudden change.

P. 117, B1b, under 'depredations guidelines', these have been done since 2002, and periodically updated, with most recent version approved in 2014.

P. 123, the opening defining sentence should include a statement to also encourage inclusion of Indigenous values in wolf conservation.

P. 123, discusses zone-specific population objectives of increase, decrease, or maintain wolf population. This needs to be set in time frame; will be this be done annually for each zone and subzones?

P. 125-127, We strongly support zone specific permits, with the provision that subzone permits can be used in either main or subzone area. It may be useful as well to issue permits specifically for public or private land to focus greater controls in areas of conflict. We also strongly support harvest registration within 8 hours. We do have some concerns about keeping harvest permit numbers too low and causing seasons to last for many months. Closures by late November or early December would be preferable to avoid having harvest activity disrupting winter track surveys, or to disturb wolf breeding activity in late

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January and February. There is a trade-off between providing maximum recreational opportunities and causing disruption of tracks surveys and creating major disturbance for wolf packs. The longer the season, the greater the disturbance level for wolf packs. The types of seasons held in 2012-2014, with all zones closing by early or mid-December seemed adequate for providing reasonable hunting and trapping opportunities, ability for DNR to control harvest, while minimize disruption of surveys, or disruption of wolf packs and breeding activity.

P. 127, we appreciate attempts under C2h to create opportunity through administrative rules to establish a regular training period for dogs used to hunt wolves but have great concern keeping such a season open until the end of the last zone is closed. In the past, zone 6 remained open long after all other zones were closed, and with reduced area of wolf habitat in proposed zone system, this zone could remain open well into the winter period. Bobcat hunting in December and January already are somewhat disruptive to winter tracks survey activity, and addition of more hound running activity would likely further disrupt track surveys. Such hound training activity into mid-winter is likely to be disruptive to wolf territory maintenance and breeding activity. We strongly recommend that zones only remain open to dog training while the zone is open to regular hunting and trapping activity.

P. 127, under C3a, the department does not identify any way it will be promoting non-consumptive recreation. You may want to include that "groups such as Timber Wolf Alliance, Timber Wolf Information Network, Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation, as well as some local nature centers sponsor wolf howling events to allow members of the public to hear wolves and explore areas of wolf range in the state. The Department will continue to encourage and monitor such activities, to ensure that such activities do not disrupt local wolf packs or interfere with other recreational activities." You might also discuss volunteer opportunities to track and study wolves in the wild through DNR Carnivore Tracking program, and workshops sponsored by TWA, TWIN and others.

P. 129, mislabeled as p.140 at bottom of page.

P. 129-131, Objective D on public education, some WGF members are concerned that recent cuts in communications may limit the ability of the DNR to address education concerns. The recent public attitude survey indicates that there continue to be great needs for public education.

P. 129, Product D1c, ensure wolf plan is widely available, may want to create a general summary report for broad public use, perhaps as a supplement to the DNR Natural Resource Magazine.

P.131, Product D3b, under collaborators, may want to include science teachers and organizations such as Wisconsin Society of Science Teachers. Such groups can help develop lesson plans about wolves for students that align with Wisconsin Science Standards where students figure our explanations for phenomena and make sense of the world. DNR wolf education efforts should support DPI missions related to science.

P. 132-135, under research may want to include updating Integrated Population Modeling (IPM) like the work of Stenglein et al. (2015b). Such research could be done in DNR or by college/university collaborators. IPM should be used to compare to Occupancy Modeling, which could include,

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incorporating estimates of poaching, effects of pack disruption, dispersal from core areas to marginal areas, reduced reproduction or stability in smaller packs, and other factors.

p. 132, under strategy E1, may want to include a section on supporting auxiliary studies on sub-sets of the wolf population by tribes, universities, colleges, and volunteer organizations including minimum counts on packs within specific study areas, howl surveys, population dynamics, ecology, and other wolf population surveys and monitoring activities.

P. 134, under strategy E5, may want to include updating information on illegal kill rates and how it varies under varying management authority, spatial and temporal changes, and contributing factors. No extensive research has been done on Wisconsin wolves since hunting seasons occurred in 2012.

P. 134, under strategy E5, may also want to conduct research into Traditional Ecological Knowledge (Moller et al. 2004) among Tribes in Wisconsin, and examine how such knowledge compares and contrasts with conventional resource management under the North American model of wildlife conservation (Serfass et al. 2018).

P. 134-135, conduct research on potential of wolves to impact on spread of Chronic Wasting Disease. In areas where CWD has been detected within or close to wolf range, attempt to survey wolf killed deer for infection, and compare to infection rates of general harvest and vehicle collisions.

P. 136, mislabeled as p. 140 at bottom of page.

P. 137, under "Stakeholder Group Definitions" could also include,

- Wildlife/Conservation science organizations: Organizations whose mission includes protecting wildlife and habitat through scientific and thoughtful management; specifically promoting the use of the best available wildlife/conservation science and management techniques.

P. 138, under strategy F2a, should include study of management outcomes as perceived through Traditional Ecological Knowledge (Moller et al. 2004), and conventional wildlife science, jointed funded by WDNR and GLIFWC.

P.140-157 Literature Cited, missing citations are listed above. When likely citations were known, they are listed below under LITERATURE CITED, but not all detected missing citations are listed.

P. 142, Carbyn and Paquet 2003, should be Paquet and Carbyn 2003.

P. 150, Wydeven et al. (2009) is incorrectly shown on this page. There are 2 versions of Wydeven et al. 2009 shown in Literature Cited. They should be listed as 2009a or 2009b, but possible the version on p. 150 is not necessary for the report.

P. 158, we recommend adding western Lincoln County to zone 1, by creating a western boundary of Highways Co. D, WI 86, WI 102, & Co. C. The eastern boundary of US Highway, and south boundary of US 64 would continue, but north boundary of US. 8 should remain.

P. 159, include area of subzone in square miles.

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P. 160, include area of subzone in square miles.

P. 161, include area of subzone in square miles.

P. 162, include area of subzone in square miles.

P. 163, include area of subzone in square miles.

P. 164, include area of subzone in square miles.

P. 165, include area of subzone in square miles.

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PO Box 1206, Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501 | Info@WIGreenFire.org

WISCONSIN WILDLIFE FEDERATION

213 North Main Street, Suite 100, PO Box 460; Poynette, WI 53955 ● (608) 635-0600 ● (800) 897-4161
www.wiwf.org

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

December 10, 2022

President:
Pat Quaintance
88255 Happy Hollow Rd
Bayfield, WI 57814
715-209-1799
pquaint@icloud.com

First Vice President:
Kevyn Quamme
W6970 Hwy B
Dalton, WI 53926
608-209-3872
kevyn@abcmadison.com

Second Vice President:
Connie Polzin
6771 Firetower Rd
Rhinelander, WI 54501
715-344-3497
noisycreek71@gmail.com

Treasurer:
David Verhage
1111 Chadwick Ct.
Plover, WI 54467
715-344-3497
DavidDebiV@charter.net

Secretary:
Terri Roehrig
S588 County Rd H
Mondovi, WI
tlroehrig@yahoo.com

Past President:
Craig Challoner
3880 2nd St Rd
Omro, WI 54963
920-379-3255
craig.challoner@gmail.com

Executive Director:
Mark LaBarbera
2955 Kennedy Rd
Hazel Green, WI 53811
520-730-9252
mlabarbera57@icloud.com

Business Manager:
Lindsay Alt
PO Box 460
Poynette, WI 53955
608-635-0600
lindsay@wiwf.org

Sarah Barry
Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster St.
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Deputy Secretary Barry,

At our Board meeting today, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, with more than 211 affiliated grassroots hunting, angling, and sporting conservation clubs and alliances throughout the state, approved the following response to the WDNR 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan and requests the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources take the necessary actions to address the following points in a revised draft or final plan:

Public Comment:

1. The current 60-day public comment period in not an adequate amount of time to gather input considering the timing of the release overlaps with hunting seasons and multiple holidays. We request the timeline be extended to 90-days.
2. Not all residents have email or computer access in their homes. For this reason, we request the WI DNR provide multiple and widely distributed announcements of opportunities and methods for public input along with comment period deadlines.
3. There is no means for submitting additional supporting information to the WI DNR for consideration in the draft plan. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests the WI DNR provide the public with an email and mailing address to submit comments and additional supporting information.
4. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests the WI DNR hold public hearings across the state and hold more in wolf affected zones for input on the draft plan.

Inclusion/Exclusion:

5. There is no provision for the inclusion of comments from county and local governments into the draft plan. Many county and local governments have taken positions on wolf population goals and must be included in the process.
6. A functional advisory committee with a balanced mix of impacted stakeholders would vastly improve this ongoing process.

Public Survey Methodology:

7. The public survey does not adequately represent those actively impacted by wolves. Use of county and zip codes to select samples does not accurately reflect those exposed to wolves and impacted by wolves. We request the WI DNR actively seek out those impacted by wolves and place greater emphasis on their perspective.
8. Survey design is flawed. Survey length discourages responses from some individuals. Terminology is undefined and could be seen as biased. Some questions lack balance in positive and negative responses, causing an imbalance in responses. All these features of the survey alienate some individuals causing them to not respond.

Population Estimates:

9. Approximately 40% of the wolf tracking units are not tracked to the required three-time standard and not all units are tracked. This lends itself to under-counting and under-reporting wolf population in those wolf tracking units.

10. Lone and dispersing wolves are not counted in the current population model as is done in western states. Some states add 12% or 15% to their estimates to account for lone and dispersing wolves. We urge lone wolves be included in Wisconsin's population estimate.
11. The WI DNR is not taking full advantage of public reporting of wolf sightings. The online tool for reporting should be better advertised and the WI DNR should clarify that personal information is protected and not available as public record.
12. GPS collar tracking provides the WI DNR with useful information on travel patterns and pack locations for counting. Increased use of GPS collars should be considered.

Conflict Management:

13. The draft management plan is passive and lacks active conflict management for depredations of non-agricultural domestic animals such as dogs and other pets. Increased harvest is not a method identified in the draft plan to reduce such depredations. Include targeted population reduction in areas of heavy depredation of dogs and other non-agricultural domestic animals. This should include all legal methods of harvest for targeted population reductions.
14. The draft plan does not address a numeric conflict reduction goal. We request a goal be set and included in the plan so effectiveness of methods can be measured.
15. The draft plan appears to have biases against hunting with dogs. Hunting with hounds has the same statutory and state constitutional protections as agriculture and should have equal active measures preventing depredations.
16. We oppose the plan wording encouraging low road densities in large tracts of public lands, which is another means to prevent hunting, fishing, trapping, and other public land use opportunities.
17. We oppose the plan wording that implies hunting conflicts are the fault of the hunter. The draft plan needs to address using population management of wolves as a method to reduce hunting conflicts. Hunters have Constitutional rights to hunt lands open to them despite the presence of wolves.
18. Currently there are multiple systems for sending alerts for livestock, hunting dogs, and non-agricultural animals, but the plan is missing human health and safety alerts. Receiving the same notification with a 4-mile radius map is necessary to help prevent potential conflicts for land users, pet owners, and dog hunters around those areas. We request the WI DNR provide equal notifications for equal protections for all land users.
19. Those who have personally experienced conflicts with wolves may have traumatic experiences and stresses. The psychological impacts on humans caused by livestock and domestic depredations by wolves is real and needs to be considered. The draft plan ignores the psychological impacts wolf conflicts have on humans and this needs to be addressed in the plan.

Zone Changes:

20. The plan includes the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations, effectively giving the management of the wolf population on both public and private lands to the tribes. We oppose the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners and public land stakeholders. We also oppose giving away wildlife management authority.
21. The agricultural areas in these newly created buffer zones in the draft plan will go largely unprotected and have inadequate protections for pets and livestock. Private landowners will have unequal treatment under the law for which they are protected under the Constitution.
22. The zone restructure is now based on wolf occupancy and not based on suitable habitat. The unmanaged wolf population has forced wolves out of prime suitable habitat into inappropriate areas, creating conflicts. Not all areas are appropriate to have wolves. We request the zone structure return to the original science-based, habitat-based zones.

Goal Statement/Objectives:

23. The Goal Statement in the draft plan does not address where wolves are appropriate. The draft plan needs to take a hard look into what is good for wolves and what is good for humans. Low interactions between the two are best. Wolves should only reside in high-quality wolf habitat and not be managed to the maximum biological carrying capacity. No other species in Wisconsin is managed to its maximum biological carrying capacity.
24. The draft plan implies the elimination of hunting with dogs which is Constitutionally protected. It also implies wolves have more rights to the land than hunters. This narrative is not science-based and all such implications should be removed.
25. Objective B is missing long-term controls for agricultural conflicts. Wolves are known to move down the road and create conflicts with just short-term controls.

26. The goal statement or objectives do not address any form of population control. The official position of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is a population goal of 350 wolves in the State of Wisconsin. We strongly request the numeric population goal of 350 wolves be maintained in the final plan.

Numerical Population Goal:

27. The draft plan allows for a subjective process for managing wolves. The population goal was established in the 1999 plan due to lack of confidence in a subjective wolf management strategy. There is no accountability without a numeric population goal. The only scientific analysis of wolf habitat done to-date of Wisconsin landscape quantified the social carrying capacity as 350 wolves. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests maintaining the numeric population goal of 350 wolves in the final plan.
28. For increased accountability the population goal needs to have a timeline for completion. The goal timeline allows measuring of progress towards meeting the set population goal with milestones along the way. We request a population goal timeline be added to the plan.

Quotas/Permits:

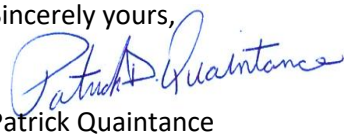
29. The western states have 13 years of harvest data in establishing quotas to reach their wolf population goals. We recommend including this data in the draft plan to aid in establishing quotas.
30. Permit issuing methodology should be based on the likely harvest methods used in the season they will be issued.
31. Western states have been unable to reduce their wolf numbers consistently despite high levels of human take. As wolf expert David Mech said, “Wolves are prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new areas where humans will allow them, and are difficult to control when populations become established."

Delisting:

32. For lethal wolf conflict control and population management to take place federal delisting is required. To-date the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has had no visible involvement in planning, researching, and federal delisting efforts with the USFWS or with legal representation in delisting efforts. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests the WI DNR have a strong and visible presence, and active involvement in all federal delisting efforts that impact Wisconsin and in support of all other states actively working towards delisting wolves in their states.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources incorporate the above actions and requests for updates into the 2022 Final Wolf Management Plan.

Sincerely yours,



Patrick Quaintance
President

Public Comments on the draft Wolf Management Plan

December 14, 2022

My name is Steve Suchomel representing Wisconsin Wolf Facts and was a member of the committee involved in discussions regarding the Wolf Management Plan.

The draft wolf management plan is not acceptable. In my opinion it is unworkable in implementation.

The proposal does not protect the resource. For a number of reasons that will be elaborated later, this plan does not address this issue in any logical or justifiable scientific manner.

1. The draft proposal does not specify a set population of wolves. Much discussion dating back to the initial wolf plan decades ago had an agreement of 350 wolves which was an increase from initial discussions of 175 wolves. The initial discussions centered on numbers to keep wolves off the endangered species list. We don't need the current wolf population to protect them from endangerment. We need a numeric goal to manage the resource which should be the 350.
2. The draft proposal is a wolf expansion plan. There are many reasons wolves were eliminated from the bulk of Wisconsin. There is a legitimate safety issue for both man and livestock when interaction with an apex predator occurs. The new plan expands zones 1, 2 and 5 into areas that were previously considered secondary habitat, expands zone 3 into previously designated low priority habitat, and dramatically moves zone 4 into areas previously designated as unsuitable wolf habitat. Wolf zones should be based on an analysis of suitable wolf habitat considering biological and social analysis.
3. Human / wolf negative interactions must be kept to a minimum. Public opinion supports this. Public opinion from those people living or interacting with wolves dramatically supports this. Question 47 of the Conservation Congress spring hearings supported this by a 4 to 1 ratio. Between 2010 and 2017, 36 county boards (half of all counties) passed wolf control resolutions favoring a population goal of 350 or less. In 2021- 2022, 16 county boards passed new wolf control resolutions favoring 350 wolves or less and nine counties decided to send in their previously passed resolution.
4. There is no scientific rationale for expansion of the buffer zones.
5. The plan does not address the economic impact of the wolf expansion plan in the expanded areas. Current economic impacts of the present wolf populations should have been addressed. The wolf population has impacted other hunting opportunities significantly – deer, bear, grouse (with dogs) and recreational such as hiking and pets. The draft wolf management plan does hint at the interaction with other species but in very nonspecific "grey" wording.
6. This plan does not protect the quality of wolf life – should you be a wolf. Wolves are a wilderness animal. They deserve large blocks of road less area with no or minimal human populations. With the exception of Federal and / or State forests, northern Wisconsin is predominantly private owned with an existing agricultural presence.
7. This draft wolf management plan is NOT the product of the committee involved. Specific discussion points were completely ignored. It "appears" that a wolf expansion plan was the DNR goal and the committee was a public relations approach to endorse it.
8. There are minimal specific details in the draft as to reimbursement under wolf damage claims. There are minimal scientific references to existing wolf programs in other states.
9. Without proper management tools and wolf population controls, human safety is an issue.

Submitted by : Steve Suchomel
[redacted]
Medford, Wisconsin 54451
[redacted]

Wisconsin draft Wolf Management Plan comments 27 Feb 2023

Thanks for all the hard work that was put into producing this draft Wolf Management plan. I appreciate that you have taken into account public input, Tribal concerns and incorporated science and education into the plan. Thank you for conducting a survey of public opinion of wolves in Wisconsin. Please continue to do this periodically. I am a farmer and live in central Wisconsin, in what you have listed as Zone 4a. I own 171 acres of mixture of woodland and farmland in this area.

In general, I support the draft plan but I get the feeling it is geared mostly to lethal control measures for dealing with any conflict with wolves on the landscape. I wish there was a lot more emphasis on non-lethal measures used to deal with conflicts, especially dealing with farmers. I do not support the plan of having the greatest harvest goal in Zone 1a and 4a, in which I live. I have never seen wolf evidence where I live. Currently with hunters using dogs to hunt coyotes in this area they do not seem to care that they and their dogs trespass on my land and any neighbor's land where they do not allow hunters. Dogs are not controlled and they are able to run wherever they seem to want to go. Just this past weekend coyote hunters with their dogs ran through the area and the only thing they seemed to be chasing was a herd of about 12 deer. The last 3-5 years I've called the Sheriffs about trespassing hunters and their hounds running through my land. So I have to keep aware of whenever hunting season is and continue to worry about trespassers with their dogs ravaging the landscape and whatever and all animals that are in the area. Also, there are many farmers in the area that have too many deer that eat the field crops. Yet you want to reduce any wolf population in Zone 4a that could help control that population naturally. Why aren't you emphasizing non-lethal controls?

I do agree with many of the items as written which are:

- Doing away with a numeric goal and allowing for a adaptable population. I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles.

- Respecting the Tribal rights and lands and creation of the buffer zones and having low limit zones around Tribal lands. I wish they were no kill zones around these Tribal lands. Tribes were here long before us Europeans and have long lived with wolves and treat them differently so we should respect that.

- I'm happy to see based on public surveys that the DNR has acknowledged that most people in the State want a healthy wolf population based on science and have tried to develop a plan reflective of this.

- It briefly mentions and acknowledges that wolves are a keystone species that play a very important role in a healthy ecosystem. This should be emphasized in greater detail and should be researched and collaborated with other experts as mentioned.

- There is a section dealing with public education regarding the importance of wolves and how they are scientifically important and about using non-lethal methods for reducing wolf related conflicts.

- I definitely support the recommendation to changes to the administrative rules that decrease the required time to report wolf kills to not later than 8 hours, and making the destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal, which should never occur regardless of occupied or not.

- Agree with issuing wolf harvesting licenses which are only valid in the specific zone specified on the license, instead of valid in all zones.

- Agree and appreciate the public and farmer educational aspect of this plan. Emphasis on education of non-lethal controls to farmer community should be budgeted for and enhanced.

- Concur with conducting studies on effects hunting with dogs has on the wolf and dog conflicts (product E3c) Maybe the issue of hunting with dogs is the issue. Should this even be allowed based on the scientific research? Maybe all hunting with dogs should be eliminated as wolves are still around when bears, etc are hunted with dogs. This conflict will never be eliminated and maybe dogs should not be used to hunt.

Areas that I do NOT agree with or should be adjusted:

- More emphasis on non-lethal controls for areas that tend to have wolf-related conflicts instead of raising the harvest goal, especially in Zone 1a and 4a. Subsidizing farmers to implement non-lethal controls should be pursued. If there are lethal controls used prior to the legal hunting season these numbers should be included when setting harvest goals as already harvested. Do studies show that disrupting the wolf family structure actually deters conflict? What does science indicate are better ways to deal with these conflicts?

- Put emphasis on wolf viewing and eco-tourism for wolves. Put money or grants into setting this up in the future.

- There is no mention of obtaining State money for implementing non-lethal controls. This plan should lay out plans for State budgeting for non-lethal controls to better reflect what your science is telling you that non-lethal controls work and may be a better deterrent for wolf related conflict than killing.

- There should be no night hunting allowed.

- Do not agree with CITES application. This could lead to extreme trophy hunters and lead to poaching and black market. We don't need to have our Wisconsin wildlife marketed worldwide.

- The plan should review Act 169 and recommend legislative changes based on the science and the parameters of this plan in creating a healthy and sustainable wolf population for an overall healthy ecosystem for Wisconsin. The DNR should be able to better manage any wolf harvest based on the science instead of political interference.

- The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf zone closes, instead of what is recommended in the plan of having state wide training till all zones are closed. This would interfere with breeding season and put dogs at risk.

- There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group and a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight.

- Wolves should be encouraged in areas that have a CWD issue with the deer herd. Wolves are a better control for this devastating disease than any human control ever good be. If deer are putting pressure on agriculture fields maybe wolf population should be encouraged in that area.

I appreciate the comprehensive plan as presented. Please do not cater to the trophy hunters and stick with the science of wolf management as you progress to the final product. I appreciate the respect you show to the Tribes as they are the true owners of this land and its wildlife and they know better how to manage it than most. I appreciate the emphasis you place on education and hope that you are able to carry this out in the future. Emphasis on non-lethal controls should be made instead of lethal in dealing with wolf related conflicts. I believe science indicates non-lethal works better. I hope this plan can be continued on into the future regardless of who politically is running the State and Legislature. This should be non-partisan.

Thanks for your work,

Joan Arnold
[redacted]
Rudolph, WI 54475

To: Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

From: Kerry Beheler, Mount Horeb Wisconsin

RE: Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan, released November 2022. Public comments due 28 February 2023.

I. Aspects of the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan to Support: The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) is commended for the draft Wisconsin (WI) Wolf Management Plan, released in November 2022. I support the following concepts of the Plan:

1. No numeric wolf management population goal
2. Commitment to long-term wolf stewardship
3. Manage to a sustainable statewide population
4. Emphasis of the ecological benefits wolves provide
5. Proposed protective buffer zones around tribal reservations
6. Statewide overall zone-specific harvest permits
7. Commitment to scientific and collaborative research to guide management decisions
8. Commitment to an adaptive management plan

II. Aspects of the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan to Revise or Remove: There are specific concepts and areas of the draft Plan which need revision or removal, listed below.

A. There is a need for separate Wolf Science and Wolf Stakeholder Committees, and public outreach suggestions regarding the draft WI wolf Plan. Wolf management is an area of great attention and concern for tribal nations, government agencies, academic institutions, and many stakeholder groups and individuals. Various suggestions regarding wolf stewardship and management are a consequent result. To avoid controversial, emotional, non-scientific and political influences as much as possible, the WDNR should have separate Science and Stakeholder Advisory Committees. WDNR previously had functional, respected, and separate committees. Recreating a separate Science Committee would strongly indicate WDNR's commitment to science-based wolf stewardship and inclusivity of myriad views. The WI Wolf Science Committee can be organized similar to the Minnesota (MN) Wolf Technical Committee, and include scientists and biologists from multiple disciplines representing Universities, Cooperative Extension, United States Department of Agriculture, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, WDNR, regional Departments of Natural Resources, and others.

Questions and suggestions for WDNR include:

1. Who will be the members of the separate Science and Stakeholders Committees?
2. When will the list of possible participants be available?
3. How often will the Committees meet, regardless of wolves' legal status?
4. I recommend the WDNR hold in-person public hearings in at least 3 different locations across WI after the public comment period has ended on 28 February 2023, and before the WDNR has created the next version of the WI Wolf Management Plan.

5. I recommend the WDNR reconvene the 2021 WI Wolf Advisory Committee to review/revise the next version of the Plan the WDNR will create after all public comments have been added, and before the Plan is finalized.

B. Hound dog training period on wolves as proposed in the draft Plan must be removed or revised. WI is the only state that legalizes the hunting of wolves with dogs. Using trailing hounds for pursuit while hunting, or for training the hounds to pursue wolves, is cruel for both wolves and hounds. This practice is not supported by the majority of ethical hunters or the broader public (Bradshaw et al 2022). Hounding for wolves is allowed under WI Act 169 of 2011. Although statutory legislative changes are beyond WDNR control, they must be considered for future wolf stewardship. I strongly recommend that hounding for wolves be illegal in WI.

The WDNR proposes on page 127 of the Plan to create a designated hound training period on wolves, scheduled to begin after the deer gun season ends, and end in all zones only when the final wolf harvest zone closes. As proposed, if a single wolf harvest zone remains open longer than any other, hound training continues everywhere. I strongly recommend the hound training period must end in all zones at the same time.

As proposed, the hound training period on wolves will be during the wolf breeding season (Mech 2002). This timing will be extremely detrimental, as it will disrupt pair bonding, breeding, and territory boundary defense. The biological impacts of the February 2021 WI wolf hunt, held during the wolves' breeding season, will never be fully understood due to a lack of important biological data collection. Impacts that occurred to the overall WI wolf population from the 2021 hunt, and impacts to specific local packs, cannot be known.

Also as proposed, the hound training period would disrupt wolf winter track count surveys and other collections of population data. I strongly recommend that hounding for wolves be illegal in WI. Until using trailing hounds to pursue wolves is illegal in WI, and if a hound training period is established, I strongly recommend it is not held during the wolf primary reproductive season.

C. The use of recreational hunting as a conflict resolution/depredation control tool is ineffective and inappropriate for science-based wolf stewardship, and WDNR recommendations must be revised. The WDNR briefly explains on page 61 of the draft Plan WI Act 169 of 2011, which mandates a wolf hunting season. Wis. Stats. s. 29.185 directs the WDNR to allow hunting and trapping of wolves if they are not listed on the federal or state endangered and threatened species lists. The statute directs the WDNR to hold a single annual season for both hunting and trapping of wolves, which begins on the first Saturday in November and ends on the last day of the following February. WDNR can set the harvest quota of wolves killed, and the timing and methods to be used. Although there are legislative changes that are beyond the WDNR's control, I strongly recommend WDNR pursue statutory legislative changes for future wolf stewardship and management.

The WDNR states on page 27 of the draft Plan that "...lethal control options may empower local residents and provide a sense of security." This is a false sense of security and may not prevent,

but may exacerbate conflicts (Haber 1996; Treves et al 2016, Santiago-Ávila et al 2018a,b, van Eeden et al 2018b). The WDNR gives the impression to those reading the draft Plan that recreational hunting will decrease wolf depredations. Current scientific evidence supports the ineffective and counterproductive efforts of lethal interventions for conflict mitigation (Miller et al 2016, Treves et al 2016, Eklund et al 2017, Lennox et al 2018, van Eeden et al 2018a,b, Khorozyan and Waltert 2019, Bruns et al 2020). There is strong evidence that non-lethal methods have proven effective in preventing and mitigating wolf predation in the Great Lakes region (Davidson-Nelson & Gehring 2010, Gehring et al. 2010). Much of the scientific evidence and discussion supporting the ineffective nature of lethal control actions is lacking in the WI draft Plan, and must be added to the draft Plan and further discussed.

Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation, and has the least effective success rate when compared to non-lethal practices (Treves et al 2016, van Eeden et al 2018, Santiago-Avila et al 2018a, Bruns et al 2020). Published evidence shows that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents (Treves et al 2016). WI has found this to be true, as WI wolf depredations after the February 2021 hunt were verified at 48 farms, the highest number of individual WI farms to date (WI draft Plan p 74, Figure 22).

A proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation (Eklund et al 2017). WDNR should expand the Integrated Wolf Conflict Management Program recommendations in the draft Plan on p 85 to include recognized effective non-lethal depredation efforts. These have been well funded in MN, and MN Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) reports that "In the two years that MN Wildlife Services' conflict prevention program has existed, there has been no verified wolf damage inside turbo fladry-protected areas or where other non-lethal prevention activities have been deployed." (USDA APHIS Wildlife Services Nonlethal Initiative for Livestock Protection 2022). I strongly suggest WDNR adopt the recommendations of the final MN Wolf Management Plan and conduct research to more effectively address wolf depredation through non-lethal and cost effective means (p 35 Minnesota Wolf Management Plan 2023-2032).

D. Wolf populations are not "remarkably resilient to human-caused mortality" as stated, and proposed WI management actions must be revised. WDNR repeatedly asserts that "Gray wolves have high reproductive potential and populations in general are resilient in the face of severe disruptions or population declines, with the ability to rebound quickly if the disruption is reduced after an event" (pp. 10-13, 20-21 of the draft Plan, citing Hayes and Harestad 2000b, Fuller 2003, USFWS 2020).

I contend wolves exhibit limited reproductive capacity, rather than having a "high reproductive potential" as WDNR states. The reproductive physiology of canids is unique, as the cycle is characterized by extended periods of proestrus and estrus followed by obligatory diestrus and protracted ovarian inactivity (anestrus) (Nagashima and Nucharin 2021). Wolves have one breeding cycle per year, typically with only one litter produced in each pack by the breeding pair (Mech 1970, Mech and Boitani 2003).

WDNR states on page 12 of the draft Plan that "Wolves' ability to disperse long distances allows for populations to readily expand and recolonize vacant habitats as long as human-caused mortality is sustainable" (citing Mech 1995, Boyd and Pletcher 1999, Treves et al 2009, Mech 2017, Hendricks et al 2019). Wolves do not readily expand and recolonize, as dispersal is dangerous (Treves et al 2009). The historic extirpation of wolves in much of North America was due to human-caused mortality (Paquet and Carbyn 2003).

WDNR states on page 123 of the draft Plan "This season will offer the interested public an opportunity to legally harvest wolves, provide the primary mechanism to manage wolf abundance and distribution at the landscape scale and can do so without jeopardizing the long-term sustainability of wolves in the state." There is a "killing for tolerance" hypothesis (Treves 2009) argued by many regulatory agencies. The "facilitated illegal killing" hypothesis, however, is supported by published studies which show that regulatory policies that liberalize legal wolf-killing also increase illegal killing, while regulatory policies that restrict killing and increase protections for wolves mitigate their intentional killing, both legal and illegal (Liberg et al 2012, Santiago et al 2020, Louchouarn et al 2021, Santiago et al 2022).

WDNR cites on p 21 of the draft Plan a study of northern Rocky Mountain wolf populations that were evaluated regarding the effects of public wolf hunts on population recruitment (briefly, the process by which new individuals are added to a population) (Ausband et al 2014). Wolf harvest rates averaged approximately 24%. The study found pup survival decreased from 60% to 38%, with recruitment similarly declining from 3.2 to 1.6 pups per pack, in the years with a public hunt. I contend this is a substantial decline which jeopardizes wolf sustainability.

WDNR states on page 12 of the draft Plan **"**Regardless of mortality cause, wolf pack structure creates resiliency in the event of a pack member's death. Breeding members can be replaced by either an internal pack member or an outside member brought into the pack, and pups can be brought up by remaining pack members (Mech and Boitani 2003)". Current research however, has found that composition within a pack influences pup survival (Ausband et al 2017), and if key individual wolves are killed, this disrupts the breeding pair, reduces the survival of the remaining members, and could cause the pack to dissolve entirely (Creel and Rotella 2010).

WDNR states on page 21 of the draft Plan that "wolf populations are remarkably resilient to human caused mortality, and experience with regulated wolf harvest in WI has largely supported this finding." This statement is inconsistent with published studies. A recently published large scale long-term study determined that human-caused mortality triggers instability in wolf packs in national parks (Cassidy et al 2023). The study evaluated how humans impact individual wolf packs, the biological social unit, as opposed to the larger wolf population.

Cassidy et al (2023) found that humans are clearly altering important aspects of wolf biology in national parks, even if they are not impacting the overall wolf population size. The study evaluated the consequences of human-caused wolf mortalities on two measures of gray wolf biological processes: pack persistence and reproduction. The study contrasted what happened to wolf packs after at least one member was killed by human-causes with packs where no

members died of human-causes. The chance that a pack stayed together to the end of the year decreased by 27% when a pack member died of human causes, and whether or not that pack reproduced the next year decreased by 22%. When a pack leader died, the impact was even greater, with the chance the pack remained intact until the end of the year decreasing by 73%, and pack reproduction decreased by 49%.

The ecological and biological impacts of the February 2021 WI wolf hunt, held during the wolves' breeding season, will never be fully understood due to a lack of important biological data collection. Impacts that occurred to the overall WI wolf population, and impacts to specific local packs, cannot be known. I strongly recommend WDNR must revise their proposed WI wolf hunt management actions, considering the profound impacts that human caused mortality has on wolf pack integrity recently demonstrated by Cassidy et al (2023).

E. Scaled Occupancy Model (SOM): WI wolf population estimate method must be revised, and detailed population monitoring efforts must be reinstated. WDNR historically employed detailed wolf population monitoring which resulted in extensive invaluable population information (pp 47-50, 64 draft Plan). A full description of methods is provided by Wydeven et al (2009). The WDNR began annual overwinter minimum counts of wolves in the winter of 1979-80, and began a wolf monitoring project which effectively ran continuously from 1979 to 2020 (p 48 and 64 draft Plan; Wydeven et al 2009).

As stated on pp 64-65 of the draft Plan, in 2020 a shift to monitor the WI wolf population was used, "A new population abundance estimate approach based on a scaled occupancy model (SOM)" (Stauffer et al 2021). Briefly, the SOM estimates the total area occupied by wolves, combines the average pack territory with zone-specific average pack size, then estimates the entire state wolf population. The SOM assumes wolves are present but undetected. The SOM is based on a probability that a territory/area is occupied by wolves. Uncertainties associated with the SOM include how big are WI wolf packs in various parts of the state? What happens when packs are disrupted, or disappear? What are the consequences for packs after the February 2021 WI hunt? These uncertainties must be included in the model and addressed.

The SOM generated data is used by WDNR to set the quota of wolves to be killed in a legal hunt. Importantly, the SOM has not been tested or validated with hunting mortality factored into it. The SOM uses data from winter track counts, which is good. The SOM uses a "most likely value" rather than a value based on a minimum count, which is not good. There is uncertainty about population estimates generated by the SOM, especially at the zone level. Basing wolf kill quotas on the "most likely value" creates a significant risk of over-harvest from a legal hunt.

A recent critique (Treves and Santiago-Ávila, 2023) of the SOM concluded "… the WI method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability."

I strongly recommend the WDNR SOM population estimate method must be revised, and detailed population monitoring efforts must be reinstated. Specifically:
1. that the SOM must be tested and verified under hunting conditions.
2. that the SOM use WI wolf population estimates at the low point, using the lowest level of credible interval, ensuring a conservative as possible population estimate.
3. that WI wolf kill quotas be determined using the SOM lower 95% credible level.
4. that WI continue to use both the minimum winter count, based on winter track surveys and summer howl surveys, and SOM population estimates simultaneously for 3 years, with hunting conditions.

F. Revise and expand the information under "Ecosystem Services" in the draft Plan, p 13. The ecological benefits wolves provide are associated with their presence and density on the landscape. Two recent studies point to the increased benefits of allowing wolf predators to naturally regulate their prey populations, with beneficial effects resulting for the prey populations. I suggest the WDNR use more recent and pertinent scientific information under the Ecosystem Services portion of the draft Plan on p 13, and include these studies:
1. Tanner et al (2019) found reduced levels of indirect transmission of disease by selective wolf predation in northern Spain. The study found a much lower level of tuberculosis (TB) in wild boars where wolves are present, and less transmission of TB to livestock.
2. Hoy et al. (2022) found selective pressure, through wolf predation, against genes associated with developing severe osteoarthritis in moose prey populations on Isle Royale National Park. Hoy et al (2022) stated "The evidence we present for predation's influence on the health of prey populations is also relevant for policy-related arguments about refraining from intensively hunting wolf populations."

III. Aspects of the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan to Be Added:
A. Include a research item: Wolves and Chronic Wasting Disease: Assess and measure the possible effects of wolves on chronic wasting disease presence and prevalence by establishing temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones. WDNR briefly discusses on pages 15-16 of the draft Plan "Selective Predation and Chronic Wasting Disease" (CWD) and states "whether predators can truly reduce CWD prevalence and spread remains unknown and more research is needed." Peter David and Kerry Beheler suggest that a research proposal which specifically addresses this unknown be included in the draft WI wolf Plan.

There is significant overlap between current WI CWD infected deer locations and wolf range (WDNR map 9/2022. https://p.widencdn.net/6ixtwa/cwdAffectedCountiesMap). We suggest WDNR include in the draft Plan that temporary, local, small-scale, harvest/research/surveillance zones around **newly documented CWD outbreaks within wolf range** be established. Within these temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones, wolf harvest would be kept to an absolute minimum in order to maximize the opportunity for wolves to potentially control CWD expansion. These temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones would be focus areas for intensive data collection, surveillance and research, and paired with minimal wolf harvest to document relationships between wolves, deer, and CWD.

This is an opportunity to document and quantitate the role that wolves have in possibly regulating the spread of CWD in WI. Wolf and deer sample and data collections would be implemented, and collaborative studies with other regions and institutions would be initiated. Establishing temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones satisfies objectives of the WI wolf draft Plan, specifically Objective A: Ensure a Healthy and Sustainable Wolf Population to Fulfill its Ecological Role; Objective C: Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population; Objective D: Increase Public Understanding of Wolves in Wisconsin; and Objective E: Conduct Scientific Research to Inform Wolf Management and Stewardship.

Establishing temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones also satisfies the WDNR CWD Response Plan goal to "enhance scientific information about CWD and continue statewide surveillance in areas where the disease is not known to exist, using new approaches to detection and surveillance that balance efficiency and efficacy." The WDNR CWD Response Plan follows an adaptive response strategy as "it is essential because the understanding of both CWD epidemiology and the efficacy of CWD management techniques in free-ranging populations is still developing." (WDNR CWD Response Plan 2010).

Effective measures for controlling CWD remain elusive (Wild et al 2011). Supporting natural control of CWD infected animals by studying WI wolf predation is an area that deserves further study. Predation as a means of natural control has a theoretical basis (Wild et al 2011, Brandell et al 2022), and studies have found predators including mountain lions and coyotes likely select for disease-compromised cervids (Miller et al 2008, Krumm et al 2010, DeVivo et al 2017). Removal of infected animals by predators could complement broader CWD management efforts (Baune et al 2021). Until a full scientific understanding of the ability of wolves to limit CWD is available, a conservative approach towards the stewardship of both deer and wolves would be to assume these benefits exist. The establishment of temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones in WI wolf range would begin the research into these benefits.

B. Expand and increase wolf collaborative studies and sample and data collections from all wolves, and train volunteer personnel. Collaboration among tribal nations and natural resource agencies is paramount for wolf stewardship and scientific data collection. The upper Great Lakes wolf population encompasses areas of Canada, Michigan, MN, and WI. I strongly recommend an increased effort to establish and expand collaborative wolf studies to share regional population information, to broaden and increase funding sources for such studies, and to be flexible as research tools are refined.

I strongly recommend an increased effort to live capture and radio-collar WI wolves. There are currently only 12 radio-collared wolves (draft Plan p 21). This sample size must be increased for accuracy and statistical predictions. Extensive and invaluable population, health, and mortality information has been historically gathered from WI radio-collared wolves (draft Plan pp 51-53, Tables 6 and 7). Continuing and increasing radio-collaring efforts, and collaborating with tribal nations and other agencies to facilitate combined analysis, will increase regional wolf stewardship.

I strongly recommend a continued and increased effort to collect basic demographic data and biological samples from all non-hunter killed wolves, including all vehicle killed, depredation control, or other types of wolf mortalities. Historically, WI wolf health monitoring included collection and analysis from live-captured wolves, wolf scats, and necropsies of found dead and depredation killed wolves (draft Plan p 114). Basic information included location, sex and age, and cause of death. Samples collected included reproductive tracts from females, and tissues for genetic, contaminant, parasitic, and other health analyses. Potential new contaminant concerns that have not been fully evaluated in wolves include exposure levels to neonicotinoid pesticides and PFAS. Toxin concerns that have not been fully evaluated include intentional poisonings, and the widespread use of chocolate at bear bait stations and it's effect on wolves. Chocolate is toxic for many species (Gwaltney-Brandt, S.M. 2022).

If a WI wolf hunt occurs in the future, I strongly urge WDNR to collect basic demographic data and biological samples from all hunter killed wolves. In the February 2021 WI hunt, 218 wolves were registered as legally killed, and 188 were killed by hunters using trailing hounds (86%) (WDNR Wolf Report 2021). Carcasses were only briefly visually inspected when registered, and it is not known how many of the adult females were pregnant or breeding. Less than 10%, or 21, of those wolves were voluntarily surrendered by hunters to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) for examination. GLIFWC biologists and others performed a basic gross necropsy examination of each wolf following standard anatomic pathology guidelines, which included an external evaluation of the animal, and examination of the internal structures including respiratory, cardiovascular, and digestive systems when applicable. Although it was a relatively small sample size, it was important as it represented an indication of the overall health and condition of WI wolves during the winter months. The GLIFWC report has not been released to date.

I recommend WDNR consider contracting with outside scientific and educational institutions for basic post-mortem analysis and sample collection from dead wolves, excepting those needed for law enforcement cases or diagnostic necropsies. Institutions would include universities and colleges, and other agencies. Personnel can be trained to perform a basic gross necropsy examination and biological sample collection following standard anatomic pathology guidelines. Sample collection personnel can be volunteers, or the collection efforts can be used as training exercises by agency personnel.

IV. Additional Specific Comments on the draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, Objectives and Strategies: The WI draft Plan is organized as an adaptive management plan, with a series of objectives, then strategies and products linked to each objective (draft Plan p 98). I agree the draft Plan should be sensitive to changing ecological and social conditions (draft Plan p 11). I suggest the Plan have a ten year time period, with a mid-point review, to assess implementation and progress of management actions (ten year plan 2023-2032, revise after 5 years).

I strongly recommend the WI draft Plan identify and include budget needs to fully implement their outlined management actions, including the opportunity to secure outside funding and explore policy and funding for evolving wolf depredation and compensation. Funding for the wolf

program should come from sources that reflect all values of wolves, as suggested by the 2023 MN Wolf Plan (MN Wolf Plan p 35).

Table 13 of the WI draft Plan (p 102) is described as "the WI wolf management plan objectives and associated metrics by which to evaluate progress towards those objectives. Metrics may be qualitative or quantitative." I strongly recommend WDNR identify **quantitative** metrics for each objective that have identified data points and can be reviewed annually. Metrics can include pack integrity, relative distribution of wolves, pack size, and other factors that can be quantified to define successful wolf stewardship and management. These metrics can be similar to the quantitative performance measure listed in the 2023 MN Wolf Plan (MN Wolf Plan Table 4, pages 36-37).

Objective A: Ensure a Healthy and Sustainable Wolf Population to Fulfill its Ecological Role (pp 111-114): see Beheler detailed comments p 3-9 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics.

Objective B: Address and Reduce Wolf-Related Conflict (pp 117-122):
Strategy B1: see Beheler detailed comments p 2-3 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics.

Strategy B2: Wolf damage compensation. See Beheler detailed comments p 2-3 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics regarding legislative and administrative rule changes.

Additional comments on **Objective B:** Address and Reduce Wolf-Related Conflict: hunting dog and livestock depredations. WI Act 169 of 2011 mandates that depredation payments are funded directly from the sale of wolf hunting or trapping licenses and application fees (draft Plan p 86). This is an inherent problem, as it maintains an unsuitable and unstable funding mechanism. The 2023 MN Wolf Plan recommends that to administer their wolf program, the MN DNR secure funds and investigate revenue sources in addition to wolf license fees. MN maintains that "Funding for the wolf program should come from a combination of sources that reflect the broad values of wolves in MN" (MN Wolf Plan p 35). I strongly suggest the WDNR follow these MN funding recommendations.

WDNR states in **Objective B** that it may be difficult to maintain downward trends with hunting dog conflicts if hound hunting and training grows substantially by in-state or out of state hunters (draft Plan p 117). WDNR shows that "most conflicts involve bear hunting dogs and occur on public hunting lands when humans are not in close proximity to their dogs" (draft Plan p 80, Figures 26 and 27). An independent 2021 report found that "During the February 2021 hunt wolves were removed primarily from core habitats on public lands where conflicts with pets, livestock or human safety are already rare. There was correspondingly little reduction of

wolf populations in areas of marginal habitat where livestock and pet depredations and human-wolf conflicts are most likely to occur. Based on currently available information and our understanding of wolf populations and behavior, there is little evidence that the February 2021 wolf hunt will significantly reduce human-wolf conflicts." (Wisconsin's Green Fire Conservation Bulletin 2021). As most of the bear hunting dog depredations occur in wolf core areas of public land, I recommend WDNR discontinue the $2500 compensation payment, mandated by WI Act 169 of 2011, for bear hunting dogs killed in wolf core areas on public lands.

Regarding livestock depredation, MN livestock owners are currently reimbursed through general funds. The 2023 MN Wolf Plan, however, recommends alternative funding for livestock depredation, with no further reliance on government funded wolf control and livestock compensation payments (MN Wolf Plan p 35). I strongly recommend WI seek alternative funding for livestock compensation.

Objective C: Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population (pp 123- 127): Strategies C1-CE: I agree with most of these Strategies. Also see Beheler comments p 1-8 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics.

Strategy C2h: designated hound training season (p 127). I do not agree with this Strategy. See Beheler comments p 1-2 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics.

Objective D: Increase Public Understanding of Wolves in Wisconsin (pp 129-130): WDNR should significantly expand this Objective and associated Strategies D1-D3. I specifically recommend collaboration with non-consumptive public education groups and educational institutions.

Objective E: Conduct Scientific Research to Inform Wolf Management and Stewardship (pp 132-136): see Beheler detailed comments p 1-9 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics.

Objective F: Provide leadership in collaborative and science-based wolf management in Wisconsin (pp 136-139): see Beheler detailed comments p 1-9 of this document, **Review and Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources draft Wolf Management Plan,** for specifics.

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2/20/2023

We are writing to express our concerns about a proposed wolf hunting and trapping season. We are absolutely opposed to any potential wolf hunting season. It appears to us that this season is being created to appease a small but vocal minority who it seems want to kill wolves for no good reason other than that they exist.

Hunting wolves with packs of dogs is beyond cruel and inhumane, the mere consideration of this practice is apalling. Trapping is a cruel, sadistic activity, what is the justification supporting this horrific method. As we all are aware, Wisconsin has a sizable 7 billion dollar surplus. How difficult would it be to set aside an account to reimburse those farmers and livestock managers who are experiencing occasional wolf-livestock conflict. In those instances where wolves have become accustomed to preying on stock they of course would have to be removed. A specialized gun hunt to remove offending animals would suffice. If there is a demonstrated proven need to reduce the wolf population, gun hunting is the only humane, reasonable method. No traps, no dogs, period.

We are by no means anti-hunting and are sport shooting enthusiasts, but this sort of gratuitous killing for the sake of killing destroys the image of legitimate hunters. A hunt such as this would be an indelible stain on Wisconsin's national image of a humane, well managed sportsmans paradise.

We believe there is overwhelming opposition generally across the state to a wolf hunt.

Thank you for considering our input.

George W. Berdine
Sandra A. Berdine
[redacted]
Milwaukee, WI 53207
[redacted]

Mr. Johnson,

I appreciate the opportunity for public comment on Wisconsin's Wolf Management Draft Plan. I know there were many people who spent a lot of time coming up with this draft. I and many others appreciate all of the cooperation between individuals and organizations to come together on this issue and develop a draft.

With all of that being said, it is my opinion that this draft needs to be thrown out and reworked from scratch. While the draft is ornately written, it fails to conceal the underlying theme: there is no plan. What plan there is certainly cannot be referred to as a "management" plan.

The proposed draft is a shell of arbitrary objectives and shifting goals. With the absence of numeric population goals, the plan is seemingly a population growth plan with provisions for conflict management. Conflicts which will continue to increase as the population grows and expands into areas once designated as inappropriate habitat for wolves; areas of higher human and livestock population density.

The draft rationalizes the lack of a numeric population goal by comparing wolf management to the management of deer, grouse, turkey and other species, excluding elk. It goes on to state that " elk in the state continue to be managed in a recovery status, as were wolves in the past, and numeric goals may not be appropriate for Wisconsin elk in the future." This is a relatively dishonest comparison when you consider that the original management goal of 350 wolves set in 1999 was never actually adhered to. The first wolf hunt came in 2012 when there were 815 wolves in the state and the state harvest quota was 116. Even if the harvest quota had been met, the population would have still been at 200% of the original management goal. Another example of arbitrary management goals can be seen in the comparison of the 2014 and 2021 wolf hunts. In 2014 there were an estimated 660 wolves in the state of Wisconsin and the state harvest quota was 150. In 2021 (the next year that a wolf hunt was allowed), there were 1,126 wolves in the state of Wisconsin and the state harvest quota was 119. While the population was 70% higher, the harvest quota was 20% lower. Yet another illustration of not truly following a numeric management system is the exclusion of "reservation wolves" from the population estimates when developing quotas. Being that there are no barriers preventing wildlife from traversing in and out of designated Reservation areas, this unnecessarily skews the population estimates. The lack of science based management is apparent even during the time period when wolves were being numerically managed in a recovery status. Loosening the management objectives and removing numeric population goals is moving in the opposite direction of where we should be going.

Altering wolf management zones and expanding their boundaries into Marathon County and central parts of the state is an unreasonable component of the draft as well. Reclassifying these areas to Secondary Range from inappropriate habitat shows a continued lack of science based reasoning and goes against conflict management goals.

While there is a wealth of scientific data provided within the report and the draft itself, it is obvious the “social” factors repeatedly referenced are the larger driving factor in this draft. If this draft were to be accepted as it is currently proposed, Wisconsin wildlife and wolf management will be derailed and will fall even further from science based management to emotion based preservation.

I believe that this draft is unacceptable in its current form and must be thrown out and reworked. I believe it needs to better represent the farmers, outdoorsmen, and rural residents of Wisconsin who not only live in wolf country, but who are affected by wolf populations and management practices. It should be based in science and contain numeric population goals.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to give my input on this wolf management plan draft.

Thank you

Dan Berg
President, Price County Farm Bureau

Comments on the Wisconsin (11/10/2022 Draft) Wolf Management Plan

As of 1/3/2023

1. ITEM: (page #107 end of 2nd Paragraph): *"It is recommended that only wolves legally harvested by licensed hunters or trappers during the wolf season (i.e., not those removed for depredation controls, vehicle kills, etc.) count towards the subzone limit."*

   Comment: Why not count all dead wolves toward this limit? Every death affects the overall population number.

2. ITEM: (Zones 3 and 4, page #105):
   "The plan recommends that the leading objectives within these zones be twofold: addressing and reducing wolf-related conflicts (Objective B) and providing multiple benefits associated with the wolf population (Objective C). Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role (Objective A) is also recommended to be considered in these zones, *but decision-making primarily be guided by the leading objectives (B and C). Accordingly, wolf harvest rates in these zones are recommended to be generally higher than prescribed in zones 1, 2 and 5 to provide ample harvest opportunity and potentially reduce wolf densities*, while simultaneously not jeopardizing the long-term persistence of some wolf packs within these zones."

   Comment: The emphasis here seems to be way too strong on "hunting" and "reduction of numbers" rather than focusing on just "reducing wolf-related conflicts". The goal of ensuring healthy wolf population should be equal to the other priorities.

3. ITEM: (Zone #6, page 105): "Because wolf packs will generally be limited in this zone due to reduced habitat quality, ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role (Objective A) is recommended to be given a reduced role in decision-making for this zone. *Accordingly, the plan recommends that wolf harvesting licenses be readily available in this zone to allow local control over wolf occupancy and density in this zone."*

   Comment: Why is "local" control given as preferred to State DNR control? Who would be allowed to administer this "local control"? What if this "local control" person or committee is vehemently "anti-wolf"?

4. ITEM: (Page #111: Product A1b): "Ensure the late-winter wolf population abundance is responsibly maintained above federal and state listing thresholds: … *Similarly, the current state threatened species level set by the 1999/2007 state wolf management plan is a late winter count of 250 wolves in the state outside of tribal reservations."*

   Comment: People want to be sure wolves are protected and maintained at the levels they now exist (approximately 850 to 1200 animals). Any mention of a downside limit as low as 250 (or lower) is totally destructive to this whole effort and should be removed. You have (rightly) stayed away from mentioning any limits elsewhere in this report, why mention it now? **If a downside limit number is absolutely required to be listed, then I would suggest something in the 950 range. Anything lower and you will not have solved this wolf numbers conflict at all,** (while actually doing an excellent job on everything else in this report !!!!

Thank you all so much for doing the work on this report!!
A wonderful effort !!

Barry Brezan
12485 W. Weatherstone Blvd.
New Berlin, WI 53151
bbrezan67@yahoo.com

P.S. I am not a hunter, but I enjoy travelling the state, hiking, and taking wildlife photos.

DNR Wolf Plan Comments: Feb. 16, 2023

This is to let the DNR Know that they should have a Wolf hunting and Trapping Season to save the deer and ELK herd in Northern Wi. or what's left.

It's hard to believe that thousands of dollars were spent on the ELK just to be food for the wolves.

The wolf population should be Kept to 350 wolves in the state of Wisconsin.

Our hunting camp is in northern Wi. and there are 12 of us in the camp. If you want us to Keep hunting you better do Something about the Wolves.

Kenneth Brunner
Geneva Brunner
and the
12 members of the Hunting Camp.

January 24, 2023

Wis DNR Wolf Management

Public Input

As a lifelong Wisconsin resident, I have always treasured my "walks in the woods" with my canine friends. Due to the large numbers of wolves in northwestern Wisconsin, I no longer feel relaxed and enjoy the outdoors, but instead am constantly alert to any danger to my dog. I served in the army and woodland walks are beginning to feel like a military patrol – constantly on the alert.

Much of the support for the ever increasing size of the wolf population live in urban areas. I say to them, come on up and live with them. The wolf is becoming increasingly bold and show no fear of humans. Some of the "co-existence" recommendations are absurd. For instance don't let your dog out after dark. In northern Wisconsin that's 16-17 hours for most of the winter. Ridiculous.

When the original wolf management plan was released in the 80's I told Adrian Wydeven that the plan's prediction that suitable wolf habitat could be found only in some portions of the Nicolet and Chequamegon National forests was incorrect. Sadly I was correct. The wolf would prove to be (and has) just as adaptable as the coyote. Trail cams on my southern Marquette County farm now frequently have images of wolves. Perhaps when a pack takes up residence in the Arboretum, some of our concerns will be appreciated.

I also told him that the target population of 350 would be rapidly surpassed and the wolf supporters would say that is good and fight any efforts at control. Sadly that is true.

Give the woods back to the people for relaxing recreation and manage the population to reasonable levels where seeing a wolf is a rarity, not a common occurrence.

Jim Bryan

[redacted]

Bayfield, Wi 54814

Dept. of Natural Resources
Wolf Management Plan
101 S Webster St.
Madison, WI 53707

February 13, 2023

Dear DNR:

My wife and I have looked at the proposed Wolf Management Plan and would like our voices heard. The plan appears very comprehensive. As a lifeline resident of Wisconsin, my most sincere hope is that we honor and support Wolves miraculous recovery. The Packs are a blessing, a gift, and a second chance.

My concern is how will this lengthy report protect Wolves from another slaughter at the hands of wolf haters from around the Country? Scientific knowledge didn't protect pregnant females from being hounded to exhaustion, day and night, by dogs. And awareness of Wolves as a keystone species essential to our ecosystem didn't keep them from being decimated. Did the DNR take any action whatsoever during this time? The Wolves never had a chance.

As part of the plan, we should add an apology to members of Wisconsin Tribes for allowing destruction of creatures they consider respected relatives. Also, every guy who has a relatively new stuffed wolf head on his wall should pay reparations to the rest of us, whose resources they plundered with no accountability. Having faith that the State of Wisconsin does the right thing regarding protection of wildlife will be difficult to get back.

Respectfully Yours

Rodney S Campbell

Attention Deputy Secretary Barry and Randy Johnson:

I have voiced my concern in the past, and I would like to add my name to the growing number of Wisconsin landowners/hunters to petition your 167 page Draft Wolf Management Plan!!

I am a former graduate of the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point(1989). I graduated with a BS Degree in Wildlife Management and Natural Resource Management. Some of my instructors were Christine Thomas, Dean Trainor, and Neal Payne. They along with many other educators at the College of Natural Resources taught me the principles of wildlife management, population dynamics,wildlife survey methods, integrated resource management, etc.

The DNR is not applying sound scientific management principles/data to manage the growing wolf population in Wisconsin!

As Laurie Groskoft states in the latest issue of On Wisconsin Outdoors, Ms. Groskoft and thousands upon thousands of Wisconsin Sportsmen/Hunters are dumbfounded with disbelief regarding the DNR's Wolf Plan, and their total lack of urgency/panic towards the growing population of wolves in Wisconsin.

I agree with every word Dick Ellis and John Ellis put to paper in the January/February edition of On Wisconsin Outdoors. I also petition with Laurie Groskoft and the rest of Wisconsin Wildlife Federation to revise your Wolf Draft to address all the points made by the WWF to challenge your draft.

Wolves are wiping out the deer herds in Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota. Wolves are encroaching human occupancy more each year, and putting human safety at risk. Wolf depredation on domestic dogs, and farm animals has escalated to out of control incidents/reports.
Wolf depredation is directly linked to the decline of deer hunters in the woods. As a result of wolf depredation: no deer, loss of hunter numbers and interest to participate in the sport, and a substantial loss of revenue.

The DNR needs to wake up, do the job our taxes/funding pay you to do, and adopt/address a plan to control(manage) our wolf population!!
The only way to do that is with an annual harvest of at least 350 wolves(that number should be 500-600 in my opinion!!).

Drew Charpentier
[redacted]
Ogema,WI 54459
[redacted]

DICK ELLIS

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation challenges DNR Draft Wolf Management Plan



Wisconsin DNR posted a 167-page Draft Wolf Management Plan on November 11, 2022 that eliminates "a single numeric population goal". DNR requested that respondents "invest time in reading the draft before submitting feedback". Feedback, for reasons unknown, is accepted from Wisconsin residents and non-residents.

On Wisconsin Outdoors (OWO) received the letter to follow from the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (WWF) responding to the plan. The WWF represents 211 affiliated grassroots hunting, angling and sporting conservation clubs throughout Wisconsin. *OWO* strongly recommends that your investment of time goes to reading the 1-1/2 pages below prior to connecting with DNR Draft Plan though the DNR website.

OWO sought input on the DNR plan from Laurie Groskopf, who we have learned to trust as a wolf management source of expertise. Groskopf is on the Board of Directors for the WWF, and a delegate to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress but stressed that she is commenting as an individual and not as a representative of any organization.

"My main reaction is disbelief that the spread of wolves and conflicts has not been recognized as the threat to rural life it is," she said. "L. David Mech, the world's longest and most experienced wolf researcher, said 'Some zones for some periods can support total protection (of wolves), whereas in others, wolf numbers will have to be reduced to various degrees or removed. They are prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new areas where humans allow them, and are difficult to control when populations become established."

"All of this is lost on the WDNR. DNR uses no science but makes the decision to extensively enlarge what they define as suitable wolf habitat. They use only the fact that wolves live there, so in their mind, it must be suitable habitat."

In the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan approved in 1999 and 2007, the population goal was 350 wolves. DNR is currently mandated by law to manage state wolf numbers to 350. Thirty-six Wisconsin County Boards have passed resolutions supporting a wolf goal of 350 or less. These 36 county boards are the elected representatives of 1,266,000 Wisconsin citizens.

DNR is using a 2022 "Social Science" Survey to claim majority public support for a wolf population clearly growing and expanding in Wisconsin. Groskopf pointed to the 2022 Spring Hearings, where Wisconsin residents approved a wolf goal of 350 or less (in favor: 12,978. Against: 6,410), a resolution supported in 69 of the state's 72 counties.

"For reasons I don't comprehend, the DNR is deaf to these and other opinions that the wolf population needs to be limited and controlled," Groskopf said. "As every wolf expert said at an International Wolf Conference in October, 2022, wolves are fine in areas with minimal human presence and enough game to eat. However, Wisconsin has by far the highest human density of any wolf-recovered state. Unfortunately, the DNR is promoting wolf persecution by insisting wolves be allowed to occupy all or portions of 37 counties in Wisconsin, with the great possibility they will expand into adjacent counties and states. There are no controls on their numbers. Very sad for the wolves. Very sad for people in wolf-occupied areas."

As the WWF states: The draft plan allows for a subjective process for managing wolves. The population goal was established in the 1999 plan due to lack of confidence in a subjective wolf management strategy. There is no accountability without a numeric population goal. The only scientific analysis of wolf habitat done to-date of Wisconsin landscape quantified the social carrying capacity as 350 wolves. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests maintaining the numeric population goal of 350 wolves in the final plan.

JOHN ELLIS

DNR Mismanagement goes far beyond Wolves

In the Winter 2022 edition of *Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine*, Dana Fulton Porter writes "Due to climate change, the ice fishing season in Wisconsin is about 24 days shorter than it was in the 1970's." Let that sink in for a moment, and use your judgment. You don't have to be a scientist to know that Dana's statement is ridiculous. But it's a great illustration of how Wisconsin DNR mismanagement, and misinformation, goes far beyond wolves. It's everywhere.

WISCONSIN WILDLIFE FEDERATION
213 North Main Street, Suite 100, PO Box 460; Poynette, WI 53955 • (608) 635-0600 • (800) 897-4161
www.wiwf.org
AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

December 10, 2022

Sarah Barry
Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

methods for public input along with comment period deadlines.

3. There is no means for submitting additional supporting information to the WI DNR for consideration in the draft plan. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests the WI DNR provide the public with an email and mailing address to submit comments and additional supporting information.
4. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests the WI DNR hold public hearings across the state and hold more in wolf affected zones for input on the draft plan.

Inclusion/Exclusion:

5. There is no provision for the inclusion of comments from county and local governments into the draft plan. Many county and local governments have taken positions on wolf population [illegible] must be included in the process.

and conflicts has not been recognized as the threat to rural life it is," she said. "L. David Mech, the world's longest and most experienced wolf researcher, said 'Some zones for some periods can support total protection (of wolves), whereas in others, wolf numbers will have to be reduced to expert said at an International Wolf Conference in October, 2022, wolves are fine in areas with minimal human presence and enough game to eat. However, Wisconsin has by far the highest human density of any wolf-recovered state. Unfortunately, the DNR is promoting wolf persecution than it was in the 1970's." Let that sink in for a moment, and use your judgment. You don't have to be a scientist to know that Dana's statement is ridiculous. But it's a great illustration of how Wisconsin DNR mismanagement, and misinformation, goes far beyond wolves. It's everywhere.

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December 10, 2022

Sarah Barry
Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster St.
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Deputy Secretary Barry,

At our Board meeting today, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, with more than 211 affiliated grassroots hunting, angling, and sporting conservation clubs and alliances throughout the state, approved the following response to the WDNR 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan and requests the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources take the necessary actions to address the following points in a revised draft or final plan:

Public Comment:

1. The current 60-day public comment period in not an adequate amount of time to gather input considering the timing of the release overlaps with hunting seasons and multiple holidays. We request the timeline be extended to 90-days.
2. Not all residents have email or computer access in their homes. For this reason, we request the WI DNR provide multiple and widely distributed announcements of opportunities and methods for public input along with comment period deadlines.
3. There is no means for submitting additional supporting information to the WI DNR for consideration in the draft plan. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests the WI DNR provide the public with an email and mailing address to submit comments and additional supporting information.
4. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests the WI DNR hold public hearings across the state and hold more in wolf affected zones for input on the draft plan.

Inclusion/Exclusion:

5. There is no provision for the inclusion of comments from county and local governments into the draft plan. Many county and local governments have taken positions on wolf population goals and must be included in the process.
6. A functional advisory committee with a balanced mix of impacted stakeholders would vastly improve this ongoing process.

Public Survey Methodology:

7. The public survey does not adequately represent those actively impacted by wolves. Use of county and zip codes to select samples does not accurately reflect those exposed to wolves and impacted by wolves. We request the WI DNR actively seek out those impacted by wolves and place greater emphasis on their perspective.
8. Survey design is flawed. Survey length discourages responses from some individuals. Terminology is undefined and could be seen as biased. Some questions lack balance in positive and negative responses, causing an imbalance in responses. All these features of the survey alienate some individuals causing them to not respond.

Population Estimates:

9. Approximately 40% of the wolf tracking units are not tracked to the required three-time standard and not all units are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

WWF, *FROM PAGE 18*

tracked. This lends itself to under-counting and under-reporting wolf population in those wolf tracking units.

10. Lone and dispersing wolves are not counted in the current population model as is done in western states. Some states add 12% or 15% to their estimates to account for lone and dispersing wolves. We urge lone wolves be included in Wisconsin's population estimate.
11. The WI DNR is not taking full advantage of public reporting of wolf sightings. The online tool for reporting should be better advertised and the WI DNR should clarify that personal information is protected and not available as public record.
12. GPS collar tracking provides the WI DNR with useful information on travel patterns and pack locations for counting. Increased use of GPS collars should be considered.

Conflict Management:

13. The draft management plan is passive and lacks active conflict management for depredations of non-agricultural domestic animals such as dogs and other pets. Increased harvest is not a method identified in the draft plan to reduce such depredations. Include targeted population reduction in areas of heavy depredation of dogs and other non-agricultural domestic animals. This should include all legal methods of harvest for targeted population reductions.
14. The draft plan does not address a numeric conflict reduction goal. We request a goal be set and included in the plan so effectiveness of methods can be measured.
15. The draft plan appears to have biases against hunting with dogs. Hunting with hounds has the same statutory and state constitutional protections as agriculture and should have equal active measures preventing depredations.
16. We oppose the plan wording encouraging low road densities in large tracts of public lands, which is another means to prevent hunting, fishing, trapping, and other public land use opportunities.
17. We oppose the plan wording that implies hunting conflicts are the fault of the hunter. The draft plan needs to address using population management of wolves as a method to reduce hunting conflicts. Hunters have Constitutional rights to hunt lands open to them despite the presence of wolves.
18. Currently there are multiple systems for sending alerts for livestock, hunting dogs, and non-agricultural animals, but the plan is missing human health and safety alerts. Receiving the same notification with a 4-mile radius map is necessary to help prevent potential conflicts for land users, pet owners, and dog hunters around those areas. We request the WI DNR provide equal notifications for equal protections for all land users.
19. Those who have personally experienced conflicts with wolves may have traumatic experiences and stresses. The psychological impacts on humans caused by livestock and domestic depredations by wolves is real and needs to be considered. The draft plan ignores the psychological impacts wolf conflicts have on humans and this needs to be addressed in the plan.

Zone Changes:

20. The plan includes the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations, effectively giving the management of the wolf population on both public and private lands to the tribes. We oppose the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners and public land stakeholders. We also oppose giving away wildlife management authority.
21. The agricultural areas in these newly created buffer zones in the draft plan will go largely unprotected and have inadequate protections for pets and livestock. Private landowners will have unequal treatment under the law for which they are protected under the Constitution.
22. The zone restructure is now based on wolf occupancy and not based on suitable habitat. The unmanaged wolf population has forced wolves out of prime suitable habitat into inappropriate areas, creating conflicts. Not all areas are appropriate to have wolves. We request the zone structure return to the original science-based, habitat-based zones.

Goal Statement/Objectives:

23. The Goal Statement in the draft plan does not address where wolves are appropriate. The draft plan needs to take a hard look into what is good for wolves and what is good for humans. Low interactions between the two are best. Wolves should only reside in high-quality wolf habitat and not be managed to the maximum biological carrying capacity. No other species in Wisconsin is managed to its maximum biological carrying capacity.
24. The draft plan implies the elimination of hunting with dogs which is Constitutionally protected. It also implies wolves have more rights to the land than hunters. This narrative is not science-based and all such implications should be removed.
25. Objective B is missing long-term controls for agricultural conflicts. Wolves are known to move down the road and create conflicts with just short-term controls.
26. The goal statement or objectives do not address any form of population control. The official position of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is a population goal of 350 wolves in the State of Wisconsin. We strongly request the numeric population goal of 350 wolves be maintained in the final plan.

Numerical Population Goal:

27. The draft plan allows for a subjective process for managing wolves. The population goal was established in the 1999 plan due to lack of confidence in a subjective wolf management strategy. There is no accountability without a numeric population goal. The only scientific analysis of wolf habitat done to-date of Wisconsin landscape quantified the social carrying capacity as 350 wolves. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests maintaining the numeric population goal of 350 wolves in the final plan.
28. For increased accountability the population goal needs to have a timeline for completion. The goal timeline allows measuring of progress towards meeting the set population goal with milestones along the way. We request a population goal timeline be added to the plan.

Quotas/Permits:

29. The western states have 13 years of harvest data in establishing quotas to reach their wolf population goals. We recommend including this data in the draft plan to aid in establishing quotas.
30. Permit issuing methodology should be based on the likely harvest methods used in the season they will be issued.
31. Western states have been unable to reduce their wolf numbers consistently despite high levels of human take. As wolf expert David Mech said, "Wolves are prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new areas where humans will allow them, and are difficult to control when populations become established."

Delisting:

32. For lethal wolf conflict control and population management to take place federal delisting is required. To-date the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has had no visible involvement in planning, researching, and federal delisting efforts with the USFWS or with legal representation in delisting efforts. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly requests the WI DNR have a strong and visible presence, and active involvement in all federal delisting efforts that impact Wisconsin and in support of all other states actively working towards delisting wolves in their states.

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation requests the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources incorporate the above actions and requests for updates into the 2022 Final Wolf Management Plan.

Sincerely yours,

Patrick Quaintance
President

President:
Pat Quaintance
88255 Happy Hollow Rd
Bayfield, WI 57814
715-209-1799
pquaint@icloud.com

First Vice President:
Kevyn Quamme
W6970 Hwy B
Dalton, WI 53926
608-209-3872
kevyn@abcmadison.com

Second Vice President:
Connie Polzin
6771 Firetower Rd
Rhinelander, WI 54501
715-344-3497
noisycreek71@gmail.com

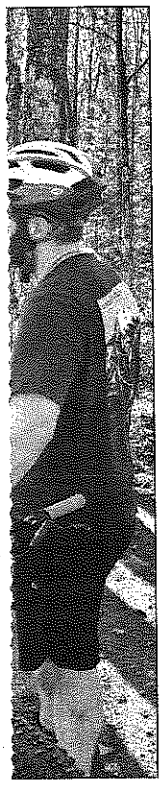
Treasurer:
David Verhage
1111 Chadwick Ct.
Plover, WI 54467
715-344-3497
DavidDebV@charter.net

Secretary:
Terri Roehrig
S588 County Rd H
Mondovi, WI
tlroehrig@yahoo.com

Past President:
Craig Challoner
3880 2nd St Rd
Omro, WI 54963
920-379-3255
craig.challoner@gmail.com

Executive Director:
Mark LaBarbera
2955 Kennedy Rd
Hazel Green, WI 53811
520-730-9252
mlabarbera57@icloud.com

Business Manager:
Lindsay Alt
PO Box 460
Poynette, WI 53955
608-635-0600
lindsay@wiwf.org





TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN...

THE CURRENT PLAN ALLOWS SOVEREIGN NATIONS CONTROL OVER PRIVATE PROPERTY WOLF MANAGEMENT. PRIVATE PROPERTY MANAGERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE A SAY IN WOLF MANAGEMENT IN THEIR AREA.

ALSO, THE CURRENT PLAN HAS NO POPULATION CONTROL GOAL OR TRIGGER FOR POPULATION REDUCTION IF NEED BE. HUMANS HAVE TAKEN OVER A PORTION OF THE PREDATORY RESPONSIBILITY IN CONTROLLING DEER NUMBERS THROUGH ESTABLISHED HUNTING SEASONS. AN UNREGULATED POPULATION IS PRONE TO INCREASE IN SIZE & RANGE, AFFECTING NUMEROUS WISCONSINITES IF NOT MAINTAINED AT A SUITABLE LEVEL.

CURRENT ESTIMATES HAVE SAID THE STATE POPULATION IS APPROXIMATELY 1000 ANIMALS. THOSE ALREADY LIVING IN THE WOLF RANGE ALREADY FEEL THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS. THEY NEED TO BE HEARD.

I ASK THAT THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED, AND THAT THE CURRENT WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN NOT BE PASSED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Logan Christel

LOGAN CHRISTEL [redacted]

To: Randy Johnson
Large Carnivore Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501

7 February 3, 2023

From: William R. Clark
Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Ecology
Iowa State University
[redacted]
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Re: Review of the "Draft Wolf Management Plan 2022"

I want to start by commending you and your Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) team on undertaking the difficult assignment of drafting a Wolf Management Plan for Wisconsin. As an interested citizen of Wisconsin, and a former Professor of Wildlife Ecology, I feel I am in a somewhat unique position to provide input and helpful evaluation of that effort. My objective was to use my professional knowledge and experience to aid WDNR in producing the most defendable management plan possible. As you are aware I have also provided this input to the Wildlife Working Group of Wisconsin Green Fire (WGF) and some of my comments have been incorporated into their review. But what follows is my personal technical review, along with general thoughts and impressions. To be clear, I did not do an exhaustive literature search to support each point. In most cases I noted the pages or sections where I first reacted to a point or found issues. Feel free to incorporate verbatim any thoughts that you find useful.

Overall, the WDNR team produced a Draft Plan that is comprehensive, objective, and meets high professional standards. Deciding on the "right" course of action for conservation and management of wolves in Wisconsin, not to mention "who gets to decide" is a daunting task. Various views are expressed by the range of stakeholders, often resulting in diametrically opposed preferred management and outcomes. The WDNR has the responsibility to consider alternatives but eventually "the public," through the Natural Resources Board and political process "decides" the course of action. The Draft Plan largely follows the "North American model" (NAM) of wildlife management, i.e. scientific management-based on observation and data, accompanied by analytical evaluation and modeling. Traditionally the NAM approach is goal oriented. But the plan addresses the need to understand and attempts to compromise constituent viewpoints, especially those based on traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) of indigenous cultures. TEK is founded in long-term observation that is personal and cultural emerging from living as part of ecosystem. In contrast to NAM, it is less goal oriented. I made some specific comments about this at the end of this review.

After reading my notes I decided it would be useful to group my comments into themes.

Theme 1: Population ecology

Pages 13-15: this section focuses on the importance of and evidence for trophic cascades. The authors have provided appropriate caveats, especially with respect to human impacted landscapes. The concept has been around since classic literature (Paine 1966). The idea has had an important influence on community ecology, especially with respect to the role of predation. For example, it underlies the meso-predator release ideas (Crooks and Soule 1999) applied to carnivore communities. But the latter literature is often based on circumstantial evidence rather than experimental evidence (or at least with some controlled comparison). The Draft Plan not surprisingly relies heavily on the literature on the effects of wolves on carnivore communities and trophic cascades in Yellowstone, a literature which has been both enlightening and which also has generated lots of scientific controversy. I often cite the Kluane boreal forest studies (Sinclair and Krebs 2001) which explore the complexities of the trophic relationships and indicate the non-linear nature of the effects—sometime top down, sometimes bottom up, almost always a mixture of both. There is also a large literature from European studies.

Page 17: I'd mention the importance of life history, with respect to compensatory and additive mortality, though it might not be relevant to this paragraph. An additional source of mortality (e.g. natural predation, harvest) can be compensatory if the species has a "fast life history" (i.e. there is lots of "room" for compensation if there is high turnover, high mortality). But for "slow life history" species (long-lived, we used to say K-selected), additional mortality sources are almost always additive. Although large carnivores can be somewhat resilient to harvest, it is easy to exceed the additive threshold.

Page 19: I haven't kept up with the wolf literature as much as I have for smaller carnivores so I was a little surprised at the rates of increase quoted (as much as 29%, λ=1.29). It's probably worth mentioning that such rates can be highly variable, and that the distribution on estimated lambda is skewed (not normal). Some populations may have median λ<1, but periodically be "demographically rescued" by an occasional good year or years. At λ=1.29, a "back-of-the-envelope" calculation would suggest sustainable wolf harvest would be ~23%, considerably greater than my experience with bobcats with sustainable long-term harvest rates of <10%.

Page 21: I recalled reading the Stenglein et al (2015) analyses and note here that the conclusions prompted my thinking about accounting for the various growth phases of a population, particularly as growth slows when habitat becomes saturated. I made further comments about integrated population models (IPM) below, regarding the Draft Plan objectives.

Pages 29-37: it is commendable that WDNR has conducted two recent surveys of the public attitudes toward wolves and wolf management. Figs. 10 and 11 reveal that public attitudes are not as polarized as I might have expected. In general I see support for lethal control, though the public seems split on who should execute that control. There does seem to be public trust of the WDNR responsibility for management.

Page 50: Figure 16 could be improved slightly. The legend for the red line should probably be "estimated number of wolves". You mention that beginning in 2020 the estimates were calculated by occupancy

models, about which the public and even some professionals are skeptical or ignorant. I added some comments about OM below.

Page 54: This point is the first mention of a specific population target that were developed during previous planning. The often-quoted target of 350 wolves remains "fixed" in the minds of many constituents. It might be valuable to point out that some of the "target- number thinking" was inherited from the federal designations for the Great Lakes DPS (which is discussed in detail on pages 54-59). Unfortunately, targets and quotas have been a part of the population harvest management literature since the beginning of the wildlife and fishery science and management. It is significant that the Draft Plan avoids stating a fixed population goal. But I think you need to strengthen the narrative for linking to ecological integrity rather than a population number. You should provide specific thinking (metrics) about how you will assess rate of increase (or decrease), dispersal rate, changes in distribution, pack integrity (persistence), and genetic linkages (more below).

Page 65: From what I have seen online and heard in discussions there is a lot of misunderstanding and criticism of Occupancy Modeling (OM). Even among professionals there remains some skepticism regarding statistical estimation approaches rather than "traditional direct counts." I think the Draft Plan should respond to such criticisms by explaining OM more fully. I provide some points below that come to my mind. Often when trying to explain quantitative methods to the naïve, part of the hangup is the word "modeling." The unsophisticated assume that the model is comprised of a series of untested assumptions (viewed by some as fudge factors) to produce estimates. They do not understand that it is more correct to refer to occupancy as a data driven, statistical estimation procedure.
To help clarify we should encourage the Draft Plan to include these points:

- I understood the motivation for the switch to OM, but the lead-in sounds a little too much like it was adopted to save money; I think you could strengthen the opening by emphasizing the rigor and repeatability
- OM was developed by some of the best biostatical minds in wildlife ecology; they have been widely applied and rigorously tested on everything from "beetles to bears"; they are now used not only to estimate population distribution but also vital rates of populations (a good review like Bailey et al. 2014 or some other part of the huge literature should be cited)
- just as the Wisconsin "minimum counts" method applied previously to the problem, OM estimates the number of wolves on the landscape at a fixed point in time, i.e. roughly mid-winter (between Dec-Mar when data is collected)
- both methods can be used to estimate the change from year to year, i.e. between one winter and the next; in its simplest form OM estimates detection probability and probability of occupancy of the sample units; it is not a correct criticism that OM includes hidden assumptions about mortality, illegal kills, reproduction; however in more sophisticated applications such elements can be included though such applications should properly be called Integrated Population Models (IPM, Zipkin and Saunders 2018, more below); when such elements are included the assumptions are on full display, rather than "hidden"
- OM has the distinct advantage of explicitly accounting for differences in detection probability, which minimum counts do not explicitly include
- furthermore, in answer to an often-asked question, the OM methodology explicitly allows using covariates like weather conditions, habitat, presence of disturbance, etc. to model detection,

each year and place, and thus accounts for variation that would influence the estimated occupancy; minimum counts do not explicitly account for these sources of variation.

- and deer prey abundance from the deer zones and counties can be directly incorporated as a covariate on occupancy.
- the result of the OM statistical procedure is estimates with confidence intervals, also not possible with minimum counts; and the Draft Plan should explain how to interpret the "wide" confidence intervals (CI), which some perceive as a weakness rather than a strength.
- the above point is a very important advantage, especially because of the potential value in setting harvest limits; in previous application to bobcats in Iowa I advocated for harvest quotas based on lower CI which is based on the data, and obviously conservative

Page 67-68: beginning of the quota setting explanation. Regarding Table 11, I didn't find the explanation in text that Population Growth is calculated by comparison of Winter Counts from one year to the next. I'd label the column Population Rate of Change (most folks think of growth as +). Although I would prefer "λ" (i.e. 809/815) the public probably would not recognize that this represents a 1% loss from one year to the next. But I think you should be sure they understand that the rate represents the net change from one year to the next year (i.e. the estimates are "observed finite rate of change"). As such they do not incorporate all the little changes (birth and death of individuals) on which the public focuses. But the estimated rates can be defended as encompassing overall population dynamics. Be sure Table 11 is consistent with Fig. 19. Finally, I note that the entries in the last column of Table 11 are proportions, not percentages as labeled.

Page 97: skipping ahead to more points about population principles and harvest, it is at this point that the argument to shift from a "target population goal" to a "response to ecological conditions" goal is presented. This section reads a bit like a "defense of" past numerical goals (easily defined, etc.) though it does try to convince the reader of the difficulties, cost etc. With appropriate introductory sentences, it might be possible to "flip" the first and second paragraphs, making the species conservation, ecological integrity, and conflicts and cultural considerations opportunities the lead points of the paragraph. The section refers to other species managed by adaptive management in Wisconsin but adding citations of other notable examples (the obvious one is waterfowl) would strengthen the argument.

How does (or should?) the plan acknowledge that the Wisconsin legislative requirement for a harvest season is inconsistent with the other states (jurisdictions) that encompass the Great Lakes population?

Page 102: The table of the Objectives is a great summary.

Pages 103-108: The map of zones is very helpful. The description of each zone is well-connected to the previous sections that cover wolf dynamics and constituent concerns

Objective A: As a relative new resident of Wisconsin, I have relatively little specific knowledge of the historical management of wolf harvest. So, most of my comments above are based on my general knowledge of population ecology and management, including other carnivores. But since reading and listening to much of the online objections, I understand that the specifics of the zones and their management produce the most controversy. Perhaps my comments that focus on the goal of sustaining

the wolf population while allowing some harvest and preventing conflicts is not what you will find most useful.

Objective B: Here also I lacked much local knowledge so I had no specific comments. However, I positively note that the subzones enable focusing harvest around some of the problem areas.

Pages 132-135: Especially with respect to Strategies E1 and E4
The strategies advocate for continued comparison of occupancy modeling with other approaches to population abundance monitoring, which is obviously essential. But I didn't see that the section explicitly addressed integrating OM with more "mechanistic" modeling approaches like IPM (e.g. modeling like Stenglein et al, see review in Zipkin and Saunders 2018). As an aside, IPM is often confused with Individual Based Modeling (IBM, DeAngelis and Grimm 2014) which could also be very usefully applied to the wolf system. IPM could incorporate hypothesized estimates of poaching, the effects of pack disruption, dispersal from source zones into marginal zones, etc. Obviously, there may only be bits of data on some of these factors, but of course the advantage of such modeling is the ability to test a range of possibilities (i.e. what if poaching is infrequent versus larger and underestimated). Bottom line, the Draft Plan should specifically encourage research collaborations on OM, IPM, IBM within the WDNR and with college/university partners.

<u>Theme 2: Landscape ecology</u>

Page 12: I recognize that the goal of the Draft Plan is not to provide exhaustive reviews of literature, but I think adding a citation or two would be valuable. There have been some updates (Gaynor et al. 2019), and research on the way in which human disturbance interacts with presence of natural predators. This latter point fits very well into the wolf/prey landscape of Wisconsin.

Page 110: Throughout the report, the maps prompted me to think about various analyses that could be applied to the spatial patterns. I'd be surprised if people have not already begun thinking about spatial statistical methods to compare processes such as those depicted in Figs. 38 and 39. There are many examples of such analyses in ecology, including comparison of methods such as nearest neighbor, Ripley's K, spatial point correlations, etc. (e.g., Perry et al. 2006). After "heat maps" of prey mortality locations and predator movement frequency (from telemetry) kernel methods can be used to compare the correlation between the processes. You cite the maps that compare locations of wolf harvest from the 2021 season with depredation locations, but that only scratches the surface of the spatial analyses that could be undertaken.

Page 135: regarding Objective E5c, I might have missed it but has someone built resource selection functions for Wisconsin wolves and compared them to data from elsewhere? I know there are RSF analyses from Yellowstone, Ontario, and probably elsewhere.

The maps of pack territories and those of the proposed management zones made me wonder if there have been analyses of dispersal corridors. Has there been an analysis of marked individuals from 1 and 2 into 5? Or the frequency that individuals from 1, 2, and 5 disperse into 3,4?

And given the regional nature of the DPS, what about genetic analyses of founders of the Wisconsin population? Or a landscape-level analyses of corridors across the region? This point transitions to the next topic of population genetics.

Theme 3: Population Genetics

Though I am not a population geneticist by training, during the last 20 years I have collaborated on landscape genetics projects on carnivores (bobcat and gray fox). Both projects provided important information to the conservation of those species. In fact, my colleague Dawn Reding and I are continuing research on bobcats in the Midwest, hopefully to include Wisconsin sampling. In our justification for cooperation by the various states we have noted the continuing changes in distribution of bobcats in the region, including whether populations will persist in agricultural landscapes, or whether cryptic boundaries between subpopulations influence population viability, and whether there is potential for local adaptation to climate change (Reding et al 2012). Answers to the research questions will enhance genetics-informed conservation management.

I bring this to your attention because it a similar justification applies to future management of wolves in the regional landscape. As further evidence of such thinking, the state of California suspended almost all hunting and trapping of furbearers. The state commissioned (and funded) the California Conservation Genomics Project (CCGP), an initiative with a single broad goal: "to produce the most comprehensive, multispecies, genomic dataset ever assembled to help manage regional biodiversity." https://www.ccgproject.org/about-us. In the future, it seems likely that the public may expect population data that applies throughout the ecosystem and at regional scales. State and federal agencies will be challenged to meet that expectation, without specific regard to jurisdictional boundaries. Effectively, management of the Great Lakes DPS of wolves is already at that point. Schweizer et al. (2016) has explored the conservation implications of local adaptation by wolves. And the genetic studies called for by the Draft Plan has the potential to provide the most important information about population structure and linkage that applies not only within Wisconsin but across the region.

Theme 4: TEK views

The Draft Plan is reasonably inclusive of Indigenous viewpoints, giving the tribes the opportunity to express their cultural beliefs of the kinship relationship with wolves and the importance of maintaining ecological integrity and diversity. In contrast to the details of the Draft Plan, which are rooted in the conventional North American Model (NAM) of wildlife management, the tribes express the view that wolves don't need to be managed but respected and conserved. The two views might seem diametrically opposed. However, acknowledging that a similar "natural regulation and integrity" viewpoint has been explicitly recommended by scientists who have prominently contributed to conventional wildlife management. I would cite the A. Starker Leopold et al. (1963) report that specifically recommended the natural regulation policies for Yellowstone, and which ultimately laid the foundation for the reintroduction of wolves to the ecosystem. I would acknowledge that The Wildlife Society itself has recognized that NAM has limitations and can be improved (Organ et al. 2012), responding to critics who describe it as too narrowly defined (or traditionally limited) (e.g. Serfass et al.2018). This suggestion might seem to undermine the overall acceptance of the Draft Plan, but I think it might reduce criticism that the plan is not inclusive enough of other viewpoints and values.

Page 123: although the definition at the beginning of Objective C may be intended almost as a legal statement, I the Draft Plan should encourage explicit inclusion of indigenous values as part of the defining statement. It is certainly true that "all wildlife including wolves, is held in esteem by tribal culture for the 'benefit' (probably not the culturally correct word) of present and future generations."

Page 138: under Objective F2a, what about an explicit recommendation for a study of management outcomes as perceived through TEK and conventional wildlife science, jointly funded by WDNR and GLIFWC? (see Moller et al. 2004)

Some specifics:
USFWS 2020b is listed twice in citations

Page 53: in the carrying capacity paragraph, the use of the work "predications" struck me as odd, compared to "predictions"

Fuller et al 2020 is missing, or year is incorrect

It looks like a page number of 140 is incorrectly inserted after page 135, check page numbering

Literature suggested:

Bailey, L.L., MacKenzie, D.I. and Nichols, J.D. (2014), Advances and applications of occupancy models. Methods Ecol Evol, 5: 1269-1279. https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.12100

DeAngelis, D. L, and V. Grimm. 2014. Individual-based models in ecology after four decades. F1000Prime Reports 2014, 6:39 (doi:10.12703/P6-39)

Gaynor, K. M., Brown, J. S., Middleton, A.D., Power, M.E., and Brashares, J.S. 2019.
Landscapes of fear: Spatial patterns of risk perception and response. Trends in Ecology & Evolution 34: 355-368.

Leopold, A. S., S. A. Cain, C. M. Cottam, I. N. Gabrielson, and T. L. Kimball. 1963. Wildlife management in the National Parks. USDI, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Moller, H., Berkes F., Lyver P.O., and Kislalioglu M. 2004. Combining science and traditional ecological knowledge: monitoring populations for co-management. Ecology and Society, 9(3).
http://www.jstor.org/stable/26267682

Organ, J. F., V. Geist, S. P. Mahoney, S. Williams, P. R. Krausman, G. R. Batcheller, T. A. Decker, R. Carmichael, P. Nanjappa, R. Regan, R. A. Medellin, R. Cantu, R. E. McCabe, S. Craven, G. M. Vecellio, and D. J. Decker. 2012. The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. Technical Review 12-04. The Wildlife Society, Bethesda, Maryland, USA.

Perry, G., Miller, B. and Enright, N. 2006. A comparison of methods for the statistical analysis of spatial point patterns in plant ecology. Plant Ecology 187:59–82. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11258-006-9133-4

Reding, D. M., Bronikowski, A. M., Johnson, W. E., and Clark, W. R. 2012. Pleistocene and ecological effects on continental-scale genetic differentiation in the bobcat (*Lynx rufus*). Molecular Ecology 21:3078-3093.

Schweizer, R.M., von Holdt, B. M., Harrigan, R., Knowles, J.C., Musiani, M., Coltman, D., Novembre, J., and Wayne, R. K. 2016. Genetic subdivision and candidate genes under selection in North American grey wolves. Molecular Ecology 25: 380-402. https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.13364

Serfass, T. L., Brooks, R. P., and Bruskotter, J. T. 2018. North American model of wildlife conservation: Empowerment and exclusivity hinder advances in wildlife conservation. Canadian Wildlife Biology and Management 7:101-118.

Sinclair, A. R. E., and Krebs, C. J. 2001. Trophic interactions, community organization, and the Kluane ecosystem. Pages 25-48 in Krebs, C. J., Boutin, S., and Boonstra, R. Ecosystem dynamics of the Boreal Forest: the Kluane project. Oxford University Press, New York, NY.

Zipkin, E. F., and S. P. Saunders. 2018. Synthesizing multiple data types for biological conservation using integrated population models. Biological Conservation 2017:240-250.

Tuesday morn
Feb. 21, 2023

To the DNR
Wolf Plan Comments!

ONE QUESTION FOR ALL: What wildlife is MUCH MORE important in Wisconsin?!?! DEFINITELY NOT wolves! SURELY White tail deer!! FOR ALL people to observe! For well managed hunting, AND important ~~food~~ FOR HUMANS!!

~~300~~ YES, OK 350 wolves MAX for their existence AND healthy survival — NOT MORE so they have plenty to eat. NOT MORE so we people have plenty of deer to enjoy observing, and hunting, and eating!!

LISTEN to the VAST majority of us citizens who provide the VAST majority of resources unto the preservation of a healthy deer herd that we ALL enjoy seeing on our landscape! How often does Anyone see a wolf?!

Let's firmly establish a solid plan for including a MAX of 350 wolves, for the harmony of wolf and deer!!! And PEOPLE!!

Sincerely,
Tyler Conrad [redacted], Oshkosh 54901

15 jan 2023

to DNR

Wolf Mgt Plan Comments
PO Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

My purpose here is to encourage predator protection, a ban on recreational killing of wolves, and instituting non-lethal conflict practices for predators.

Beyond the intrinsic value of wildlife as a sign of healthy habitat, humane and animal, protecting predators is good wildlife management. Legal killing ultimately begets illegal killing, which benefits no one and is costly to all parties involved. There is public value in wise resource management practices. Thank you.

all best,
Craig J. Corsini

To whom in may concern.

I find 3 major flaws in the wolf managment Plan you are currently proposing

1. No Cap # or population goal 69 counties and 36 county boards have voted on 350 population cap. The counties in question need to be heard.
2. allowing a sovereign nation control over private property rights and not allowing leathal control when needed.
3. the current plan has no triggers for population control.

Therefore I most ask that these issues Be adressed.

Thank you
Daniel K Cuhutch
[redacted]

February 23, 2023

Adam Payne, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

Dear Mr. Payne:

I am submitting the following comments on the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan as a life-long Wisconsin resident. I was born into a wolf-less Wisconsin, and have a profound cultural and ecological interest in their recovery in the state. Until retiring in 2022, I worked as a wildlife biologist for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission for over 35 years, and was the primary wolf biologist for GLIFWC over that period. In that capacity I served for many years on DNR wolf science, advisory, and roundtable groups in Wisconsin and Minnesota, and as an alternate in Michigan. I remain very involved in wolf stewardship today, serving through Wisconsin's Green Fired (WGF), and as a board member of both the Timber Wolf Alliance and the International Wolf Center.

The WDNR is to be commended for the significant effort they put into the preparation for, and production of, this draft. The existing state wolf management plan is nearly a quarter-century old, and much has changed on the land, and in our understanding of wolves and their role and function in Wisconsin's ecosystems. The draft plan successfully incorporates many of these new understandings.

Some of the particularly important improvements in the draft include:

- Adoption of a non-numeric population goal
- Greater recognition of the ecological benefits of wolves
- The proposed low-harvest zones around tribal reservations
- The use of zone-specific harvest permits
- Conducting and utilizing data from the social survey

The Department will undoubtedly receive push-back against some of these critical improvements, but I applaud the state for bringing wolf stewardship in the state into the present by including these factors, and making certain they remain components of the final plan.

There are, however, a number of areas where the draft plan can and should be strengthened before it is finalized. These include:

1) The General Use of Language in the Draft: Title: It's encouraging that the words "stewardship" and "conservation" are used in the plan's subtitle. However, within the text, the words stewardship, conservation, and management appear 22, 90, and 439 times respectively. Thus, management is used approximately 20 times more often than stewardship. The overall tone of the document would be improved, and would better represent the interests of the general Wisconsin public, if this was better balanced. (I would note that none of the 3 words appears in the department's mission statement, but

that statement begins with "*To protect and enhance",* a phrase that aligns more closely with stewardship and conservation than management.)

2) The Need for Separate Science and Stakeholder Committees: Wolf stewardship remains notoriously controversial and subject to political influences. It also a species of particular sensitivity to tribal interests. The collapse of the historical Science and Stakeholder Committees into a single Advisory Committee resulted in a loss of transparency and inclusivity, as a number of important stakeholder organizations became excluded from participating in the process, and the recommendations based on the best science became diluted by non-professionals before they ever left committee. It is imperative to restore separate committees to back the Department's commitments to both science and inclusivity.

3) The Stewardship of Ma'iingan in Zones 3 & 4: The state has indicated a likely intent to reduce the density of wolves in zones 3 & 4. There is no need for this, and it would undercut the ecological benefits wolves provide in these zones. The benefits of wolves are positively correlated with their number and density on the land. Density in these zones is naturally lower than in zones 1 and 2 because of somewhat poorer and more fragmented habitat. Yet these wolves may have a critical role in preventing expansion of CWD in the state, and further encroachment into the ceded territory. Weakening this likely defense can put tribal and non-tribal interests at risk. For the tribes, it is an issue both in the ceded territory, and in some cases, on-reservation, particularly for the LCO and the Menominee/Stockbridge Tribes, whose reservations are very close to these zones.

4) Other Zone Issues: a) There is an area on the east end of the proposed zone 3 that is very high quality wolf habitat, comprised of western Lincoln County and eastern Taylor and southeastern Price. This area was one of the first re-colonized in the state, and was previously included in Zone 2. There is no justification for moving this area to zone 3. I support the correction advanced by WGF that this area be included with Zone 1, having a western boundary consisting of Roads, Co. C, WI 102, WI 86, & Co. D (eastern Taylor and southeast Price Counties), southern boundary of US 64, and eastern boundary of U.S. 51.

b) I strongly encourage the state to note in the plan that they have the ability and may utilize temporary, small-scale, local harvest/research/surveillance zones may be established around newly documented Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) outbreaks within wolf range. Within these temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones, wolf harvest should be kept to a minimum in order to maximize the opportunity for wolves to potentially control CWD expansion.

As noted by WGF and others, these temporary Wolf/CWD surveillance zones would also be focus areas for intensive surveillance and research, to document relationships between wolves, deer, and CWD.

5) The Lack of Public/Private Harvest Permits: Although subzones 1A and 4A (if adopted) may be able to shift some wolf harvest to private land areas, they are likely to be highly inadequate to distribute wolf kill appropriately between public and private land. This problem was grossly evident in the Feb 2021 kill, when 80% of the kill in the ceded territory was reportedly taken from the public lands which comprise only 28% of the ceded territory. This tremendously disproportionate take not only hit ma'iingan living in the best habitat hardest, but it robs the tribes of the benefits wolves provide on the very land where their rights can be exercised, and represents significant mis-management of the species. The only certain way to prevent a disproportionate harvest from occurring again would be to have harvest permits be designated for use on public and private land. With that tool, harvest could be distributed

proportionately, or shifted modestly away from public lands. I believe failure to effectively address the disproportionate take from public land may lead the tribes to seek legal remedies. It would be far better for state/tribal relations for the state to avoid that path.

6) Recognition of Tribal Rights: The plan makes some important and welcome improvements in recognizing tribal *perspectives*, but does less so in recognizing tribal *rights*. While this document cannot be expected to try to define tribal rights, it should recognize their existence by making a public commitment to making a sincere effort to develop a stewardship stipulation between the state and the tribes, as exists for other species such as deer and walleye.

7) Harvest Permit Levels: The draft recognizes the problems which occurred in the February 2021 season when harvest permits were set at a 20:1 level. However, problems also exist when permit levels are set too low. This may be more of an issue to monitor after the plan is approved, but the ratio should be set high enough to ensure that the season does not typically extend into February, which is detrimental to both pack stability and recruitment, and to the collection of sound and defensible population data.

8) Dog Training Proposal: The current proposal is to have the dog training period end in all zones when the final zone closes to harvest. The training period should end in each zone as it closes, both for the benefit of wolves, and for law enforcement purposes, as well as to reduce disruptions to the collection of population data.

9) Use of the Occupancy Model and Harvest Models Used in Setting Harvest Quotas: The discussion of these topics in the plan should be expanded to note some important issues. It contends that the Adams Harvest Model has worked better than the Fuller Model, but the difference is small, and the difference may not even exist if the analysis were extended to include the February 2021 season, which should be included in the analysis. In addition, both models have been tested under conditions where the population figure was based on a minimum count, not the "most likely value" generated under the Occupancy Model.

There is great uncertainty about population estimates generated under the OM, especially at the zone level. As a result, basing harvest quotas on the "most likely value" generated by the OM creates a significant risk of over-harvest, and a resulting loss of the ecological benefits wolves provide. As is done with tribal fishery harvests, quotas should be determined using the lower 95% confidence level of the OM, not the most likely value.

10) Research Needs: This section should include a goal of developing a metric using pack size to gauge wolf population health. Small packs likely have poorer recruitment, and Wisconsin is especially sensitive to this because average pack sizes are small under normal conditions. In addition, reductions in pack size have been associated with high levels of harvest. This is likely the most sensitive and most variable metric which biologists could work to define, but it will require a commitment to gathering adequate data annually by zone.

The above point are my primary suggestions for improvement of the draft. Following my signature are a number of additional points ranging from minor edits to fairly significant suggestions. I appreciate the effort that Department Staff have put into this plan, and the task of making further revisions, but if the past is any indication, this plan, once adopted, may be largely unchanged for a significant period of time. As a result, the Wisconsin public is best served by making the document as good as possible at this time.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments, and for all you do on behalf of our natural world.

Sincerely,

Peter David

Retired GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist, and GLIFWC Rep. to WI Wolf Plan Advisory Committee

CC: Randy Johnson, WDNR

Eric Lobner, WDNR

Additional Comments on Draft WI 2022 Wolf Plan

Page iv.

I commend the Department for including the language in Objective A regarding fulfillment of wolves' ecological role.

Page 3.

The line referencing Figure 3 mentions the line of 20 N Latitude; this line should be included in Figure 3.

Page 6.

The second paragraph is particularly nicely written.

Paragraph 4 should also cite the increase in beaver population associated with wolf recovery in Yellowstone to show the complexity of that relationship, and that wolves can have positive impacts on prey numbers as well. In addition, the more recent review of wolf/beaver interactions (Gable et. al, 2018 *The forgotten prey of an iconic predator: a review of interactions between grey wolves Canis lupus and beavers Castor spp*.) concluded that "The effects of wolf predation on beaver population dynamics are poorly understood, as most assessments are lacking in quantitative rigor and are instead based on indirect methods (e.g. scat analysis), anecdotal evidence, or speculation. To understand the effect of predation on beaver populations fully, better estimates (e.g. from documented predation events) of wolf predation on beavers are necessary."

Page 7.

At the end of the 1st (partial) paragraph, it could be added that wolf suppression of coyote populations may reduce fawn mortality by coyotes.

For Table 3, it would be helpful to include the elk population estimate each year. Knowing the % of Total Mortality that wolves cause is less informative than knowing the overall rate of mortality on the population. Higher mortality rates in the northern herd may be related to poorer habitat quality.

Page 8

The sidebar language should note possible differences in habitat quality between the 2 ranges, and that factors in addition to the loss of heterozygosity and predation, also likely contribute to slow growth of the northern herd. This section also highlights an issue that exists in several parts of the draft relating to the use of language appropriate to the audience. Generally, the plan does a good job having language the average reader can understand, which is great and consistent with the importance of this document as an educational tool. But some language here, such as the use of the term heterozygosity, should be simplified for a general audience. (The word "grown" in the first paragraph should also be "growth".)

This sidebar also seems to end with a potentially misleading statement that the "central herd has shown 15% average annual growth in its first five years (Figure 5)." I assume the growth from 216-2017 was due to additional animals being released, not recruitment, thus there are only 3 years of actual growth shown. In addition, most of the growth is attributable to a single year (2019 to 2020) so this is a very small sample from which to draw conclusions. This data should also be updated to include at least 2 more years of information which is now available.

Page 10.

In the first paragraph, it is unclear what is mean by "highly developed and *adaptable* social structure". This term could be eliminated, refined or clarified. Recent work also suggests that the breeding female likely really leads the pack, more so than the breeding male.

The language in this paragraph regarding lone wolves should also be clarified. Lone wolves are not considered "to be their own pack" under the DNR's population model (as noted later in the paragraph where it is noted that Wisconsin packs range from 2-12). It also worth clarifying for the reader that "lone" status is most often a temporary, not a life-long, condition.

The citation of average pack size is unnecessarily outdated. More recent DNR data (from 2012-2022) indicated an average pack size of about 3.7. While not a big difference from the older estimate, it is more current and likely reflects both the impacts of some hunting seasons and the expansion of the population into areas of lower quality. In addition, this actual data contrasts with the statement that established populations tend to have larger pack sizes, as the WI population is certainly more established now that it was prior to the 2009 paper.

The discussion on territory size should also mention that estimates of average size also vary with how they are estimated; average estimated size in WI has increased in part due to changes in method (such as the increased use of GPS collars). It should be noted that current estimates are primarily based on GPS collars.

Page 11.

In the Reproduction Section, I suggest inserting the word "fairly" in front of "high reproductive potential". While wolves do have fairly high potential, it is actually lower than for many animals, due to the limitation of one breeding cycle per year, and that fact that usually only one litter is produced per pack, so not all sexually mature animals typically breed. You should also clarify for your readers (who may not be familiar with wolf biology) that reports of multiple litters are not due to the lead breeder having multiple litters, but to a pack (in rare cases) having more than one breeding female. (The average

pack size in WI can be deleted from the () as it is already given in the text.) The mention of dispersal at the end of this section should be eliminated as dispersal only reduces the population if the animal leaves the state, which happens only at low levels and is likely relatively balanced by animals entering the state.

Page 12. The sentence "*Wolves' ability to disperse long distances allows for populations to readily expand and recolonize vacant habitats as long as human-caused mortality is sustainable (e.g., Mech 1995, Boyd and Pletcher 1999, Treves et al. 2009, Mech 2017, Hendricks et al. 2019)"* is generally misleading to the public, even if technically true. In fact, history in the Midwest and elsewhere clearly shows that in most cases wolves do not readily expand and recolonize, in large part because in the very areas where recolonization is necessary, dispersal tends to be dangerous and human-caused mortality is routinely high. Recovery in Wisconsin took decades, even under the protections of the ESA.

In the Mortality section, the second sentence (…*a variety of ways that a wolf can be killed*) should be modified, perhaps to read "… *many causes of mortality in wolf populations*", since some of the forms discussed such as starvation do not involve killing. In the next sentence, *"as well as in the past*" should read "and since colonization". The use of intraspecific and interspecific could easily be avoided here for the general reader ("wolves are also sometimes killed by the species they hunt, or kill each other, with the latter being more common in instances of low prey availability", for example).

In the first sentence of the last paragraph on the page, "a degree of" should be inserted in front of the word "resiliency"; as it reads now it suggests packs are not affected, when in fact they often, if not always, are to a degree or for a period of time. Also, again "fairly" should be inserted before "high reproductive potential", as earlier. In the same vein, the word "quickly" should be deleted in the same sentence; it appears that Wisconsin's wolf population is going to take at least 2 years to rebound from the Feb 2021 wolf kill, a length of time most people would not consider "quick".

This section would also be an appropriate place to discuss typical life spans for wolves, which is absent from the document.

Page 13.

The discussion of trophic cascades should also note that this is a difficult concept to study, and research is ongoing.

The side bar on ecosystems services should be expanded to include additional items noted since the Licht paper. The first item listed is perhaps the least strongly supported; the list also fails to mention the likely benefits of disease control in prey populations (the Isle Royale moose study, for example).

Page 14.

In the second paragraph, the meaning of "visitation" may be unclear to many readers.

Page 16.

The discussion and citations in the CWD discussion should include the findings of Tanner et al., (2019) who found that by selective predation, in northern Spain, there is a much lower level of tuberculosis in wild boars where wolves are present, and there is also less transmission of this TB to livestock. At the end of this section (on page 17), I recommend adding the sentence "However, until a full understanding

of the ability of wolves to limit CWD is available, a conservative approach towards the stewardship of both deer and wolves would be to assume benefits exist."

Page 17.

The section on Predator-Prey dynamics would benefit by the addition of a side bar that explains compensatory vs additive mortality and carrying capacity in a bit more detail for the public, as these are fairly complex and important topics.

This section could also note the increase in beaver in Yellowstone following wolf recovery, and reiterate the previously noted higher survival of pronghorn in wolf areas.

This section should also include data on deer/wolf population trends available for WI and MN. For example, wolf abundance in MN has been positively related to deer abundance (fig. from the MnDNR):

From spring 2018 to spring 2019, overall average deer density within wolf range remained stable. Over the past 8 years, the trend in winter wolf population size has been positively correlated with average deer density within wolf range the preceding spring (Figure 6).

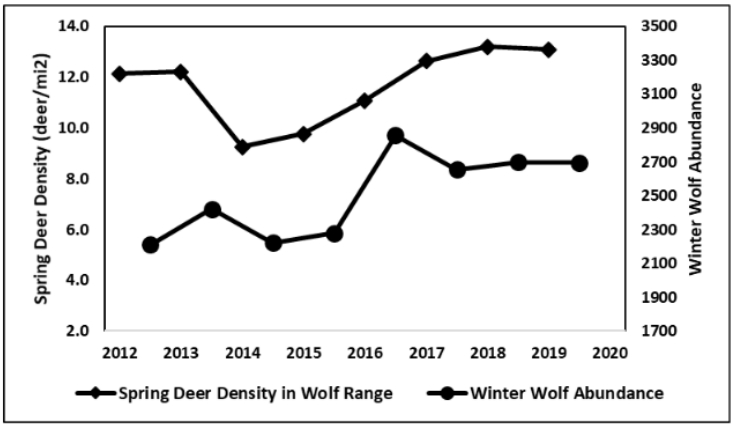
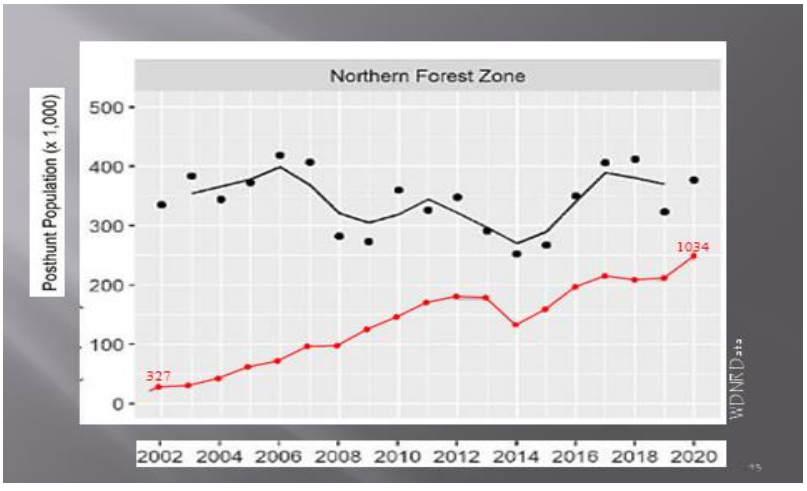


Figure 6. Comparison of estimated spring (pre-fawn) deer density and winter wolf abundance in Minnesota, 2012-2019.

And WDNR Data from the northern forest zone could be shown with trends in deer numbers, where there has been little trend in deer numbers even while the wolf population tripled: (Wolf numbers in red, scale not shown).



MI DNR also put out an extensive report on factors limiting deer in the UP, that included a primary summary finding was that "when deer numbers decline, it is not because wolf numbers have increased and when deer numbers increase, it is not because wolf numbers have declined."

This is all important and local information and should be included as this topic is a primary public concern.

Page 19.

“Off-take” is again a term that needs to be defined for the public.

There is a good discussion of the cautions to be applied to some harvest studies, but it should also be noted that many/most studies were also of relatively small areas. Changes in immigration/emigration rates are not very significant at a state level, as most movements will remain within the state population.

Page 20.

The biological meaning of the term “fitness” is again likely unfamiliar to many readers.

This section should also discuss the importance of the timing of the harvest. The killing of wolves in February, for example, is more likely to result in disruptions to recruitment than mortality in November.

Page 21.

In the second last paragraph, the word “face” should be replaced, perhaps with “cause”.

The conclusion of Stenglein is an important one that is consistent with wolf biology and should be emphasized somewhere in this documents: that wolf populations are highly self-regulatory and tend to roughly stabilize at low levels relative to other wildlife species.

And the conclusion that “wolf populations are remarkably resilient to human-caused mortality” should at least be modified by changing the word “are” to “can be”, as the extirpation of wolves across most of the lower 48 was also due to human-caused mortality.

Page 23.

I understand this is a verbatim inclusion of a paper, but it is unfortunate that the paper reads “…*the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has removed wolves from the federal endangered species list and placed them under state management at several points”*, disregarding the fact that management authority also passes to the tribes at these times. This should be corrected with a footnote in the current document.

In a similar vein, it is unfortunate that the paper chose to discuss “tolerance” for wolves, rather than acceptance. While the meanings are similar, this word choice is laden with cultural overtones.

This paper also makes some curious representations of some findings. For example, in discussing the recent MN wolf attitude survey, it states that 69% of the general public held positive attitudes toward wolves; by itself this tends to imply that 31% held negative attitudes, but in fact only 20% held negative attitudes, and the remainder were neutral. It also notes that 51% were neutral or supportive of a wolf hunting season, suggesting overall modest support. However, in detail, 48.9% opposed a hunt, 40.5%

supported, and 10.5% were neutral. These examples of slanted representations put the balance of the document into question. It is likely better included as an appendix than in the document itself.

Page 29.

There is a typo in the first paragraph; the word “and” after “wildlife program” should be deleted.

Page 30.

Under 2, it is noted that the 2014 minimum overwinter count was 660 wolves. This is true, but that information was not out at the time individuals responded to the survey. The most recent figure that was available at that time was from 2013, when the population exceeded 800 wolves. Thus for those knowledgeable about the wolf population, this would have been the number they were considering when they indicated if they wanted more or less then were estimated to occur, not 660. The clause about the 2104 count should deleted and replaced with “the most recent population estimate available when the survey was conducted was approximately 800 wolves.”

Pages 38-44.

Tribal Section: The inclusion of this material and the links to tribal ma’iingan documents is welcomed; it would be appreciated if these plans would also be included in the literature cited section.

Page 45.

The citation “David, 2009” is not included in the citations list.

Page 48.

The third sentence under the Population Growth Patterns should avoid the jargon “negative human interactions” and replace it with “intentional and accidental killing by humans”.

Pages 49 and 50.

I anticipate the text and figure describing the population will now be updated with data from 2022, particularly since this is the first count that reflects the impact of the February 2021 season.

Pages 53-54.

It will be a challenge, but it would be nice to make the discussion of biological carrying capacity more appropriate for the general public. Van Deelen’s work already is a bit outdated by actual population growth, and could perhaps be deleted or covered more briefly.

Page 55.

The last sentence in the paragraph at the top of the page should clearly state that the 350 figure was not a cap on the population. Given all the efforts to mis-represent this figure over the years, this document should make its meaning clear.

Page 60.

The last sentence in the caption for Figure 17 should be edited to read “Through the treaties, specific Ojibwe tribes reserved various off-reservation usufructory (use) rights, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather on certain lands and waters within the Ceded Territory.”

Page 64.

The citation to Wydeven et al. 2009b in the first paragraph of the 1979-2020 section should be moved to after the word “project” earlier in the sentence, since a paper published in 2009 cannot show that the project has continued to the present.

Page 65.

In the third paragraph in the 2020 to Present section, I suggest adding a sentence after “The final estimate also accounts for the uncertainty in all model parameters, including mean home range size and pack size” that reads “As a result, the occupancy model generates a range of numbers which the population likely falls between, rather than a single figure.”

Page 68-69.

It’s important to update the discussion of the quota setting process to include data since 2020. The results of the February 2021 season fall much more closely to the Fuller model to the Adams, enough so that the conclusion that Wi data has been better represented by the Adams model may no longer be true. In addition, you could explain why you have applied only these two models, and should explain the limitations of both models, including that they do not account for where the population is relative to K.

Page 71.

You should clarify for the reader why zone closures require a minimum of 24 hours public notice before going into effect.

Page 72.

There should be an * and footnote in Table 12 explaining why the age of the animals taken in the Feb. 2021 season differs so greatly from previous years, including mention both of the different timing of the harvest and the different method used to estimate age. Undoubtedly many of the animals listed as subadults were actually young of the year about 10 months old.

Page 74.

The second sentence in the Livestock section should be edited to read: “… wolf population grew and expanded, conflicts also increased, *until approximately 2010.*” The current sentence implies that depredations continued to grow the entire time the population grew, which is not true.

Page 75-77.

The section on Non-depredation Impacts on Livestock should clarify that much is unknown in this realm, and research is needed. Many of the citations discuss the impact of “predators” in general. As a result, it should be noted that the presence of wolves may reduce the possible negative impacts of other predators, especially coyotes. In addition, some of the citations used or arguments used are poorly

supported. For example, the Chebel et al (2004) paper discusses the impacts of exposing cattle to external heat stress (warm ambient temperatures), but it is used here in a discussion of animals warming from activity, a very different thing. This is a particularly unusual discussion – in that the study looked at the impact on artificial insemination, and the heat stressed discussed by the authors was from animals "defending their offspring from predators", something that occurs long after insemination. Similarly, the discussion about "dark cutters" cites a paper that is focused on the stress animals are exposed to in the process of going to slaughter; the link to wolf impacts is suspect at best.

Page 81.

I suggest inserting the word "hound" in the following sentence in the first paragraph: "In early wolf recolonization in Wisconsin, it was recommended that *hound* hunters avoid areas occupied by wolves." At the end of the same paragraph, suggest changing "occupied by wolves" to "within wolf territories", as most areas are not "occupied" most of the time.

Under the Human Safety and Risk Perceptions section, it could be noted there was a human injury in MN, involving a wolf with a deformed jaw. (I suspect this is the non-fatal USA attack included in Figure 28.)

Page 85.

The last paragraph under the Integrated Wolf Conflict Management Program should be expanded to include the recognized opportunities for active prevention efforts. These activities have been better funded in MN in recent years and MN Aphis reports that "In the two years that Minnesota Wildlife Services' conflict prevention program has existed, there has been no verified wolf damage inside turbo fladry-protected areas or where other non-lethal prevention activities have been deployed." (USDA-WILDLIFE SERVICES WOLF DAMAGE MANAGEMENT IN MINNESOTA 2021 Report)

Page 93.

Regarding heartworm, GLIFWC found much high levels of heartworm in the sample of animals taken in the Feb. 2021 season than has previously been reported for Wisconsin or neighboring states. I strongly encourage you contact GLIFWC regarding this finding.

Page 95.

The Other Concerns section should identify a potential new concern, arising from the recent MN studies which found widespread levels of neonicotinoid pesticides in deer in that state, with 64% of the neonicotinoid exposures reaching or exceeded the level considered a risk threshold for deer. Wolves might be expected to carry even higher levels, but have not yet been sampled.

Page 99.

Twice on this page it indicated the WAC would make "preliminary recommendations" to the department, when what is meant is that they would make recommendations for the department to consider.

When considering options for the wolf population in various zone (second paragraph discussion), taking no action (i.e. – allowing the population to trend naturally) should be a recognized option in addition to "increasing, maintaining or decreasing".

Page 102 (and elsewhere).

The state should work with its partners to identify metrics related to wolves fulfilling their ecological role; these could consist of things like maintaining certain wolf densities or distributions, maintaining certain levels of plant regeneration, etc. While the actual metrics will need to be identified later, the plan should commit to working on their development.

Relative to Objective B, it may be difficult to maintain downward trends in conflicts with hunting dogs if hound hunting and training grows substantially, by in-state or out of state hunters. The state needs to monitor the level of these activities more closely so that the level of conflict is better understood, and this metric should be expressed and measured relative to the number of participants.

Page 104.

This sentence should be edited as follows: "The purpose of wolf management zones is to allow management activities to be tailored on a regional basis to ultimately increase their effectiveness., ~~particularly given the disproportionate impact that wolves can have on those living within wolf range.~~

The clause to be deleted is unclear in meaning and unnecessary.

(I am sure you have already noticed that caption for Figure 34 is also erroneously duplicated on this page.)

Page 105.

I reiterate my concerns about potentially reducing wolf populations in zones 3 & 4. In the zone 6 discussion, the statement is made that "Individual packs have become established in pockets of more suitable habitat within this zone in the past and this is likely to continue." In fact, if wolves are delisted and your objective of high harvest in this zone is met, it is unlikely to continue, particularly since the areas of best habitat in this region are also the ones that provide the best hunting opportunities. Driving the existing population of wolves in this area to very low levels is contrary to the public's desire to maintain the existing distribution of wolves in the state.

Page 114.

The second sentence under Strategy A4 should be modified to read: "Over the years, the health monitoring component of the wolf program has included collection and analysis of biological samples from live-captured wolves, analysis of wolf scats, ~~and~~ necropsies of wolf carcasses*, and the collection of biological samples from hunter-killed wolves.*

Page 115.

The last sentence in the first partial paragraph should read "(whether real ~~and~~ *or* perceived)."

Under Product A5a, the Department should not be suggesting that "robust predator guilds" are an actual challenge to deer in Wisconsin; however, vehicle kills could be added to the list of challenges. This

paragraph should really be re-written to emphasize that Wisconsin has a very healthy deer population, and can be expected to continue to do so over the life of this plan.

Page 117.

First paragraph: as noted previously, it may be unreasonable to have stable or declining numbers of dog depredations if the number of dogs on the landscape significantly increases. This metric should be based on a level of depredations relative to the number of dogs – and that will require monitoring of the number of people hunting with and training hounds in the state.

Page 118.

Product B1f: The approach outlined to meet this product are likely highly inadequate to actually direct harvest towards areas of conflict. The use of specific public and private land harvest permits are much more likely to be successful in this regard. The state should also develop a metric to measure how will this product is being achieved.

Page 120.

Product B3d: The data discussed in this section should also be shared in a transparent and timely way with tribal governments and their agents.

Page 123.

In the first paragraph under Product C1a: the following line should be edited, as in many cases it is not necessary to manage wolf abundance at a landscape scale: "This season will offer the interested public an opportunity to legally harvest wolves, provide the primary mechanism to manage wolf abundance and distribution at the landscape scale *if and when necessary*, and can do so without …"

Page 126.

Product C2e: See concern listed earlier about need to have separate Science and Stakeholder committees.

Product C2g: See concern listed earlier about issuing enough permits to prevent seasons from extending into the breeding season.

Page 127.

Product C2h: See concern listed earlier about training season closure.

Page 132.

Product E1a: This section should specifically note the need to research the effectiveness of the occupancy model's performance under hunting conditions.

Page 136. (which somehow is marked page 140)

See concern earlier about the need for separate science and advisory committees. This step is one of the strongest the State could make to commit to its goal of science-based stewardship. The discussion in this section also fails to recognize the existence of separate committees at times in the past, instead implying that a single committee has always been used (*This committee has taken on various forms and*

functions over the years…). As noted earlier, a single committee in fact is less transparent and less inclusive. I applaud the Department for including unaffiliated individuals in the Stakeholder Committee, and the intent to convene the committee(s) at least annually regardless of wolves' legal status. However, the committee(s) should also have representation from academia, to help build trust in the process.

Jan. 4th 2023 Dear D.N.R.,

I'm writing with regards to the Wolf Management Plan, where I can comment on. To be honest, this should be a simple plan. I know the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (WWF) filed many objections. In addition wanting a wolf population of 350, which isn't sciencced-based, in my opinion. I think a sweet-spot of roughly 500 wolves would be plenty, plus would help keep the population diverse. Inbreeding would be kept to a minimum.

To be honest, instead of a hunting season and tags are sold, how about a lottery? A lottery would be a better way to control how many wolves would be shot and would eliminate the issue that happened last time when there was an over harvest.

How about the farmers with livestock? Two plans come to mind. First, a tax break for farmers who spend money on non lethal ways to combat wolves. That be the purchase of dogs or donkeys to protect livestock. Or to add better fencing. Or to hire a farm-hand that watches over livestock. All three of these are effective and have been proven. Especially

specialized dogs, and the use of donkeys.

The second way to help farmers, offer special permit tags to take care of problematic wolves. A D.N.R. warden can come out to evaluate the situation, and issue a permit/license to that farmer as long as proof is shown. This permit can be issued anytime of the year.

For residents with acreage and close to a Native Reservation, the landowner should have a right to hunt on their property with the proper permits (as in license/tag etc.). A buffer zone around a Native Reservation should be solely for public or government land, not privately owned land. Maybe a minimum acreage, and away from any village or city. To be determined/set by the DNR.

One other issue that should be looked-at, is instead of a lottery and tags issued to any zone(s), maybe issue tags in zone specific areas where wolves are more problematic or concentrated to a specific zone. This way the wolves are thinned-out ~~an~~ in an zone ~~area~~ where there is a heavy ~~#~~ presence. Send the hunters to the areas/zones where hunting would be fruitful for the hunter, and beneficial to

the zone due to an over abundance of wolves. If there is a zone that lacks a strong wolf population, limit that zone.

As for the issue of just the average homeowner that lives in a village or city, or out in the country and loses a pet, maybe a type of tax-break to add a fence for their pet. Hate-to-say-it, but keep a better eye-out on their pet. If wolves are known in the area, be outside with your pet. Keep bear pepper spray on hand.

These are my opinions. And Thank You to the person(s) who raise these opinions to the committee.

Sincerely,
Ryan Dawson

To the Wolf Management Plan Draft Comments team:

Thank you for this opportunity. I am a long time resident of Wisconsin, and Illinois and Louisiana and North Carolina. I have always loved God's gift to us. A hunter will be a hunter, a hounder , hounder, wolf , wolf, turtle, turtle conservationist, and native alike, a leftist, and rightist.

Do we have to use wildlife, and natural resources to polarize ?

I once saw a police officer go off the road to kill a blandings turtle who's mate was trying to find it a block away. I saw approximately 5 dead wolves on the road this past year including 2 red wolves, and saw a hunter with a gun firing into the air to get it to run into traffic. I wonder if these wolves were counted as being killed. I am also seeing truckloads of trees coming down being transported to processing facilities who's wood from the previous year is sitting rotting in the rain and snow. I know good wood is not able to be replenished. Wood and furniture factories are having to use glue to put furniture together because they just cant get solid pieces. I saw a farmers cow get hit by lightning and its feet burnt off sitting in a field rotting. The wolf packs call is gone. I heard the last one cry and it was gone.

The bible says we MAN have been made responsible for the creatures and forests. The native Noah, Waynaboozhoo managed wildlife in his own way. He was respectful . ANIMALS DON'T VOTE HOLD A CHAIR OR POLITICALLY OPPOSE. THEY ARE OUR RESPONSIBILITY. The cow belongs to the farmer. The wolf belongs to the forest. Without the forest , and without lake superior running clean , we won't even have healthy soil, water, deer, forests or wildlife, or air. I lived in the South Chicago pestilence. BE GRATEFUL AND CONSERV. Do we need to manage? Of course we do . we need to manage all life including MAN. Everything from whales to ants.

Please people I am pleading with you to reconsider who your real enemies are.

Heres my list:

Awards to hounder's minimized and that incentive goes to farmers who feed us. It must be spent on electric fencing, or other deterents. By the way not all farmers feed us some feed oil companies. Incentive to put animals against animals is primitive it might be a tradition, but so is respect . I would only want to be a hound if I were loved.

Non lethal transport and lets think out of the box here packs would indeed be welcomed in other states where deer herds are out of control.

Science on the benefits to farmers who's livestock are close to wolf packs because of the way they kill off CWD infected deer, and more science on the wolfs natural immunity to many infectious diseases including CWD , and this SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH must not be conducted by entities trying to possess land

It must be conducted by real CONSERVATIONISTS who graduated from accredited schools of conservation.

DNR please send a letter to congress requesting the mandatory wolf hunt after delisting be removed from act 169

Enforce the law. Let the DNR do its job and the police do policing. Strengthen the DNR with more conservation, and real Science.

No hound training accept on private property out of wolf zones especially where wolf pups are present.

No use of bait and stronger penalties for poisoning,

8 hours to report a wolf kill, No nighttime hunting especially on other peoples land or around schools where I witnessed a guy hunting once. It was legal because he was in 100 yards lets change this.

Limit snowmobiles and ATVs

Include poached animals of all species

Good conservation science brought to the schools again.

Harder fines for poaching , and DNR members there to reinforce this. When I was a kid the DNR was on every lake. Now the only way to get ahold of them is down state online.

Count road killed , poached, and accidental wolf deaths and bear, and all species in the next years hunt count as a subtracted kill for the following year

MORE SCIENCE ON HOW THE DEATH OF A CREATURE AFFECTS THE PACK< and this goes for all living things. I once saw a guy shoot a mother beaver while all its babies were crying and screaming. He then left the site with her dead and all the babies sitting there in the middle of the river. Not to mention what type of negativity this exudes all over the universe.

No use of multiple snowmobiles, atvs and hounds this is not sport, this is slaughter. Lets create some boundaries.

We need boundaries. There are a lot of extinct species . this is the job of the DNR.

[redacted]

[redacted]

I am requesting my personal information not be used outside of this, however, the letter can be shared my information can be blocked out or whited out.

I am an advocate for women, and wildlife and the environment for the good of future children who might want to hunt, or just look, or listen. A wolf call cant only be heard but felt, a child's cry the same. Please help by doing whatever you can to hold on to what is left before it's all gone. I love trees. Seeing all of them especially the old ones being swept away all day long disturbs me. I am sure there is a place for them in the heavens. They are huge up there , and golden. We have a huge responsibility , we are in the last stages of resuscitating our home planet. Although science is guiding us to other planets recently I consider this to be home. I don't want to be buried anywhere else. We need it all. DON'T LET THEM DESTROY WHATS ON THE LAND TO CLAIM THE LAND. THIS DISPUTE REALY ISNT ABOUT WOLVES ITS ABOUT TERRITORY. Thank you . sincerely [redacted]

notes

I HAVE DEER HUNTED NORTH OF HWY 64 ON OUR PROPERTY FOR 46 YEARS. THE NUMBER OF DEER SIGHTING HAS STEADLY DROPPED.

HAVENT SEEN DEER TRACKS OR TAILS FOR ABOUT 4 YEARS, BUT HAVE SEEN WOLF TRACKS.

IT DOESNT TAKE A ROCKET SCIENTIST TO FIGURE WHY I HAVENT SEEN DEER AROUND

2.1.23

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

After reviewing your Wolf Management Plan I am concerned you are missing a population goal, are not setting up triggers for population management, and are giving a sovereign nation too much control.

I do not see a population goal stated nor a cap on the number of wolves in Wisconsin. 69 WI Counties and 36 WI County Boards have agreed to a 350 wolf population cap. I feel this plan is ignoring these groups' interests and goals. Please work with others in the state to achieve a plan that truly works for everyone.

I feel that your plan has no population triggers in place to initiate management techniques. Would it not be best to have a sound, clear plan that everyone can follow and that we can work towards a healthy wolf population but not have too many in the State?

Lastly this plan gives too much power to sovereign nations in my opinion. This plan does not allow lethal control when needed and the buffer strip affects private landowners.

Due to these three concerns above I ask you please review your plan, take into account everyone's thoughts and voices in Wisconsin, and then release a new plan for us sportsmen and citizens to further review.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,

James Downey

[redacted]

Reedsville, WI 54230

[redacted]

January 2 2023

To WI DNR;

I agree with the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation on their response to the 2022 Wolf Management Plan. Especially on items 13,14,19,20,21,22,24,26,27,32 of their response to the draft.

Also I feel strongly the people affected by the plan should have a larger say in the management of the wolf,and there should not be a buffer around reservation land.

When a species is reintroduced you have to have a plan to control the numbers. People living in the wolf range should have this say not someone without skin in the game.

David Drier

David Drier

[redacted]

Arkansaw, WI 54721

819 W Glendale Av
Appleton WI 54914
January 26, 2023

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster Street
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: Please accept this document as public comment for the draft "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022".

I have read the entire draft, am a Wisconsin resident with a wolf ER license plate, attended all of the public WMPC meetings, have been a member of TWIN, took the WDNR wolf ecology and tracking course, and participated/commented on the 1999 draft "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan".

Elements from the draft liked:

- The move to an adaptive culling model based on field and scientific data across 6 zones is progress beyond the endless interpretation battles over a number in the prior plan. The model is already being used for other Wisconsin species.
- Objectives A, B, D, E and F (Table 13) seem reasonable and balanced, although more about B, E and F later.
- Buffering tribal lands is a positive gesture to peoples who consider wolf as a relative. The buffer should be also a no-hunting zone.
- Objective E mentions a number of research areas to explore. I'd like to add:
    - research on pack dynamics and long-term affects when an alpha member is killed,
    - research on projecting global warming, land fragmentation and human population/migration effects on wolf ecology in Wisconsin,
    - research on non-hunter/trapper attitudes in hunted areas. I've seen questionnaire data on past hunts from the hunter/trapper communities but nothing from the rest of the communities impacted and
    - research on what is the carrying capacity of wolves in Wisconsin and what may be their potential population self-management.
- Objective F's Product F1a stakeholder group definitions for a WAC needs to explicitly mention the tribes, non-hunter and general public. I would add a diversity of women and people of color should also be encouraged. Referring to Figure 35, perhaps the composition of WAC should more reflect the 60-74% of the public who would like to see wolves occupy the same amount or more of Wisconsin.
- Objective F's Product F3f wolf summit is to be encouraged and if the pandemic has taught us anything, it's that our technology has matured to the point where all with internet access can participate. Open up summits to the interested public. This would support Strategy D1 efforts as well as potentially educate the hunters/trappers participating in seasonal questionnaires.

Elements from the draft disliked:

- Use of the euphemism "harvest". Flora is harvested; fauna is killed, culled, removed, relocated, hunted, etc. In the midst of the Holocene extinction, we need to be honest about what happens when there is a season on a species.

- Objective C is flawed in that there is no nutritional or fur value in a dead wolf. Basically a hunt is considered by some as a "sport" and by others something akin to medieval bear baiting, dog/cock/bull fighting or the like. The real issue is the occasional wolf or pack that gets into trouble from human contact. Activities in Objective B should address the specific human and wolf/pack at the time of an incident and not use some of Objective C activities to willy-nilly eliminate just any wolf over a multi-month period—a wolf/pack that was contributing to the social cohesion of a well-behaved pack. In other words, the innocent are sacrificed for "sport" or income from licensing. Research has found road density is not necessarily a limiting factor for suitable wolf habitat. What more are humans ignorant about wolf ecology?
- Of the 3 strategies and 14 products in Objective C, only 1 strategy with 2 products address the "stewardship" and "conservation" aspects mentioned in the draft's sub-title.
- Most vociferously I oppose Product C2h. Wisconsin—the only state permitting the hunting of wolves with dogs—should not be codifying a season of training for such an activity.
- Objective F Product F2e I would oppose. Why would hunters/trappers need to take a carcass out of the state, let alone the country. Trophy "sports"?

Rating on 1-10 scale of support for draft plan: (ie from very little to very high support)

8.5

Other comments

- There simply must be action on getting the legislature out of the business of administrative rule making regarding wolves. The disastrous hunt of February 2021 in the wolf breeding season with a 24 hour gap between notice and zone closure for "sport" is not acceptable.

Thank you for reading these comments. I look forward to hearing about further developments of the plan.

Sincerely,

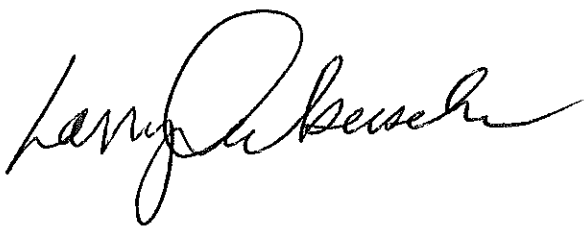
S B Duerkop

Feb. 13, 2023

I am writing to the DNR Wolf Committee expressing my concerns regarding the new proposed wolf plan. I live in northern WI in Rusk CO. where we have had many wolf encounters with family farms. I am also concerned for the safety of my lab dog when I enter our woods. She would not stand a chance with a pack of wolves. I do not believe that the DNR is giving us an honest number of wolves reported to be here in our state. Our state is deeply divided on this wolf issue.The southern metropolitan areas want wolves but has no skin in the game. There is no fear for their families, pets, or wildlife. We in the north cannot live the quiet peaceful life we had in the past. Farmers suffer animal losses. Hound hunters lose dogs and must avoid certain areas. Deer numbers are down considerably in areas which in turn causes business to suffer financially from lack of hunters. We have been affected in many ways and have little say in our prediciment. The DNR is managed and listens to the liberals in the south. We were promised only 350 wolves until we would have a controlled hunt. Now we have 3-4 times that amount and no planned hunt in sight. Two years ago 218 wolves were killed in 3-4 days. Doesn't that tell you we have a problem?? The Native Americans will never kill a wolf so why are they even factored into the projected wolf kill numbers? Why was the new wolf plan unvieled the day after the fall elections? What would it look like if we would have elected a Republican Governor or would it still be buried on someones desk? The whole wolf issue has gotten quite political and we know who controls it. Not the people who live up north. The DNR Wolf Planning Team did not even have the backbone to hold hearings in the northern part of the state to listen and get feedback from the people who live and deal with wolves on a daily basis. Incredible!! When the day comes when we have to reduce wolves in great numbers, will the DNR have the backbone to implement such a plan? This whole issue has not helped the credibility of the DNR!

Give us some numbers we can live with and support the people who have to deal with wolves daily.

Larry Dukerschein
[redacted]
Glen Flora, WI 54526



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN – OR NOT.

THIS COMMENT/COMPLAINT IS IN REFERENCE TO THE DNR'S UPCOMING WOLF "MISMANAGEMENT" PROPOSALS.

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE MY HUMBLE OPINION – NOT THAT IT COUNTS.

(1) YOUR INCLINATION TO NOW ABANDON YOUR INITIAL QUICK-SELL GOAL OF 350 ANIMALS IS BOTH DECEITFUL AND RIDICULOUS. PERHAPS YOU NOW BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE HAS BEEN MISLEAD AND BEATEN INTO COMPLACENCY WITH THE OVER-POPULATION OF WOLF NUMBERS. ANY SELF-REGULATION OF NUMBERS OR INCREASING OF SAME IS TOTALLY WITHOUT NECESSITY. KEEP YOUR PROMISE AND STICK TO YOUR ORIGINAL AGREEMENT.

(2) YOU ARE INCREASINGLY CREATING BAD POLICIES BY ALLOWING YOURSELVES TO BE INFLUENCED AND STEERED BY TOO MANY SPECIAL INTERESTS AND INDIVIDUALS DEMANDING ~~END~~ CONCESSIONS. THAT WOULD THE "WOLF CLUBS" AND THE TRIBES. LAST I KNEW THE STATE STILL HAD SOLE AUTHORITY, EVEN WITHIN THE CEDED AREAS, TO REGULATE. IF YOU CONTINUALLY WATER DOWN YOUR LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITY SOON YOU WILL PRESIDE OVER NOTHING.

THE ENTIRE "WOLF THING" HAS BEEN A

MISERABLE DISSERVICE TO NORTHERN WISCONSIN GENERALLY AND SPECIFICALLY I'M REFERRING TO NORTHERN VILAS COUNTY. THE DNR'S RE-INTRODUCTION — OR RE-LOCATION AS YOU PREFER WAS A "SMASHING SUCCESS." THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE, HOWEVER HAS HAD OVER-WHELMING NEGATIVE IMPACTS. I WOULD LIKEN THE OPERATION GENERALLY TO YOUR RE-INTRODUCTION YEARS AGO OF THE FISHER. WE WERE OVERRUN WITH THEM ALSO UNTIL ALL OR MOST OF THE SMALL ANIMAL AND BIRD POPULATIONS COLLAPSED. THE SNOWSHOE HARE, RABBITS, SQUIRRELS, RACCOONS, GROUSE, AND SMALL BIRDS BECAME A RARITY. MOST STILL ARE. JUST ANOTHER "SMASHING SUCCESS STORY" IN THE NEGATIVE ASPECT. AS FOR THE DEER-WELL FORGET THEM — THE STATE/FEDS SHOULD POT THEM ON THE ENDANGERED LIST.

THE MENACING, MANGEY, FLEABAG WOLVES HAVE TOTALLY DESTROYED A WAY OF LIFE AND STRONG FAMILY TRADITIONS IN THIS AREA. ADRIAN "SLY" WYDEVEN'S PERSONAL DREAM AND CAREER AGENDA TO PUT A WOLF IN EVERYONE'S BACKYARD HAS PRETTY NEAR SUCCEEDED. SADLY HIS EFFORTS CREATED A HUGE PROBLEM FOR MANY PEOPLE AND THEIR BUSINESSES. EVEN MORE REGRETTABLY

HE WAS SANCTIONED BY THE DNR AND USED UNTOLD TAXPAYER DOLLARS TO DO IT. HIS PERSONAL INFLUENCE IS STILL DICTATING POLICY.
THE ENTIRE SITUATION IS JUST ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL DISGRACE. THE DNR HAS FORSAKEN THE CITIZEN / TAXPAYERS WHO HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED AND IN ACTUALITY YOU HAVE ALSO FORSAKEN THE WOLVES. BY CREATING CONTROVERSY AND RESENTMENT TOWARDS THEM.
IT IS WAY PAST TIME FOR THE DNR TO FINALLY MAKE THIS RIGHT AND THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN DO THAT IS TO SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE WOLF POPULATION IN NORTHERN WISCONSIN.
PLEASE TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY.

RESPECTFULLY,
MIKE DOWE

MICHAEL G. DOWE
[redacted]
LAND O' LAKES, WI. 54540

[redacted]

COMPENSATION, NOT KILLING

COMMENTS ON WISCONSIN WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022

(Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2022. Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. Wisconsin)

By

John F. Ebbott

Jefferson County, Wisconsin

January 23, 2023

I. COMMENDATION TO DNR

I have read every word of the 167 pages of the DNR Wolf Management Plan 2022. I would first like to commend the DNR on the comprehensiveness and detail of the information in the Plan. It reviews all conceivable aspects of wolf management, provides a plethora of valuable information, and reflects a great deal of hard work and thought invested by the DNR staff and advisors. I very much appreciate that the Department takes this subject so seriously and dedicates many resources to it.

That said, I do have some difficulties with the Plan and would like to see it amended.

II. OVERALL

My overall constructive criticism of the Plan is that, in attempting to balance the benefits of keeping wolves alive against the benefits of killing them, it undervalues the inherent worth of live wolves and overvalues the advisability of killing them.

The discussion of the benefits of wolves is less extensive than the discussion of the problems they pose to humans. There is glaringly little discussion of the economic benefits that wolves bring to Wisconsin. There is an endless recounting in "Wolf-Related Conflicts" (pp. 71-85) of quite speculative harm to livestock and dogs. The lack of injury and death to humans is severely understated. The pain and terror of death and maiming to shot and trapped wolves is completely ignored. Do they not feel pain, or experience fear? Do they not want to live?

In the first three of the six Objectives, killing – hunting and "lethal abatement" – is the primary tool for management. To be sure, other tools are discussed, but killing is primary.

Compensation for damages is far preferable to killing, and the Plan does contain a creditable discussion of compensation. I do appreciate the Department's emphasis on compensation throughout. What I don't understand is why $3,000,000 paid out in compensation does not move killing to a secondary or tertiary position. I say this with full understanding that the legislature has mandated wolf-killing, so the Department is required to allow some. But, as the Department itself acknowledges, its authority to maintain open and closed species seasons under sec. 29.014(1) Wis. Stats. is "broad". (p. 60).

I also, at this point, would note that "harvest" is a very misleading euphemism for painful death of wolves. We are not engaged in combining oats, or mowing hay, or picking corn, here, the traditional meaning of "harvest". Yet "harvest" is used pretty much everywhere in the Plan. It is as obscuring and euphemistic a term as "slaughter" would be inflaming and dramatic, which is why I will not use "slaughter" as a synonym for hunting, trapping and "lethal abatement". I will use "killing" throughout as the least euphemistic and inflammatory, and most realistic, descriptor of the death of wolves.

III. OBJECTIVE A

While **Objective A** is entitled "Ensure a Healthy and Sustainable Wolf Population to Fulfill its Ecological Role", it sets the very low numbers of 100, 200, or 250 wolves as the "thresholds that should not be approached". (p. 111). This, to use the benchmark of 200, would still permit the killing of 772 wolves, based on the 2022 population of 972. (p. 68). This is too many. These thresholds are far too low. A threshold of 1,000 is more reasonable.

In connection with this, another misleading term here is “population abundance”. (See p. 112, **Product A2a**). This leads the reader to understand that the wolf population is usually “abundant”, and thus can absorb some killing. The term “population scarcity” is never used. Why not?

A dangerous “product” in **Objective A** is **“Product A1e”**, the contracting of trappers to livetrap wolves. A livetrap can be placed next to a deathtrap, with the result that trappers are paid to trap wolves, sometimes alive, sometimes dead. GPS collar placement should be left to DNR staff, not given to persons with an interest in wolf pelts.

Killing wolves – “harvest” – is clearly contemplated as a “management action” in **Product A2a** (p. 113). Thus, killing is a given, as the Plan is to monitor how many wolves remain following the hunt.

Strategy A3 is generally quite good, especially the prevention of illegal killing, though it seems this prevention has not been particularly effective in the past. **Product A3c** (p. 113) is good as far as it goes, but investigative reports should be made available to the public when the investigation is finished – the ***reports***, not just annual summaries. Many of us would like to know what happened with illegal kills and what law enforcement did about them. Is there “effective law enforcement”? (**Strategy A3**, p. 113).

As to the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens (pp. 113-14), it is very difficult to accept the department’s assertion that, even though “only some fraction of dens received protection in the past”, (p. 113), nevertheless, “lack of protection among the rest of active dens appears not to have negatively affected the wolf population”. (p. 113). Seriously? How can it not? There is no explanation as to why this is so.

The Department should not hold out administrative rulemaking as a remedy for den destruction. This is a copout. The JCRAR will never approve such a rule. The Department should consider the purposeful destruction of occupied dens to be very likely to lead to the death of wolves, and thus to be illegal killing. No need for a rule.

Also, it should not matter that this places a "burden on those planning or conducting activities within wolf range". (p. 114). Those persons should just stay away from the dens, burden or not.

Product A4d's emphasis on maximizing animal welfare is good. (p. 114).

Strategy A5 is to maintain the deer population (p. 114). There is early and prominent recitation of the "high demand for recreational deer hunting". (p. 114). In fact it is set forth again and again: " . . . continued public expectation for quality deer hunting opportunities" (p. 115) and "public concerns regarding the impacts of wolves on white-tailed deer populations (whether real and [*sic*] perceived) will continue to require attention to maintain and/or improve public support for wolves". (Ibid.)

The DNR uses the term "public" too broadly, when it really means "deer hunters". This language raises the question whether "attention" includes killing many wolves so deer hunters have plenty of deer to shoot.

One question is why deer hunters are so concerned that wolves will kill so many deer there won't be any deer left. In 2022, the deer population is estimated at 1,554,400. Deer licenses sold were 795,072. Deer kills registered during the gun season were 203,295 – up 14.4% from 2021. In the Northern Forest, prime wolf range, 38,795 deer kills were registered. Wisconsin's "most likely" wolf

population is 2022 is 972, in 288 packs. To wipe out the deer herd, each wolf would have to kill 1600 deer. To wipe out the deer killed by hunters (203,295), each wolf would have to kill 209 deer. This is unlikely, especially since only some of the 972 wolves kill to feed the pack.

Wolves are hardly a threat to deer hunting. In fact, the 1,554,400 deer could support many more wolves. And this is without considering elk.

Wolves will self-limit their numbers if prey numbers are limited, so no wolf-killing season is even necessary. As the Department itself states with regard to elk: "Both elk management zones are likely near a saturation point with wolf packs and have been for some time, meaning w3olf numbers in elk zones ***are unlikely to change***". (p. 115; emphasis mine). Wolves will self-limit; there is no need for a hunt.

Strategies A6 and A6a are generally good, particularly the low road density recommendation.

IV. OBJECTIVE B

"Lethal abatement" (killing) plays too prominent a role in this objective, even though it is hedged with "where practical and appropriate". (p. 117). The discussion of compensation and preventive measures like fences is good, but compensation and prevention should be the first and greatest activities, with killing not even an option. **Objective B**'s concern with conflict is, unfortunately,

not balanced by an "Objective" to preserve wolf life for its own inherent moral and spiritual value.

Aldo Leopold eloquently expressed this value in his famous "Green Fire" quotation: *"We reached the old* wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes . . . I thought that *because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view."* Leopold, Aldo, *A Sand County Almanac, "Thinking Like a Mountain"* at 115.

There are a great many people in Wisconsin - members of that "public" of which the Department speaks – who share this value with Leopold, who want wolves to live because they are God's creatures, not for some merely utilitarian reason. There should be an "Objective" dedicated to this value, an "Objective" fully developed.

With regard to wolf/livestock "conflict": This concern is greatly overblown in the Plan, pp. 74-79. First, the Department acknowledges that "the total number of farms and livestock involved in wolf depredation and harassment incidents across Wisconsin are numerically low". (p. 74). There are ***very few*** wolf/livestock conflicts. But the Plan brushes off the fact that these rarely occur, and hurries into a speculative discussion of "non-depredation impacts". (Ibid.) Apparently, this is some kind of effect of wolves ***not depredating***, but it is their fault anyway.

This entire discussion seems biased against wolves. The alarmist phrase "tip of the iceberg" is used. One cube of the iceberg is, apparently, heat stress. (p. 76). A study (Chebel) is cited for the fact that heat stress prior to artificial insemination resulted in lowered conception rates in dairy cows. Another study (Garcia-Ispierto) showed that dairy cows exposed to high heat index values during peri-implantation ***may*** also have a greater risk of pregnancy loss. (p. 76). Apparently,

it's bad for dairy cows when it's too hot. But these studies do not appear to attribute cow overheating to wolves. If anything, these studies indicate that we should drastically reduce human-caused global warming, not wolves.

This entire section is replete with dubious causation terms – "may", "perhaps", "can", "likely", "possibly", "postulated". (p. 76).

Another strike against wolves is apparently herd overcrowding: "concentrating cattle in small areas can increase the risk of transmitting food borne pathogens . . . the stress of crowding". (Ibid.) If crowding is bad for cattle, then perhaps confined area feeding operations (CAFOs) should be eliminated along with wolves. The study authors "postulated" that cattle form in groups and are "more sinuous" in the presence of wolves was "likely" an anti-predator defense mechanism. (p. 76). Hardly definitive. Cattle also form groups in response to hay being brought to the pasture.

It also appears from this section that livestock-handling dogs don't stress cattle when they engage in activity similar to wolf "harassment" (p. 76), whatever that is, but wolves ***do*** stress them.

This section, which argues that there are wolf "non-depredation" adverse impacts on livestock, that is, that wolves harm livestock even when they're not "depredating", is a proofless and strenuous reach to come up with another justification for killing wolves – "lethal controls may be considered". (p. 77).

Product B1e is good in its focus on improving animal husbandry practices to prevent future conflicts. (p. 118).

It is an extremely bad idea to direct hunters and trappers to areas of "conflict", as does **Product B1f**. First of all, what is an "area of conflict", and how many hunters and trappers will DNR direct into that "area"? If one farm in a county has a "conflict", is the whole county the target? If the "area of conflict" is 3 square miles, will 100 hunters and trappers be directed into this area and be told they are limited to it? **Product B1f** needs to be eliminated.

The focus of **Product B1h** on non-lethal abatement is excellent. (p. 118).

Strategy B2's provision for wolf damage compensation is likewise excellent. With adequate compensation, there should be no reason for killing wolves.

In **Product B2a**, it seems that the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation should not be the sole farm group on the panel. The Wisconsin Farmers Union should also have a seat.

Product B2e states that " . . . in some cases, calves can be depredated by wolves with no evidence or detection of the depredation". (p. 119). Nonsense. It is difficult to see how anyone can conclude that there is depredation without evidence of depredation. Maybe this is discerned through a hunch, or a gut feeling. Even the worst criminals can't be convicted without evidence – but wolves can, apparently, and then they are killed.

Product B3b's hotlines for wolf complaint reporting, monitored seven days per week at taxpayer expense, are fine, but there should be a similar hotline for reporting illegal killing and deliberate den destruction.

Again with **Product B3d**, wolf investigation reports should be available to the public.

As to **Product B4a**, the legislature should fund nonlethal deterrents if it is going to mandate a hunt. This should not be on the shoulders of underfunded NGOs. We all know that if there is not enough funding for a program, it won't get done.

Strategy B6 is very good.

V. OBJECTIVE C

The professed "multiple benefits" do not seem very "multiple". This objective is dedicated substantially to hunting and trapping, even though it initially speaks of "stewardship". The very first benchmark is a hunt. The second benchmark is hunter satisfaction. (p. 123). In **Product C1b**, trappers are the only interest group at the table.

The first strategy, **Strategy C1**, provides for, in the Plan's language, a "well-regulated wolf harvest season". (p. 123). Remove the "harvest" euphemism, and this is still a wolf-killing hunt, which shouldn't exist. The majority in the legislature has required one, but the Department's Plan could still restrict the kill so that wolves' suffering and terror is minimized.

Section 29.185(1m) Wis. Stats. provides that: "In regulating wolf hunting and trapping, the department may limit the number of wolf hunters and trappers ***and the number of wolves that may be taken*** by issuing wolf harvesting licenses." (Emphasis mine). Section 29.185(5)(c) Wis. Stats. provides: "The department may close a wolf harvesting zone to both hunting and trapping of wolves if the department determines that the closure is necessary to effectively manage the state's wolf population."

Thus, the Department has the authority, and the discretion, to formulate a wolf management plan that exercises a protective stewardship of wolves by limiting the number to be killed through limiting the number of licenses and the period of time that the kill zones are open. It should to this by setting a very low permitted kill number.

I am aware that the legislature, most unfortunately, required that 6 dogs on each wolf be permitted, along with bait, and traps, and predator calls, so the Department cannot prohibit them. Their harm can be minimized by regulating the season in the above fashion.

If this Plan enthusiastically endorses wolf killing, as it does in its present form, it severely limits the Department's discretion to use the Plan to mitigate harm. We certainly do not want a repeat of the February 2021 kill. Such enthusiastic is found in **Product C1a**: ***"This season will offer the interested public an opportunity to legally harvest wolves, provide the primary mechanism to manage wolf abundance and distribution at the landscape scale, and can do so without jeopardizing the long-term sustainability of wolves in the state."*** (p. 123; emphasis mine). With this language, the Department forfeits any ability to use this Plan to protect wolves.

"The interested public" is a euphemism for that small group of people that want to kill wolves, including sicc'ing 6 dogs on one wolf. I, too, am a member of "the interested public", yet my wishes are not recognized here.

The "primary mechanism to manage wolf abundance and distribution" is death.

The assertion of nonjeopardy should be viewed with the 2021 season in mind. This mass slaughter is, oddly, completely and mystifyingly ignored in the Plan. Lest we forget, with a DNR maximum kill set at 119 wolves, hunters killed 216 in 3 days – 82% more than permitted. ***90% of the hunters used dogs.*** This killing was done during the breeding season, so several of the wolves killed had to be pregnant females. 46% of those killed were females. As one wolf NGO stated: "Remove one wolf, you're essentially destabilizing and killing the entire pack." For a full description of the effect on a pack of the death of the alpha wolf, *see* Carl Safina, *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel*, especially "Part Two: Howls of Wolves", at 137-241. I note that this book is not in the bibliography for the Plan.

The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, a member of this Wolf Management Plan Committee (2021) described the 2021 hunt*: "This season trampled over the tribes' treaty rights, the Wisconsin public and professional wildlife stewardship. It will go down as a stark example of mismanagement, and the problems that can be expected when the state Legislature and the courts embrace special interest groups over the public as a whole."*

The 2021 season was forced by a lawsuit filed by "Hunter Nation", a Kansas, not a Wisconsin, organization.

Despite full knowledge of this disastrous mass slaughter, the Plan asserts that a hunt "will not jeopardiz[e] the long-term sustainability of wolves in the state." (p. 123) I do not find in the Plan any safeguard against a repeat of the 2021 "harvest". Why is the 2021 hunt not included in the discussions of "conflicts"?

In **Product C1b**, trappers have the only voice at the table. This excludes all other voices who may differ from trappers. The Plan says the course provides information on how to trap "humanely". There is nothing humane about trapping, so this is a dubious claim.

Product C1c seems to be a way to spend tax dollars to help wolf hunters hunt wolves better. I'd rather my tax dollars go elsewhere.

Regarding **Strategy C2**, I have discussed the state statute and the scope of the Department's authority above. **Product C2c** is good in making licenses valid only in the zone specified on the license, which I believe the statute requires.

Product C2e speaks of engaging with the Wolf Advisory Committee. It is not clear whether the Wolf Advisory Committee is the same as the Wolf Management Plan Committee. The latter is stacked with hunters, trappers and farmers, so can be expected to recommend high kill numbers. There is the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association, the Wisconsin Bow Hunters Association, the Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association, the Wisconsin Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, the Wisconsin Farmers Union, and the Wisconsin Trappers Association – about 28% of the membership.

A very key product is **Product C2g**, the number of licenses. License-to-quota ratio should be 5:!, not 20:1. Hunter-trapper satisfaction should not be a factor in setting quotas. No doubt the hunters were quite satisfied with 216 kills in 3 days in 2021, but that was bad for the wolf population. To satisfy hunters and trappers, the quota will always be higher than it should be – Wisconsin still has fewer than 1,000 wolves – 972 – a very low number.

Product C2h is a terrible idea – it permits harassing and killing wolves with dogs in the guise of "training". It *is* good that the Department to a degree recognizes the importance of the late winter breeding season. The limits on baiting are also good.

Finally, way down in 3rd place, is **Strategy C3**, nonkilling activities. It is good that the Plan at least recognizes that something other than hunting and trapping has value. But, these considerations should not be limited to the utilitarian ones of recreation and tourism. Equally legitimate is the value of wolves' simple existence, as recognized in **Product C3b**.

In the midst of all of the studies cited in this Plan, **Products C3a and C3b** mention two areas *not* studied, which are important and should be studied. **Product C3a** states that an economic analysis of tourism dollar benefits of wolves has not been completed in Wisconsin. (p. 127). The Department should conduct one posthaste. How can the number of wolves to be killed be reasonably set when this important factor is omitted?

Product C3b states that the public interest in preserving natural cultural heritages for future generations are "relatively understudied". (p. 127). Again, how can this be ignored when setting a kill quota for wolves? The Plan seems quite dismissive of the lack of knowledge in these areas. The Department should study them and make them a part of this Plan.

The Plan states that the existence, cultural and bequest values will be given "due consideration" when making management decisions (p. 128), but without a mechanism or set of criteria, this is dubious.

VI. OBJECTIVE E

Objective E demonstrates the foregoing point. **Product E2b** is quite silent about existence, cultural and bequest values. It speaks only of money: Tourism, deer hunters, dog owners' spending, and local economies. Even those who wish merely to see wolves in the wild are called "driven" (p. 133), as though they suffer from some sort of compulsion.

Product E2c talks about wolves reducing land values. As the Plan recognizes, there is no evidence to support this. Perhaps values *increased* due to wolves. Despite this lack of evidence, the Plan seems ready to spend tax dollars to help landowners prove their point. The Department shouldn't, but if it has enough funds to do this, it definitely should allocate the funds necessary to study the dollar value of wolf tourism and bequest values. (p. 127).

Strategy E4 is very good; in fact, **Product E4a** should be the first strategy under **Objective E**, and the report should definitely include the February 2021 killing. (p. 134).

Re **Product E4b**, this is good, and should include the effect on a pack of the killing of its alpha. This has a cascading effect, to the detriment of other pack members, and should be given weight.

Product E4c values ***only*** the opinions of wolf hunters and trappers. (p. 134). They should not be the only ones with a voice, especially if they are going to opine on the propriety of their own behaviors and attitudes. People who don't hunt wolves might have opinions about those topics, but they are shut out. This is an example of DNR bias toward hunters.

Strategy E5 is good.

Products E5c and E5d (p. 135) seem the same, and could be consolidated.

VII. OBJECTIVE F

In the "Definition" paragraph, it is premature to consider wolves fully recovered, and to recommend moving on to ongoing management. (p. 140/136). Many of us would like to see further recovery, and are not satisfied with 972 wolves. Many of us would have said so in 2022, but for whatever reasons were unaware of the DNR survey. Since I missed the survey, I am recommending further recovery through the submission of these comments to the Plan.

In **Product F1a**, despite the nod to inclusivity (p. 140/136), the "Shareholder Group Definitions" again favor hunters, trappers and farmers (p. 137). There is a 2-to-1 ratio of hunter and farmer groups to wolf advocacy groups. (p. 137). There is the "At-Large, Unaffiliated Residents" group, but the example used there

is another hunting organization, Ducks Unlimited. (p. 137). How many residents protective of wolves will be named?

Product F1c contemplates the Wolf Advisory Committee meeting once a year, albeit that is a minimum. (p. 138). The Committee cannot be at all effective if it meets but once a year.

The remainder of **Strategy F2** is good, particularly the focus on the tribes. (p. 138). They have the truly profound and moral view of wolves. As they state in their submissions, the approach is not to "manage" their brother wolf, "but instead provide stewardship or non-lethal coexistence." (Forest County Potawatomi, p. 39). The Lac Court Oreilles believe that wolves should "self-determine their numbers and distribution on the landscape". (p. 40). This is absolutely right.

The wolf is sacred to the Menominee people. (p. 42). The Ojibwe speak not of "managing" wolves, and "not of dominion, but of reciprocity", and acknowledge "the inherent right of ma'iingan [wolves] to exist". (p. 43).

The Tribes have it right.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Ebbott

To Whom IT my concern

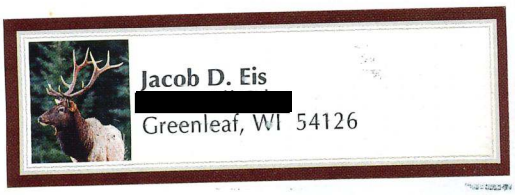
I find 2 flaws In your wolf mangment plan.

1. allowing a Sovereign nation CanTrol over privite property

2. no population goal and no number for capacity

I ask That These Issues be adressed

Thank you
Jacob Eis
[redacted]



WI DNR
Wolf managment
101 S webster ST
P.O box 7921
Madison WI 5

53707-79212

I AGREE 350 WOLVES IS A NUMBER THE STATE COULD LIVE WITH, OR GIVE THE WOLF THE SAME STATUS AS THE COYOTES. RIGHT NOW THE DNR IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ANTI-HUNTING GROUPS. RANDY JOHNSON NEEDS TO WORK WITH THE HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS.

STEPHEN ENDERS

[redacted]

ST. CLOUD, WI

53079

Fischer Forestry LLC
121 E Railroad St., Bowler, WI 54416
Tel 608-369-3814
fischerforestryllc@gmail.com

Fischer Forestry LLC

When your forest legacy is important

January 12, 2023

Regarding: Wolf Management Plan Comments

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on draft Wolf Management Plan. I hope that you will give due consideration to those of us who live and share our land with wolves.

1) The plan must have a specific, numeric, population goal to manage for. While this number will be difficult to negotiate to start with, it is a critical starting point and a way to measure the success or failure of various management steps, when and how much to harvest, ect. This number can be amended in the future. But there must be a number to start with.
2) There should not be a buffer area around reservations. This is not biologically needed and it is simply contrary to the rights of adjacent landowners. Would you or I like to have a buffer from various activities around our home or the land we own? Sure we would, but that isn't fair to our neighbors.
3) Clear and effective way to handle wolves causing conflict. So far I have not had any livestock losses due to wolves, though they are sometimes very close in vicinity. But I would be much more accepting of wolves and a higher wolf population **IF** I was confident that "problem wolves" could be dealt with in a quick and effective manner. Right now I am not confident this is the case.

I share many of the concerns that WWF has with the plan and when you work with them, you will be addressing the concerns of many people like me, that are usually silent, but concerned and more directly affected by wolves than Wisconsin's urban population.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Scott Fischer

Scott Fischer
Manager of Fischer Forestry, LLC

Orren Fredrick
[redacted]
Shawano, WI 54166

Dear Randy Johnson:

I have been a Wisconsin resident and involved in hunting and conservation for most of my 72 years of life. I manage a 92-acre property for Concordia University Wisconsin here in Shawano. I am a Snapshot Wisconsin member and know the majority of our local DNR staff personally, and have purchased the conservation license yearly for many years.

I'm writing to comment of the proposed Wolf Management Plan. I did take the survey when it was first offered. I found it perplexing I could not use my Wisconsin Switchboard log in to access a place for comment as was stated through the Wisconsin Outdoor News article in the Dec. 30.2022 issue. I live near the Menominee Indian Reservation and have native friends, so I understand their feelings for the wolf. I appreciate the complexity in balancing policy with ceded territory.

My major issue with the proposed plan is the lack of population goals, and the lack of weighted input from the people who live with the effects of wolf densities. This proposal appears to favor the interests of people groups who contribute the least to fund the WI DNR and WI wildlife populations, and results in a loss to those who do so by taxes and license fees. I am concerned this approach will mirror Minnesota's policy to wolf numbers and their effect. I have hunted in Minnesota's St. Louis County for 15 years as part of a hunting camp with a 50-year history. I have watched the deer hunting descend to its present deer population of .21 deer per square mile. I have seen the hunters decline and the loss in people renting hotel space in Hoyt Lakes, Mn, not to mention the resident people who really rely on the yearly venison. The camps and trucks along the road decline every year. This year our camp of 5 hunters (who are good, all-day-in-the-stand hunters) saw a total of 2 does, 3 fawns and 4 wolves. This is the third year in the last four without a buck on the pole, so we can't recruit new members. Our camp will cease to exist in the future and that revenue will be lost to to the local area and the state. I have asked the Hoyt Lakes hotels what they estimate their income from wolf enthusiasts is and their response is "Negligible". They simply don't come up to hear the wolves or or use the area. That is a wasted effort for tourism. We don't want this to be Wisconsin's future.

Sig Olsen, the man responsible for the 'Boundary Waters' said in his autobiography that he thought 300 wolves was what it took to balance that vast tract. Adrian Weydeven(who pioneered our re-introduction of the wolf) also has advocated for clear population goals. As Adrian has warned, without a population goal limit, people will just kill wolves; they will self-regulate.

I think you must consider the present level of anger in our society when you propose to impose an unwanted situation. I have seen the impact of high wolf numbers and deep snow change a wildlife population to where I don't know if it can ever come back (it is a silent northern Minnesota woods). Unless the people from Madison and Milwaukee are willing to start to subsidize the WI DNR (and would agree to have 200 wolves released in *their* counties) something has to change in our management strategy.

I agree the reporting system changes for a wolf hunt should change, and high-density areas should have more specific and higher harvest numbers(perhaps use the deer area units to target). I do think it is beyond foolish to give part of the harvest goal to the reservations, as they consistently will not take any wolves! Be straight forward and honest, and raise the hunt/trap numbers to reflect the reservation allotment. We need to get the wolf numbers down to a sustainable level for the future for wildlife and people.

Sincerely,

Orren Fredrick

Wolf Management Plan Comments

101 South Webster Street

PO Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707-7921

To the Department of Natural Resources

I read your Wolf Management Plan, all 167 tedious pages. It is very thorough and complete, except for the "management" part.

Let me as direct as possible – there are too many wolves in this state. They are decimating the deer herd in areas that they have populated and have significantly reduced the hunting opportunities for hunters that own or lease hunting land in those areas. Even worse, the DNR appears to be content with the present situation and has no plans to reduce the wolf count. Instead it appeases many groups who have little or no direct connection to the wolf population to the detriment of the 500,000 deer hunters who buy 500,000 licenses and provide $2 billion of economic benefit to the state every year.

Hunters had to drag the DNR to the courtroom to make it have a 2021 wolf season that it was required by state law to do. To add further insult to deer hunters, its quota for that hunt at best could only stabilize the wolf count and at worse allow it to grow even higher. No wolf season was held in 2022 and, more than likely, there will be no wolf season in 2023. Meanwhile the wolf count will only increase. Nothing in your feel good Plan discusses what the DNR intends to do about a potential future wolf count of 1,500 when there finally is a wolf season.

There was a time before the wolves showed up when my hunting companions and I would kill several does between bow and gun season to keep the deer herd in check. Those were great times. We filled our freezers and used quality deer management. Now we do not kill any does in a desperate attempt to maintain a very diminished number of deer. So the wolves now fill their bellies and our freezers are as empty as your Plan.

The emotional satisfaction that I get from my hunting land is far less now than before there were wolves simply because there are fewer deer and fewer opportunities for hunting. A woods void of deer does not make for a great hunting experience. Where is my compensation from the DNR for my diminished enjoyment of my hunting land? At least farmers are partially compensated for their loss. We all know that wolves will be with us forever, but their number has to be reduced to a number that allows a healthy deer population and provides meaningful opportunities for the people that hunt them. Your plan is almost silent on the subject and needs to be changed. You have abandoned your original goal of 350 wolves, but 1,000 plus wolves is too many. Reduce the count to a number that is reasonable for all of the parties, including deer hunters. The DNR cannot have wolf seasons that do no more than sustain an elevated and unacceptable number of wolves.

Any future wolf season also needs to be changed so that trappers and callers have a chance to hunt and trap. Since 86% of the 213 wolves killed during the last season were taken by dog hunters within 48

hours, it is obvious that hunting with dogs is too efficient to allow for a meaningful season for others. I suggest a two week period for trappers and callers and then let dog hunters have their turn..

Glenn Goergen

West Bend, Wisconsin

February 18, 2023

Merri Ann Gonzalez RN

Angela Delarosa Keller

Donald Keller

[redacted]

Shell Lake, WI 54871

[redacted]

January 22 2022

Wolf management Plan Comments

101 S. Webster St.

P.O. Box 7921

Madison WI 53707-7921

Wolf Management Plan Draft Committee,

While this is an improvement over the previous very old plan, it uses literature from some 50 years ago to substantiate certain points. There are much more recent studies that have been done using tried and true real Science, and not just opinion or anecdotal evidence. Where the sampling is very well documented and accurate. Your study having authors from "the office of Applied Science: without PHD's or Biologist behind their name doesn't sound too scientific to me. Disparaging "Vegetative Regeneration and Biodiversity" which was as recent as 2016 does not bode well either. Where exactly is the proof that it is biased or inappropriate sampling? I will be sending a list of reference material that is recent, and I would hope that at least some on this new management plan will read at least some of the listed materials. They are all certainly more current.

I am also very pleased that there is no 350 goal. When our neighboring state somehow manages 3,000 wolves with zero Fiasco's like ours in February just after the delisting 2021. But you do at least acknowledge the ecological role of wolves. HERE where I live, we essentially have 3 known packs that surround where I am, and amazingly we have no CWD here. Hmmm I wonder why? Why... SOMETHING seems to be selectively removing affected animals who are obviously slower, walking in circles they are quickly removed from the landscape. The DNR did a huge massive kill off years ago, and the result was the exact same percentage of CWD affected deer before and AFTER that massive kill off.

I am also including a survey of Wisconsin residents who checked off ALL of the outdoor activities that they participated in. Hunting in general was 27%. When the survey showed over 60% are non-consumptive users in multiple categories. The climate of shoot everything because it moves is changing.

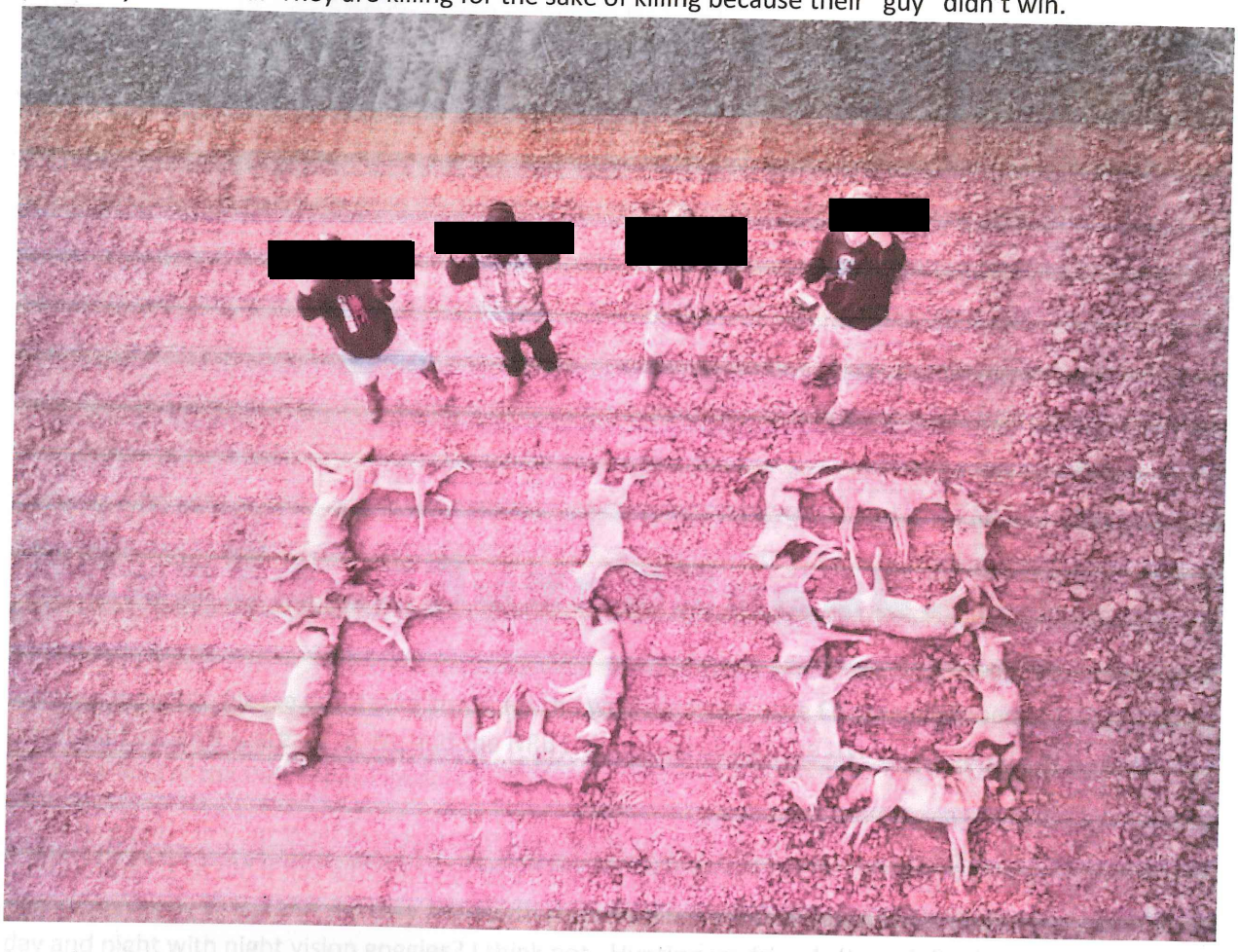
Activity group	% of WI residents that participated at least once in last 12 months
Hiking	68%
Hiking/walking/running on trails	
Nature observation	66%
Bird/wildlife watching	
Nature photography	
Gathering berries, mushrooms, etc.	
Boating-related	61%
Motor boating	
Canoeing/kayaking	
Personal water craft (jet-ski)	
Sailing	
Stand-up paddle boarding	
Waterskiing	
Fishing	49%
Lake fishing	
Stream/river fishing	
Ice fishing	
Camping	41%
Tent camping	
RV/pop-up camping	
Dog-related activities	38%
Walking/running dog on trails	
Visiting a dog park	
Bicycling	35%
Bicycling on rail-trails or other developed trails	
Mountain biking	
Fat tire biking/snow biking	
Hunting	27%
Big game hunting	
Turkey hunting	
Small game hunting	
Migratory bird hunting	
Motorized trail-based activities	25%
ATVs/UTVs on trails-routes	
Snowmobiling	
4-WD vehicles on trails-routes	
Motorcycles on trails-routes	

Your authors include among them various wildlife advocates, (but I have to wonder having watched multiple WCC, NRB meetings on zoom due thankfully to COVID if they were listened to and given a chance to speak). I watched the WCC and NRB panel struggle to stay awake while in one interaction a female ACTUAL Biologists who were called "HON" were asked if they felt an "EMOTIONAL attachment or connection to wolves?" How demeaning… (on video during zoom NRB meeting) But kudo's for having at least SOME Wildlife Advocate Associations, Alliances, Federations on the panel for this new Wolf Management Plan.

Non-Lethal measures should be used, insisted upon, if any compensation for lost livestock due to predation by substantiated wolf kill is requested. No mention of Non-Lethal measures although they have been proven to be effective elsewhere.

I raise French Bulldogs, I have a 6' high cyclone fence. I live in the middle of 3 known packs of wolves, and in 20 years full time and an additional 15 part time years here have never had a problem

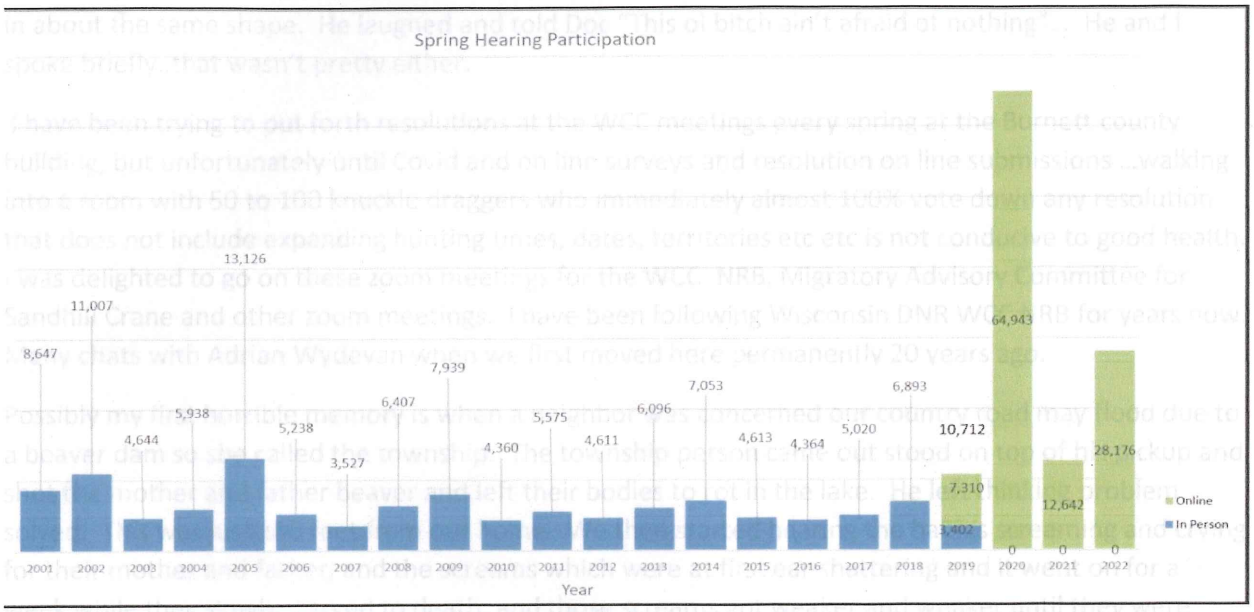
with wolves. I have however had a problem with packs of hounds on my own property and my neighbors' property (1,000 plus acres that I watch for Mark O. Johnson) Blocking the roads, sitting in their pickup trucks watching a screen, and not moving until they hear that bear/wolf/coyote is surrounded or treed. I can step outside and hear packs of hounds baying anytime in the day or night hunting or tracking "something" almost 365 days a year, and if you ask me they should never be allowed to hunt wolves ever under any circumstances. That is nothing but a dog fight in the woods. This behavior encourages a lack of respect for life, a blood lust, a barbaric sadistic ritual that encourages these individuals to turn their barbarism to humans in some cases. Every serial killer has a history of dissecting or killing small animals before graduating to humans. These hounders are the lowest among the hunting population. They get no respect from traditional hunters who fill their freezers with venison to feed their families. There is no Wolf stew recipe. This is WANTON WASTE...politically motivated. I have pictures of F J B written in dead Coyote bodies (F@#$ Joe Biden) so don't tell me that is not politically motivated. They are killing for the sake of killing because their "guy" didn't win.



But I digress. Talking about politicization of killing wolves. The chairman (Kazmierski) of the NRB after the February Fiasco of an extra 99 wolves killed in under 3 days was suggesting a quota of 500 (video tape of NRB meeting) for the SECOND hunt in the same year (against act 169), but calmer heads prevailed and they only sent a suggestion of 350 to the DNR who rightfully so declined that number and set the quota to 130 giving the traditional percentage of that number to the tribes. THANKFULLY that second hunt didn't take place but this is just further proof that WE NON-CONSUMPTIVE USERS don't

have a voice and all of this WANTON WASTE KILLING is politically motivated. After watching multiple NRB, WCC zoom meetings since the advent of Covid I am getting a much clearer picture of WISCONSIN, and their NON CONSERVATION policies. Just this last week the WCC having ACTUAL input from Wisconsin Residents has VOTED OUT the 3/2 rule which was 3 counties 2 years in a row and the resolution proposed by a Wisconsin Resident will move to the Spring Survey. Now it goes to their committee where it falls asleep with the members of the WCC. The WCC also talked during the past 3 meetings about eliminating the ZOOM and on line surveys because of too much participation. One panel member said "YEAH can you imagine if we have the Spring Survey and 3,000 people show up in Dane County??? NOT political???? I think not.

Here is the participation in the WCC zooms with the advent of COVID. People CARE! We pay exorbitant real estate taxes, shop locally, and deserve to be heard. This bar graph was sent to me by Kari Zimmerman upon my request.



Another thought. Please don't take credit for the wolf recovery....the Endangered Species List gets the credit for that...if it were up to WI, and the NRB they would already be trying to recover again, or have gone the way of the Passenger Pigeon.

Another point – In your Wolf Management plan Some of your so called "Scientifically derived information" is so old it has whiskers i.e. Van Ballenberghe 1975 talks about "After a wolf hunt the litter size increases by 31%....but did they hunt with snowmobiles, packs of hounds, loaded long guns hunting day and night with night vision goggles? I think not. Hunting my friends 'Just ain't what it used to be"

Similarly...Let's talk about the "LANDSCAPE OF FEAR" for a moment. Your Wolf Management Draft states the following: "Prey in the presence of a predator are more vigilant it says, they use the landscape differently, there is an increase in prey stress level, so they eat high quality forage and they have a reduced body condition which leads to prey decrease in reproductive outputs"...I'm sorry but this is 23 year old B.S. I am sure they have not considered the effects of PACKS OF HOUNDS

HUNTING/TRAINING/TRACKING ALMOST DAY AND NIGHT 365 DAYS A YEAR RUNNING THROUGH THE WOODS CHASING/TRAINING/HUNTING OF BEAR/WOLVES/COYOTE/RACOONS/FOX/BOBCAT ETC., ETC., but THAT doesn't hurt ALL the wildlife, and all those herbivore prey? Please...

OK, I think you know where I am coming from. But maybe not...We are meat eaters, we fish, we have friends that fill their freezers with venison every year to feed their families, and sometimes they share. I can't sleep with my windows open on cool summer nights because of the incessant gun shots and baying hounds, and pickup trucks racing up and down my country road. I raise fat little French bulldogs I call "wolf hors d'oeuvres" yet I have never had a problem with wolves, just packs of hounds, packs of hunters in pickups, blocking the roads, and the sound of horrific dog fights in the woods when a pack of hounds encounters a pack of wolves in the thousand or so acres surrounding my home. My Veterinarian Dr. Tom in Webster has stitched up countless Hounds. One day I was taking my bitch in for progesterone testing, and a hounder walked in with his bitch who's entrails were hanging down by his ankles, and he had some clutched in his bloody hands. I had to wait because she needed immediate attention, and he handed her alive over to Dr. Tom and told Doc that he had another one in the Pickup in about the same shape. He laughed and told Doc "This ol bitch ain't afraid of nothing"... He and I spoke briefly..that wasn't pretty either.

I have been trying to put forth resolutions at the WCC meetings every spring at the Burnett county building, but unfortunately until Covid and on line surveys and resolution on line submissions ...walking into a room with 50 to 100 knuckle draggers who immediately almost 100% vote down any resolution that does not include expanding hunting times, dates, territories etc etc is not conducive to good health. I was delighted to go on these zoom meetings for the WCC, NRB, Migratory Advisory Committee for Sandhill Crane and other zoom meetings. I have been following Wisconsin DNR WCC NRB for years now. Many chats with Adrian Wydevan when we first moved here permanently 20 years ago.

Possibly my first horrible memory is when a neighbor was concerned our country road may flood due to a beaver dam so she called the township. The township person came out stood on top of his pickup and shot the mother and father beaver and left their bodies to rot in the lake. He left thinking problem solved. This was just 100 feet from our home. We then started hearing the babies screaming and crying for their mother and father, and the screams which were at first ear shattering and it went on for a week while they slowly starved to death, and those screams got weaker and weaker until they were silent. We had no way to get to them, we called the DNR to no avail. I moved from the Concrete City of Chicago to be with wildlife, to photograph it, to enjoy it, and THIS barbarism is what I found. Shame on Wisconsin for allowing these barbaric wolf hunts and Coyote killing contests both of which are WANTON WASTE of our natural resources with no thought to us non-consumptive users of the outdoors, sustainability of our wildlife, nor the consequences of packs of hounds disrupting wolf pack hierarchy. Our voices have not been being heard. THAT NEEDS TO STOP.

More examples of Wanton Waste from just ONE BAR called Brothel Tavern where they have Squirrel killing contests, Coyote Killing contests to generate revenue several times a year.

Suggested resources for more current information for Proper Science based Wolf Management Plan follows.

Sincerely,
Merri Ann Gonzalez RN

The Brothel Tavern
Cross, WI

BROTHEL
SMOKE A PACK A DAY!
COYOTE CRUMP
TAVERN

JAN. 6TH-8TH

4TH ANNUAL COYOTE CRUMP

2 Person Teams $50 entry

PAYOUTS FOR LARGEST MALE, FEMALE AND MOST COYOTES

All entrants get a chance to win a BOG Deathgrip Tripod
All entrants receive a Brothel Coyote Crump window cling

JAN. 21ST

4TH ANNUAL SQUIRRELMAGEDDON

2 Person Teams $40 entry

MUST SIGN UP BY JANUARY 20TH
REGISTRATION 3PM SHARP @ THE BROTHEL
LIMIT 10 SQUIRRELS PER TEAM

CATEGORIES PAID:
GRAND CHAMPIONS • TOP 10% OF ENTRANTS AFTER CHAMPS • HEAVIEST OF EACH SPECIES
LIGHTEST OF EACH SPECIES • TOTAL TEAM WEIGHT • OLDEST & YOUNGEST HUNTERS

*Species score: Pine, Fox, Black, Grey
**Point values drawn after registration
All entrants receive a Brothel Squirrelmageddon Cinch Bag
All entrants receive a chance on a Rossi 22WMR Semi Auto
Each squirrel registered = 1 chance on a special gun raffle
- Ruger 10/22 With Scope
Every 2 squirrels registered = Drink Chip

Squirrelmageddon
The Brothel Tavern

CORY WISE 6PM - 9PM

FEB. 11TH

5TH ANNUAL ICE


VIP
WARRANTY
UNLIMITED. UNCONDITIONAL.
LIFETIME WARRANTY.



The Brothel Tavern Presents

The 3rd Annual Coyote Crump
Coyote Hunting Contest
February 11th-13th
2 Person Teams

All Hu
Into
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Sign u
Coyo

$50 entry per team

Weigh in Feb 11th-13th
During Business hours
Final weigh in
Feb.13th 2:00 pm

Hours: W-F 2pm-Close
Sat-Sun Noon-Close

P:608-385-0130



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023 AT 12 AM

Predator Hunt

Drunk'n Monkey Bar & Hotel • Ridgeland, Wisco...

Interested | Going | •••

Event by **Drunk'n Monkey Bar & Hotel**

Drunk'n Monkey Bar & Hotel
129 Diamond St, Ridgeland, WI 54763 · 250 mi

6 going · 20 interested

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

About | Discussion

To whom it may concern

I have read the proposed new wolf Management plan and have concerns.
The new plan would have no cap on the population of wolf. There should be a cap. Many county boards voted to have a cap set at 350.
I also have a problem with allowing sovereign nations control over private property rights Please concider these concerns before moving formard.

Thank you
Michael Hunter
[redacted]

General statement of Draft Wolf Management Plan, prepared by Laurie Groskopf

Wolf Management should be pretty simple. If you believe that wolves should take up habitation everywhere within their pre-settlement territory, few controls will be applied to their location. This characterizes the draft WI Wolf Management Plan as presented. If you believe, as the experts recommend, that wolves are safer and able to survive in a more natural state, by avoiding human interactions and exposure to agriculture, along with adequate prey, controls need to be applied.

Thanks for extending the public comment period. I intend to continue to promote public input as not having a real advisory committee since October, 2014 has resulted in many blunders and intentional misguided management of wolves by DNR. We MUST HAVE A FUNCTIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT ALL TIMES, like we do for other species and like we always did (sometimes 2) before October, 2014.

Public meetings should have been held. At the virtual zoom Feb. 7, 127 people signed up and about 54 spoke. At the Wildlife Federation/WI Assoc. of Sporting Dogs listening/sharing session in Solon Springs, Douglas Co. Feb. 18, 60 people attended in person, including a few by zoom. The audience recommended more listening sessions in person in wolf country. Denying citizens a voice, particularly a smaller minority such as rural citizens directly interacting with wolves, does not promote good wolf management. Those who are directly living with wolves have a much greater need to approve and accept a wolf management plan, and promote wolf safety and security. In the absence of agreement with the wolf plan, those same people are motivated to not support the plan and develop their own management strategies.

Clearly Local and County government were not included in the planning process. Many elected local bodies of government have formal resolutions regarding wolf management. These governmental bodies, as well as the legislature, has a stake in wolf management.

The latest 2 wolf management plan committees were heavily weighted towards wolf protectionists and wolf expansionists. On the plan committee, 8 of 29 were tribal representatives. 6 of 29 were wolf protectionist organizations, 4 of 29 were partners or sub-contractors of DNR who naturally would not care to disagree with any plan, 4 of 29 were agricultural groups, 6 of 29 were hunting/trapping organizations. One was undetermined as to their stance, but tended towards protectionism. This count is 10 for wolf controls, 19 for expansion. This is a 1/3 to 2/3 split.

The wolves themselves would tell you they don't care if there are 1200 of them in WI or just enough for peace and quiet, a place away from humans to survive, and enough mates to keep packs going. Managing for the assumed majority opinion may be doing the wolves no favors. Conflicts, both documented and the many more incidents that are not documented, increase intolerance. We know from research and the records that increased exposure to human presence and agriculture increases conflicts. This further degrades wolf/human relationships. It also causes other impacts, such as loss of grazing opportunities, reduced livestock health and production, increased expenses, etc. Some people are going out with sidearms whenever outside. Families are reluctant to allow their children to play outside unattended. WI DNR totally ignores the risks associated with expansion of wolves into human and agricultural occupied areas with the draft plan. To justify this, a general survey with a response rate of 3158 (possibly 20% of this responding that they were not interested in completing the survey?) was used to assume more people wanted the program to expand than to implement controls. Again, this survey sample cannot possibly represent the relative minority of WI residents that are regularly interacting with wolves. A response rate of 3158 compared to an 18+ population of 3,994,919 is not

capable of capturing the most important human opinions – the people that can make life hard for wolves or respect the management plan and agree with its goals. Inevitably, the unmanaged expansion of wolves has led to low tolerance. DNR disregards this minority view with its methods. The lack of public hearings in wolf occupied areas clearly indicates that DNR does not care to consider the rural, wolf-exposed minority views.

The survey design is flawed, as is MN and MI surveys, and others patterned after this expansionist view of wolf management. Polling the general public on any topic primarily impactful towards a minority is dismissive and discriminatory. Repeating previous mistakes does not give our WI DNR survey more credibility. County-based units are too large and many highly influenced by urban people or those who live in dense recreational housing. Too small a sample return, use of zip codes for sample, and multiple other errors are features of the DNR Public Opinions Survey.

The occupancy model of tracking was supposed to save money and provide more reliable estimates. I have been a volunteer tracker for 10 seasons. Our tracking surveys over the years have provided insufficient data in at least 40% of tracking blocks to yield good information for estimates. Many blocks have been discontinued due to DNR lacking evidence of wolves within those blocks. But these same blocks are represented within wolf zones and expansion of wolf zones, for the reason that wolves have been noted in these areas. Total miles tracked for the entire tracking efforts gives little credibility to each blocks performance. Each block must be tracked adequately in order to have any reliable numbers for estimates. That would indicate a good quality tracking program. Other sources of presence of wolves need to be incorporated into the estimate (game cameras, public reports). As of now, any reports made will not be included in that winter's data, but delayed for a year to direct tracking effort in the next year. Only 18 collared wolves are on the landscape from DNR and only 6 of those collars are working. There used to be many more collared wolves with functional collars. Instead of being an improvement, the tracking program now is more expensive (about ¾ of miles by paid staff) and does not have a diverse base of information utilizing hunter reports and game camera detection from the 100,000+ citizens. It does not even use any public reports of wolves after the tracking season begins. This would never have happened with a functional advisory committee.

Wolf experts agree at any time 10 – 15% of wolves are lone or dispersing. This amount may vary during the year, but is relatively high during pre-mating season and as pups mature and adults may decide to leave. We have decades of tracking information that would be very easy to recover data on Wisconsin's loners and dispersers. While some of this is transitory, there are also documented cases of lone wolves that stay solitary over a longer period of time.

Current probable or confirmed public reports are not being used as part of the current winter's estimate DNR statisticians are not familiar with pack dynamics that could easily identify packs from various sources of data. There is too much unnecessary complexity to the occupancy model. If packs are averaging 65 square miles of territory, clusters of occupancy would define a pack territory easily.

Not enough GPS collars that are functioning are being used on the landscape. Previously, not enough variation in location for placement of GPS collars. Can't PR funds be used to improve this? We are not flying the older collars anymore, and are saving a ton of money?

The plan states its intentions to reduce conflicts, but provides no methods to do this beyond the historic non-lethal abatement that is effective temporarily for a particular location, but the impact diminishes as wolves become habituated, and the wolves just move down the road to another farm or another

hunting dog or pet. The plan does not compensate for actual losses caused by wolf conflicts. Market value is a far cry from the eventual value of an animal. Also, loss of time for addressing conflicts, materials such as mending fences, maintenance of abatement measures, loss of production value, and psychological impacts, which can be very intense and long-lasting, are not compensated. One can only call this program a payment program, not a reimbursement or compensation plan. Zone 4A was previously included in zone 6 – unsuitable habitat. Moving it to a secondary wolf zone, Zone 4, means less quota will be available in this area. This is not an improvement on a situation where clearly, this portion of Wood Co. as well as other portions included in Zone 5, are determined to be in a wolf zone where they do not belong. (See Theresa Simpson "Location Matters: an eighteen year spatial and temporal analysis of the recolonization of a disjunct population of gray wolves" master's thesis, 2019). MI has previously eliminated wolf packs in areas where hunting dog depredations were excess. Not done often.

Using the conflict list to measure success is very unscientific. These lists are variable due to conditions and the status of wolves. When listed, citizens are more reluctant to report conflicts, preferring not to draw attention to a solution they feel is in their hands. Only a population goal or range, as MN is promoting (2200 goal, range 1600 – 3000) might turn the tide of the tsunami of conflicts we are experiencing. As the DNR is not interested in measuring the tolerance of wolves in the small population directly impacted, there is no way to measure tolerance as it appears on the ground. We do have data that 89% of wolf mortalities in WI is human-caused. It is not difficult to measure wolf numbers and know their areas. Wyoming has successfully kept their wolf numbers under 350 (including Yellowstone) for over 14 years, and had small seasons during desilting years.

The DNR's myth that wolves live only in remote areas was caused by inexperienced staff at the beginning of the program. See page 18, Mech and Boitani "Wolves, Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation, 2003 for specific information on wolf expansion in MN. Wolves use roads. Experts would have known that wolves are adaptable and resourceful, wishing to survive over the alternative.

All conflicts need to establish a 4-mile radius warning areas around the event. The mapping feature on line is not informative enough to provide this information. WCC and Wildlife Federation have both passed resolutions supporting the 4 mile radius warning. Wolf pack territories are now estimated at 65 square miles average. A 4 mile radius is 50 square miles. The lack of a warning area is a lawsuit waiting to happen.

I find your discussion of the non-depredation impacts on livestock on page 75 and the Human health and safety risk perception to be totally inadequate, and in some measure, insensitive and discriminatory towards the rural population directly exposed to wolves. These encounters are often dismissed as "perceptions" based on fairy tales. Many of us can personally attest to the fact that harassments, conflicts, threats, and close encounters are not products of an overly active imagination, but are real and frequently traumatic events. In addition, it is insulting to see the comparison of the risk from bears, coyotes, and domestic dogs you place into the plan. There are many more bears, coyotes and millions of dogs. To compare those risks to wolves is demeaning. Bears destroy property like corn fields. You cannot compare a flattened corn patch to losing your 13 year old black lab to a wolf 50 yards from your front door. You cannot compare it to losing 30 years of breeding sheep in one night, and having your family come over to dispose of the mangled dead, and a few still living but doomed to be dispatched animals. You cannot compare these events with losing two cows in the process of delivering calves – each one week apart, a loss of 4 animals, within 200' of your house in a pasture – and never seeing your pet dog again during the first attack. How can DNR be so insensitive? Rural lives matter!

Removing virtually all harvest from tribal buffer zones erodes private property rights, and could set a precedent for other species management. Bears and other animals have clan significance and spiritual qualities, and could be claimed as managed by the tribes. DNR has decided to provide tribes this additional right through harvest quotas and by virtual exclusion of harvest zones. In the past tribal treaty rights of quotas were not granted to game animals if the tribe did not harvest at least 15% of the quota. This has changed, and could change for other species.

The proposed zones are not supported by any science. Neither the previous plan zones, nor the currently proposed zones follow the science. The only studies done in WI, and there are 4 – are David Mladenoff's. These studies reveal 5,850 square miles of primary wolf habitat (absent human presence, absent agriculture, enough game to eat). In 2008, a repeat of the study increased secondary habitat due to wolf expansion. This did not mean the environment became more suitable for wolf habitation. It just meant wolves had to expand somewhere, and being territorial, had no choice. The primary zones stayed essentially the same. Mladenoff cautions in this study that just because wolves are living more in secondary zones, does not mean decisions should be made to encourage them to continue this trend. The primary zones were largely large forested areas. Since the 1990's when these studies were done, large divestments of paper company lands has occurred in WI. Due to the change to hedge fund timber management, 1/3 of that private paper company land is now in private hands. As a result, these lands are fractured into smaller parcels, and many do not conform to the large forested previous status that provided primary wolf habitat. As Mech states in "Where can wolves live and how can we live with them" 2017, "Some zones for some periods can support total protection, whereas in others, wolf numbers will have to be reduced to various degrees or removed. They are prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new areas where humans allow them, and are difficult to control when populations become established." We are now at the point where wolves have become highly established in areas of unsuitable habitat, and controls will be difficult or impossible from here forward.

Theoretical scientists have developed models that estimate biological carrying capacity for wolves at just over 1200 in WI. That level has been reached. These researchers are self-proclaimed experts that have not done real world wolf research. One glance at the conflict chart on-line tells us that there is an unacceptable level of wolf conflict. Wolves have surpassed their social carrying capacity (even Time Van Deelen said this in his presentation at the International Wolf Center World Symposium, 2018). No stated methods or techniques to reduce wolf populations were presented in the draft plan. We need a numeric target to reduce conflicts to close to zero, and reduce wolf numbers until this happens.

Dave Ruid, USDA wildlife services N. region Supervisor, has given a very good presentation on how implementing non-lethal abatements in Douglas Co. caused wolves to move from farm to farm causing new conflicts. Non-lethal abatement is usually only temporarily effective. Also, what may look like effectiveness may be the producer's natural instinct to protect their farm or property from more conflicts. It is important when claiming to support reductions in conflicts to deliver effective methods. The DNR needs to understand that policies aimed at increasing wolf presence in unsuitable habitat will naturally lead to higher level of conflicts and less human tolerance. MN currently defines wolf habitat as 28,561 square miles, approximately 1/3 of the state. Wisconsin proposes to have about the same number of square miles as appropriate wolf habitat, about 53% of the land area. Is there a reason WI has to have the second highest wolf population in the lower 48? See previous discussion on MN plan wolf goals and range. Wi has the highest human density by far in wolf occupied areas of any state in the lower 48.

There is no issue regarding long-term sustainability of wolves in WI. Besides having the second highest number late winter in the lower 48, we have excellent connectivity to MN, MI and Canada on both sides. We also know from GPS collar tracking that wolves are very capable of migrating long distances, for dispersals. In my neighborhood, a wolf was caught by a trapper and collared. It went to MN, and ended up taking up residence in Bayfield Co. In other states, wolves have been documented as travelling thousands of miles over many states and Canadian territories. Having a functional advisory committee would help explain all these misperceptions. We have not had a real advisory committee since October, 2014. Prior to that, even when wolves were on the ESL, we had at least one advisory committee and sometimes two. Lack of a balanced and functional committee has resulted in poor decisions and many errors of judgement. Every other species has an advisory committee, including the endangered marten.

Your harvest charts are a textbook definition of the self-fulfilling prophesy. We were told harvests would start to reduce the wolf population in 2012 – 2014. Using the Layne Adams study and Fuller chapter in Mech's book – both very old information that happened mostly in Canada and Alaska and was done long before any harvests in the lower 48, led people to believe you were relying on "science". The predictions of decrease in wolves proved false. After 3 harvests, WI only counted 69 less in the overwinter minimum wolf count after 2014. We now have 4 years of harvests that clearly demonstrate our quotas and permit rates will not reduce wolves by any substantial amount. This was the real agenda of the DNR. Again look at Wyoming, which has done an excellent analysis of appropriate wolf habitat. With 1 ½ times the area of WI, and 1/10 the population, they have maintained a stable population under 350 for many years, and held a small harvest when not under the ESA. Thirteen years of data from Idaho and Montana should also prove that the issue is controlling the numbers. These numbers include Yellowstone, where Wyoming agrees to maintain 100 wolves minimum.

Proper aging of wolf teeth by a scientific laboratory is recommended by three separate experts I contacted. Your chart of aging shows the bias that comes with having staff visually age wolves at harvest. This data created a firestorm of controversy when theoretical scientists used the data to predict the collapse of our wolf numbers. They were wrong. Your data was wrong. The quotas were insufficient and the aging needed to be done by scientific methods.

Data from our ineffective 4 seasons that did not reduce the wolf numbers, as well as data from 13 years of harvests in Western States, needs to be used to determine harvest quotas. There is much variability between the two studies used (only 1 - Adams in 2021) to determine quotas. As previously stated, the Fuller chapter in Mech's book published in 2003 assembled information on human caused mortality as it related to subsequent wolf numbers, and these studies were mostly done in Canada and Alaska. The Layne Adams study also assembled human-caused mortality data and wolf survival as part of his study in the Gates of the Arctic, published in 2008. Many of these studies came from Canada and Alaska, and none were done during the time of harvest in the lower 48. Using such research might have predicted DNR's preferred outcomes, but more current sources need to be used and developed to predict the impact of harvest. The success rates used were grabbed out of thin air. You can't accomplish a harvest in 2 ½ days of that magnitude in 2021, and a period of weeks in some of the zones of the previous 3 harvests, without something being wrong with the numbers, no matter what methods used and ideal weather. Everyone in wolf country knows this. Frankly, you won't like me saying this, but they think you are idiots.

The DNR has never taken any initiative to work with the federal US FWS to write a decent desilting order or work professionally towards delisting. People blame our relisting orders on liberal judges, but the reality is the delisting orders were not written properly. Relisting has always occurred not for biological

reasons, but for procedural errors. That message was clearly stated by US FWS representatives at the Ashland delisting hearing before 2012 delisting. It continues to be true today. It is time to be proactive and reach out to our US legislators and the US FWS to get us delisted if you really believe in state management. It is time to employ a seriously experienced legal team to defend our delisting orders. We need to address the minor issues with the last court rulings, both state and federal, and move on to managing wolves. Thirteen plus years to write a wolf management plan, and no revision of the emergency rules? This is a problem. The judge in California dismissed the plaintiff's claims that our management plan (the 1999/2007 plan) was not adequate to managing wolves. He felt our previous plan was fine. And so does the Department of Interior.

Attached are a number of documents that address my concerns regarding the Draft Wolf Management Plan. This plan is the most expansionist and protectionist plan that could have possibly be written. I am very distressed that the decades of advocacy from rural citizens directly exposed to wolves was almost totally disregarded in this plan.

My first wolf sightings were in Langlade Co. on Ormsby Rd. in the mid 1980's. Four wolves were in the road ahead, clearly very big and WOLVES. I don't think the DNR knew about them. My background in this topic advanced in 1995, when I moved to Harrison in Lincoln Co. and observed two resident wolves on several occasions. They were no trouble to us then, and it was different and a little exciting to see them. I don't think the DNR was aware of those wolves. Since that time I involved myself in learning about wolves. I became totally involved in June, 2009, and first spoke to the NRB about inaccurate and incomplete information being disseminated by DNR that summer.

I have attended a 2-credit course at the International Wolf Center, attended numerous conferences including the last 2 International Wolf Center World Symposiums in MN, three Midwest Wolf Stewards Conferences one of which I spoke at, numerous web-based trainings, the Northland College Conference by zoom, and spent thousands of hours studying wolf issues in the USA in other countries. I am in contact with experts all over the world on this topic. All this is done at my own initiative and I have never received any financial or other benefits from the organizations I belong to. In fact, it has been a very expensive personal quest from my own pocket. All this effort has resulted in absolutely no progress on DNR promoting delisting and working with the Dept. of Interior on writing a court-proof plan, or getting any meaningful measures of control over the ever-expanding wolf population.

Since 1995, I have been heavily involved in advocating for responsible wolf management in many capacities. I have spent well over 10,000 hours of effort since June, 2009, spent well in excess of $20,000 of my own funds to fund some of my projects and support efforts to effectively manage wolves, and frankly, no positive results have been realized by all this effort.

One of my first projects, based on David Mladenoff's work on wolf habitat modeling, the only scientific effort that has ever happened in WI, was to promote the wolf goal in the Wolf Plan (something DNR always have ignored since 1999) of 350. Because of Mladenoff's work, I felt 350 or less was a more reasonable goal, and I also promoted that concept. 350 or less was the social carrying capacity. 350 and 350 or less are not my preference for a wolf goal. I prefer to keep my opinion on the wolf goal to myself. However, approaching as close to zero conflicts as possible would be my goal. From 2009 - 2017, 36 county boards passed wolf control resolutions favoring 350 as the goal (7), 350 or less (26), or some lower number (3). These were sent to DNR staff and DATCP Secretary, legislators both national and state, and the governor's's office. They were ignored. This project involved hundreds of county board members, farmers, farm organizations, citizens and advocates.

When the latest of three attempts to revise the wolf management plan began, I re-contacted all counties involved and asked if they would wish to send in their previously approved wolf control, or would choose to pass another resolution. From that effort, again with the support of various county staff, county board members, and many citizens, 26 counties decided to again address this issue and either send in the previous resolution passed (9) or pass a new resolution (16). One new county passed a resolution that was not included in the original 36 (Chippewa). Sending old resolutions in were Outagamie, Barron, Grant, Marathon, Wood, Richland, Taylor, Washburn, Adams. Sending in new resolutions, in addition to Chippewa, Polk, Florence, Forest, Waushara, Jackson, Langlade, Lafayette, Marquette, Juneau, Price, Clark, Iron, Rusk, Douglas, Oneida, Lincoln. These resolutions were all sent in

for the public comment period, according to the county clerks I consulted. Counties that elected not to send in old or new resolutions, but had previously passed and sent wolf control resolutions between 2010 - 2017 were Portage, Shawano, Marinette, Ashland, Iowa, Sawyer, Burnett, Bayfield, Waupaca, and Oconto. Vilas defeated the resolution on a tie vote. I am still working with some of these counties to possibly take up the resolution.

Another project I worked on was creation of a new non-profit organization called WI Wolf Facts. This is a consortium of individuals that belong to farm and hunting/trapping organizations. It is mainly a communication group, with attempts to disseminate accurate information about wolves in WI. We ran Wolf Summit II, a conference that featured some national speakers as well as staff from DNR. We also helped run the recent wolf listening/sharing session in Douglas Co. In addition to general advocacy and information dissemination, WI Wolf Facts has recorded 7 videos featuring victims of wolf conflicts. Please take the time to watch these videos on wisconsinwolffacts.org and learn to understand the extremely long-lasting and traumatic nature of these conflicts on people's lives.

Another project I conducted in 2021 from Feb. - May was a large survey of rural attitudes towards wolves. Many of our rural partners - farmers, hunters, rural residents exposed to wolves, have advocated for the DNR to put a greater focus on those citizens that are impacted more heavily by wolves. Those same citizens are also able to impact wolves negatively, and they do so in large numbers. Unfortunately, citizen acton is the only true management in WI that has gone on over the past 30+ years. I have attached that survey and the map of my specifically chosen samples of rural towns that are not as corrupted by citizens who live in villages, towns or cities. Sampling within those units was every other voter name from town lists. This sample is just over 1/10 of the total state sample for your recent statewide survey. The response rate for this one mailing, stamped return envelope survey was much higher than one would expect, and compared with the DNR survey positively. All comments are contained at the end of the research. Please read the entire paper.

Another couple of projects I have worked on that are much smaller: an analysis of western human take and eventual wolf estimates in Idaho and Montana. This is attached, but not updated. However, nothing much has happened to change the results. While Idaho and Montana have continuously increased opportunities for harvest, and both states have a robust lethal depredation control program, as well as a partially state funded program to reimburse hunter and trapper expenses in areas identified by the state as needing more wolves removed, the problem continues to be a lack of control on those populations. While WI is not the Rocky Mountains, we need to hear the words of the experts that controlling these wolf numbers becomes much more of a challenge than any imagined issues regarding having a sustainable population. The days of worrying about a sustainable population in WI are completely gone, with high connectivity to MN, MI and Canada, and the second highest numbers in the lower 48.

David Mech says in his paper you include in the literature section "Where can wolves live and how can we live with them", Bioloigcal Conservtion, 210:310 - 317, "Some zones for some periods can support total protection, whereas, in others, wolf numbers will have to be reduced to various degrees or removed. They are Prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new ares where humans allow them and are difficult to control when populations become established.". That piece of wisdom comes from a real wolf scientist who also has no ties but to tell the truth. At the International Wolf Center World Symposium, we heard that message over and over from real wolf researchers and managers. I hope Wisconsin will someday get the message, for the good of the wolves, and the good our our rural public and farmers.

Finally attached are just some of my many concerns about this wolf management plan point by point. I had to leave much out. Laurie Groskopf, Tomahawk, WI [redacted]

WOLVES: THE WISCONSIN RURAL PERSPECTIVE

Author: Laurie Groskopf, Tomahawk, WI

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WOLVES: THE WISCONSIN RURAL PERSPECTIVE

SUMMARY

Wolves: The Wisconsin Rural Perspective, is the first survey measuring public opinions about wolves in exclusively rural areas of the state. These Towns are: Hansen, Wood Co., Russell, Lincoln Co., Maple, Douglas Co., and Alvin, Forest Co. A control Town, Richwood, Richland Co., was chosen to determine differences and similarities in opinions.

The survey is brief – two questions – with an additional item measuring respondents' exposure to wolves and knowledge of conflicts.

In the four Towns surveyed with wolf presence, 69.6% of respondents wanted less wolves in Wisconsin. In the control Town of Richwood, Richland Co., 46.7% of respondents chose "less wolves" in Wisconsin.

When asked their opinions about a potential wolf goal in Wisconsin, the most frequently selected option in the 4 wolf occupied towns was "350", "350 or less", or "less than 350" (55). The second most popular wolf goal in those 4 towns was "zero". Forty-five respondents chose this goal.

I began this project wondering about the differences I might discover in towns with varying amounts of time, different habitats, and intensity of conflict between wolves and humans. As it turned out, I am more impressed with the similarities and rather unified opinions about wolf management.

"Each time the proposed delisting has been blocked in court by protectionist groups arguing legal technicalities. This continued full protection for flourishing wolf populations creates a real problem, not only for farmers and ranchers, who are generally hostile to wolves, but also for the wolves themselves. Because when wolves proliferate where they conflict with people, they will be killed – legally or not ….We ….envisioned that once recovery had been met, the wolf would be delisted and where necessary, their numbers Controlled, like those of bears, deer, geese, and other wildlife." Wolf Island: Discovering the Secrets of a Mythic Animal L. David Mech, with Greg Breining. U. of MN Press, 2020.

BACKGROUND

Early wolf recovery in WI paid no attention to the social acceptability of wolves. Management decisions were focused on recovery of wolves, and it was believed by state managers that wolves would only live in large blocks of public land with little to no human presence. The concept of social acceptability as it relates to wolf numbers was not on the radar.

Studies of public attitudes towards wolves were small-scaled questionnaire-based studies (Nelson & Franson, 1988; Wilson, 1999, Schanning 2009). The results of these surveys showed support for wolf expansion. Some samples may have been biased. Schanning chose a representative sample, but had a very low return rate of less than 20% (source, unpublished preliminary draft DNR wolf management plan 4/10).

In 2001, Adrian Treves and others began a "Longitudinal Analysis of Attitudes Toward Wolves". Different samples were used for each stage, 2001, 2004, 2009, but some continuity in sampled respondents allowed for Treves to follow people's attitudes towards wolves over time. "Over time, 656 respondents increased agreement with statements reflecting fear of wolves, the belief that wolves compete with hunters for deer…and inclinations to poach a wolf." These studies took place between 2001 – 2009, when Wisconsin's minimum wolf count rose from 257 to 655. "Over time residents living in the range of Wisconsin's gray wolf became less tolerant of wolves." (Source, Conservation Biology, 2013) (Wisconsin Wolf Policy Survey: Changing Attitudes 2001 – 2009, Adrian Treves, Lisa Naughton, Tory Shelley)

A Wisconsin DNR study of public opinion released in 2014, in preparation for the second attempt to revise the 1999/2007 approved wolf plan, sampled 8750 addresses in Wisconsin with oversampling in wolf range. The study assumed that people with addresses in wolf areas would have had a greater exposure to wolves. "…human interactions should be more frequent in places where wolves occupy more space (with more wolves) and/or where there are more human settlements…To the extent that these assumptions are true, we expected to see some differences in the social carrying capacity of wolves across its Wisconsin range." (Public Attitudes Towards Wolves and Wolf Management in Wisconsin August, 2014, WI DNR)

For the sample areas identified as "wolf range" in Wisconsin's study, respondents self-identified as "rural" or "urban". The rural/urban split was one method used to analyze data. Opinions were split, with 40% of rural wolf country respondents rating their feelings towards wolves as unfavorable or very unfavorable, 22% neutral, and 38% favorable or very favorable. When it came to questions about how many wolves should reside in the state, 47% of rural wolf range residents wanted fewer or none, 24% wanted the same number, 16% wanted more or many more. The wolf minimum count was 809 while this survey was done.

Another method of wolf range data analysis consisted of large groupings of counties into one cluster. For example, one cluster was Bayfield, Ashland, Sawyer, Iron and Price Counties. Cluster data did not separate urban and rural, so may not reflect the most important population, rural residents, who interact more freely with wolves. In the above cluster of counties, 46% of respondents (rural and urban) indicated they wanted to see the wolf population decreased or eliminated in their county. 32% were in favor of the same number of wolves, and 11% wanted an increase in their county.

In another cluster – Burnett, Washburn, Rusk, and Taylor Counties – 50% of respondents wanted a decrease or elimination of wolves, while 31% wanted the same number (809 at the time) and 9% wanted an increase in wolf numbers.

This most recent study done by DNR staff noted the department and wolf advisory committee were particularly interested in "…the opinions of people living among wolves, especially in the rural areas, because those residents are most likely to encounter wolves and be impacted by them. People who are the most impacted by wolves are also the ones whose acceptance and cooperation are most needed to ensure continued success with management efforts." Sample selection and the method of reporting findings may not have captured the rural voice.

In late 2020, preparing for delisting, Minnesota completed research on public attitudes for their new wolf management plan. "Minnesotans' Attitudes Toward Wolves and Wolf Management" (Summary Report) U. of MN, MN DNR, MN Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Dept. of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, Schroeder, S.A, Landon, A.C., Cornicelli, L., McInenly, L. & Stark, D. 2020) targeted three groups in MN. These were: the general population 18+, sample 5250; Minnesota livestock farmers in counties within wolf range, sample 2500; and MN deer hunters 18+, sample 2000. These respondents were mailed surveys based on addresses with four follow up reminders.

Residents responded at 33%, deer hunters at 47%, and livestock farmers at 53%.

Livestock producers in wolf range were negative towards wolves at a rate of 62.2%. Their preference for a wolf population of "0", fewer or many fewer was 72.2%. Their preference for wolf range was none, much less, or less at a rate of 65.6%.

Deer hunters, a statewide sample, were negative about wolves at a rate of 51.5%. Their desire to see wolf numbers reduced to fewer, many fewer, or zero was 59.8% of respondents. They wanted wolf range of none, less, or much less at 48.3%.

The general MN population had a different outlook. Only 19.6% of residents had a negative view of wolves. Only 14% wanted a wolf population of zero, less, or many less. As for wolf range reductions, 11.1% wanted no range, less or much less.

This survey mirrors public opinion surveys in many areas of the world. Where people have little experience or exposure to wolves, attitudes are more positive. In cases where people have direct exposure to wolves and live near them, attitudes are much less positive.

In "On Wisconsin", a publication of the University of Wisconsin Alumni Association, Fall, 2009, Volume 110, Number 3, an article called "Wolves at the Door" by John Allen appeared. The article examined the opinions of UW faculty wondering how many wolves the state should have. "If you look at the habitat wolves currently occupy, it's not all good quality", according to David Mladenoff, Ph.D., the professor who first did population modeling of the landscapes in Wisconsin that could support wolf recovery. The article continues "And in the poorer-quality areas, the wolf population 'probably isn't sustainable'. The single most important habitat attribute which promotes successful wolf territory is lack of roads (and its companion, lack of people)." The article goes on to say both Mladenoff and Van Deelen, another UW professor

who has worked on wolf population modeling, believed in 2009 that the days of rapid multiplication may be coming to an end. In 2009, Van Deelen figured that 1300 wolves between MI and WI would be the maximum.

All these numbers and the vague concept of biological carrying capacity do the wolves no favors. The real importance of social carrying capacity is crucial to understanding wolf management. And keep in mind, no sensible person would advocate for wolves to be held at biological or social carrying capacity, because that implies we are willing to risk the wolves themselves and peoples' good-will towards wolves, by standing at the precipice.

METHODOLOGY

A study of true rural attitudes towards wolves was needed. This has never been done in Wisconsin.

Five rural Wisconsin Towns were chosen for this study. These Towns were not chosen randomly, but rather for their attributes. Attributes considered were the truly rural nature of each Town, length of time wolves had occupied the Town, and degree of conflicts experienced. Variation between towns was intentional to capture possible differences. The most important variable impacting the success of wolves is human population density. Previous research proves the more remote regions without human presence create optimal locations for wolves.

According to L. David Mech, in a keynote presentation at the October, 2018 International Wolf Center International Wolf Symposium 2018, in areas without human presence, wolves are the primary cause of wolf mortality. In human dominated landscapes, humans are the primary cause of most wolf deaths. The Towns chosen have varying degrees of human density, but all are without any significant settlements. The human density per square mile of territory is included in each Town description.

These five Towns chosen for this survey are: Town of Hansen, Wood Co., Town of Maple, Douglas Co., Town of Russell, Lincoln Co., Town of Richwood, Richland Co., and Town of Alvin, Forest Co. All Towns were chosen because they lacked cities or villages of any major size. This was needed to avoid areas where people have had little opportunity to interact with wolves.

The Town of Hansen in Wood. Co. (human population density 19.5/sq. mi.) has a mixed landscape of small farms and forested areas. Hanson straddles two wolf management zones, zone 5 which is considered by the department to be optimal wolf habitat, and zone 6, which is unsuitable wolf habitat. Some large public land is nearby, but Hansen is mostly private owners of small, sometimes agricultural, parcels. Wolves have occupied this area for about 10 years and have been a major source of conflicts recently, mainly with livestock, but also pets.

The Town of Maple in Douglas Co. (20.2/sq. mi. human density) has the longest history with wolves, well over 25 years. The landscape is mixed farming and rural residences, and the Brule River State Forest. Chronic problems and conflicts with wolves have been the experience of

this Town. Maple is located in Wolf Harvest Zone #1, considered primary wolf habitat by the WI DNR.

The Town of Russell in Lincoln Co. (18.7/sq. mi. human density) is a mixed landscape of forested areas and farms. Most of Russell is smaller private lands, with some agriculture present and a few public access areas of county forest and state fishing areas. Wolves have occupied this area for over 20 years, but have increased their presence for the past 10 years. Very few documented conflict incidents have occurred. Russell is located in Wolf Harvest Zone #4, considered to be sub-optimal or marginal wolf range.

The Town of Richwood in Richland Co. (14.5/sq. mi. human density) is located in the SW portion of the state in the driftless area. While very few wolves have been present in this area, and few problems have been verified, a control Town was needed to represent an area where wolves probably could live, but have not established permanent residence as of yet (as determined by DNR wolf tracking methods). Most of Richwood is private ownership. Richwood is located entirely in wolf harvest zone 6, which is considered unsuitable wolf habitat. But some advocate for allowing the establishment of wolves in areas such as this with a very low human density.

The Town of Alvin in Forest Co. (1.3/sq. mi. human density) was originally not part of the sample. But I had left over materials and wanted another wolf harvest zone represented. Alvin is quite different than the other sample towns because it is almost entirely lacking agriculture, and contains mostly USFS National Forest lands. Being located in Wolf Harvest Zone #2, it represents what the DNR classifies as optimal wolf habitat.

The survey sample was obtained from voter registration lists provided by county or town clerks. Using voter lists avoided return as undeliverable surveys common in address-based mailed surveys. Undeliverables were very low.

Sampling within each town was completely random, with every-other name selected and mailed the survey (see appendix to view the survey). The recipient also received a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return the survey. The mailing was the only contact with each respondent, except for a few that called to get more information and one who sent the survey back from the control Town stating that it was inappropriate as no wolves live there. I sent a personal communication back, since the person included their name and address explaining the concept of having a control town.

The survey was designed to be very simple, short, and not a burden for the recipient. This was primarily because many respondents will throw away a long survey. Also, context laden terms and questions used in previous surveys probably caused certain types of respondents to become frustrated or interpret the questions as invasive or leading the respondent. For this reason, the survey contained some brief, factual information followed by simple choices for the respondent to circle or write numbers. A “no opinion” option was also included. The respondent was given the opportunity to write notes, which are included as an appendix.

The total sample is approximately 9% of the recent survey sample for the entire state of MN. The sample used is 10% of the last mailed WI public opinion survey in 2013.

RESULTS - Response rates

The sample:

Town of Hansen:	247 minus 1 undeliverable =	246
Town of Russell:	208 minus 7 undeliverable =	201
Town of Maple:	241 minus 4 undeliverable =	237
Town of Richwood:	159 zero undeliverable =	159
Town of Alvin:	65 minus 3 undeliverable =	62
TOTAL SAMPLE		905

The sample consisted of every other name on the registered voter list obtained from the county clerk or the town clerk. The response rates for the five towns were quite good, considering this was a one-time contact from an unknown source. The five towns responded as follows:

Town of Hansen, Wood Co.: total sample 247 minus one undeliverable = 246; response from 119 = 48.4% responded.

Town of Russell, Lincoln Co.: total sample 208 minus 7 undeliverable = 201; response from 79 = 39.3% responded.

Town of Maple, Douglas Co.: total sample 241 minus 4 undeliverable = 237; response from 99 = 41.8% responded.

Town of Richwood, Richland Co.: total sample 159; response from 60 = 37.7% responded.

Town of Alvin, Forest Co.; total sample 65 minus 3 undeliverable = 62; response from 22 = 35.5% responded.

RESULTS – Less, Same, More, No Opinion

The survey questions asked whether the respondent wanted less wolves in Wisconsin, the same number of wolves in Wisconsin, more wolves, or had no opinion. (see full survey of 1 page)

Town of Hansen: Less Wolves 76.4%; Same Wolves 10.9%; More Wolves 2.5%; No Opinion 6.7%. There were also 4 surveys where results were contradictory. These included: 1) the selection of “same” but a quota suggested at 400, which would be less than current. 2) two surveys where the respondent selected “more wolves” but indicated a preferred goal of “0”, and 3) one survey selected “more” wolves but indicated a goal of 200. Inconclusive results totaled 3.4% of the total.

Town of Russell: Less Wolves 63.3%; Same Wolves 15.2%; More Wolves 5.1%: No Opinion 11.4%. Inconclusive 5.1%. For these inconclusive surveys, two surveys selected "More Wolves" but wrote a recommended goal of "0", one survey selected "More Wolves", but recommended a goal of 350, and one survey selected "More Wolves", but recommended a goal of 20.

Town of Maple: Less Wolves 65.7%; Same Wolves 11.1%; More Wolves 7.0%; No Opinion 12.2%, inconclusive 4.0%. Three inconclusive surveys selected "More Wolves" but recommended goals of 300 – 500, 100, or 350+. The fourth circled "no opinion" but wrote statements indicating fear and worries about conflicts.

Town of Richwood: Less Wolves 46.7%; Same Wolves 13.3%; More Wolves 10.0%; No Opinion 25.0%; inconclusive 5.0%. One survey questioned why Richwood was in the sample. I returned a response to this individual since he gave me his contact information, explaining that Richwood was the "control" Town because it was by some people's judgement suitable wolf habitat, but had experienced little presence of wolves. Another inconclusive circled both "less" and "same". A third selected "more wolves" but wrote a management goal of 500.

Town of Alvin: Less Wolves: 72.7%; Same Wolves 9.1%; More Wolves 13.6%; No Opinion 4.5%. All surveys were valid.

TOWN	LESS	SAME	MORE	NO OPINION	?
HANSEN	76.4%	10.9%	2.5%	6.7%	3.4%
RUSSELL	63.3%	15.2%	5.1%	11.4%	5.1%
MAPLE	65.7%	11.1%	7.0%	12.2%	4.0%
RICHWOOD	46.7%	13.3%	10.0%	25.0%	5.0%
ALVIN	72.7%	9.1%	13.6%	4.5%	0

RESULTS - PREFERENCE FOR STATEWIDE WOLF GOAL

Respondents were able to note their ideas about the state wolf goal. The results are as follows:

Hansen - Less wolves (91)
Goal of zero – 21
Goal of 350 – 17
No opinion – 14
300 – 5
400 – 4
Less than or equal to 350 – 4
200 – 4
100 – 3
500 - 3
Less than now - 2
275, 125 -150, 200 or less, 250, 50 – 150, less than 100, 0 – 500, 50, 150, 0 – 100, 0 – 200, 20, 450 – 650, 600 – Each received one vote (total 14).

Hansen same # wolves (13)
No goal – 9
1000 – 3
500 – 1000 – 1

Hansen more wolves (3)
None had any opinion on a goal

Hansen no opinion (8)
None had any opinion on a goal

Russell – Less Wolves (50)
Goal of Zero – 12
Goal of 350 – 11
No opinion – 11
Less – 2
500 – 2
100 – 2
0 – 350, 600, one, minimum, 350 – 500, 200, 250, 550, 850, 999 – each received one vote (10)

Russell – same wolves (12)
No opinion - 6
1200 - 2
1000 – 2
1034 – 1
400 – 1

Russell – more wolves (4)
No opinion – 3
2000+ - 1

Russell – no opinion (9)
No opinion – 8
350 – 1

Maple – Less Wolves (65)
350 – 16
Zero – 8
200 – 4
500 – 3
100 – 2
300 – 500 – 2
300 - 2

<350, 250 – 350, 500 – 700, 400, 700, <100, 1000, 450, 150, 800, small - all received one vote (11)
No opinion – 17 (chose “less” or no entry)

Maple – same wolves (12)
1200 – 2
800 – 1000, 1000, 1195 – 1 each
No opinion – 6

Maple more wolves (7)
1500 – 2
1200+ - 2
1400 – 1600 - 1
No opinion – 2

Maple no opinion (12)

Richwood – Less Wolves (28)
Zero – 8
350 – 6
500 – 3
144, 250, 0 – 50, 200, 350 or less, 700 – 900, 100 all received one vote (7)
No opinion - 4

Richwood - same wolves (8)
1034 – 2
1200 - 1
900 – 1
No opinion - 4

Richwood – more wolves (6)
1200 – 1
1500 – 1
No opinion - 4

Richwood - No opinion (15)

Alvin – less wolves (16)
300 – 350 – 5
Zero – 4
350 or less, 250 – 350, 350, 100 or less, 500+ - each received one vote (5)
No opinion - 2

Alvin – same wolves (2)
1200 – 1
No opinion - 1

Alvin more wolves (3)
1500 – 1
1000 – 1
No opinion - 1

No opinion (1)

RESULTS - EXPERIENCE WITH WOLVES AND KNOWLEDGE OF CONFLICTS

Within groups that chose "less", "same", "more" and "no opinion", varying degrees of knowledge and experience existed. There may be some duplication in responses as a person could have checked a level of experience and a level of knowledge of conflicts on the same survey. Some examples of how experience related to choices are listed below.

Town of Richwood - of the eight people who selected "zero" for a wolf goal, 7 had no direct experience with wolves. Fourteen of the people who wanted "less" wolves also had no experience with wolves. Richwood by far had the most surveys indicating no experience with wolves (34). It also had by far the most people with "no opinion" (24.5%) over twice the other towns. Of the 15 who had no opinion, 12 had no experience with wolves and none indicated they knew of any conflict situations in their area.

There is a large difference in respondents indicating they have no opinion between the 4 towns with wolf presence and the town with little wolf presence (Richwood). One quarter of Richwood folks had no opinion, while the other towns had largely made up their minds, with Hansen at 6.7% no opinion, Alvin 4.5% no opinion, Russell 11.3% no opinion, and Maple 12.2% no opinion. Once people's attitudes are formed, it is difficult to change minds.

In Maple, 7 of 12 selecting "no opinion" had no experience with wolves and were unaware of any conflicts. Of Maple residents who wanted "less wolves", 50 had some or a lot of experience with wolves and only 3 had no experience.

Of the Russell residents who wanted "less wolves" only 4 had no experience with wolves while 40 had some experience or a lot of experience, and 25 were aware of conflicts. This is an area where few documented conflicts have occurred.

Town of Hansen – of the 91 respondents who wanted less wolves, only 2 had no experience with wolves. Forty-two had experienced multiple contacts with wolves, wolf tracks, howling, or a combination of these. Seventy indicated they were aware of conflict situations that had happened to them, their family, or other residents in their town.

In Alvin, all respondents had some experience with wolves or awareness of problems except two who chose “less wolves” for their preference.

In general, the choice of more wolves or no opinion was associated with no experience with wolves. In Hansen 2 of 3 wanting more wolves had no experience with wolves, and ½ (4 of 8) with no opinion had no experience with wolves. Russell was similar with ½ the “more wolves” group having no experience and 4 of 9 “no opinion” having no experience. Of these two choices, only one was aware of conflicts in their Town.

DISCUSSION

The general results of these five rural towns indicate a high level of desire to see the wolf numbers reduced. The most popular goal number in Russell, Richwood, and Hansen was zero. In Maple and Alvin, the most popular goal was 350, the current goal. 350 rated highly in every Town, coming in second in Hansen, Russell, Richwood. Zero for a goal rated second in Maple and Alvin. These numbers indicate a high level of support by rural people for wolf population controls, even in areas where wolves have not been active, and even in areas the department considers to be prime wolf habitat.

As in many other surveys, this rural opinion survey again documents that experience with wolves and knowledge of conflicts decreases acceptance of Wisconsin’s wolf management.

What happens when the general population in wolf areas does not support the current program? That question is not within the scope of the current survey. However, as previously noted, experts throughout the years and world-wide recognize that for a wildlife management program to be successful, the people most directly impacted must be in support of the program. In spite of Wisconsin boasting of its wolf management success, these results do not support that concept as legitimate. More wolves does not = a better wolf management program. Quality of life counts more.

What do the wolves want out of life? I posed this question to a high level DNR manager. It was obvious that he never had considered this question. Do the wolves want to inhabit marginal or unsuitable territories? Do they want to be forced, by uncontrolled numbers, to occupy substandard territory and as a price, suffer the human-caused mortality that all experts agree accompanies occupation of human-dominated landscapes? These are questions I hope this research helps explain.

A former, well-liked wildlife manager in my area who retired was quoted in the newspaper giving this advice: “If the people don’t like what you are doing, it won’t work.” The people directly interfacing with wolves are the most important in implementing wolf management. Just ask the wolves.

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THIS SURVEY IS BEING DONE TO ASSESS RURAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS WOLF MANAGEMENT IN WISCONSIN. *All numbers are minimum at the lowest point in the wolf population.*

1. THE CURRENT MINIMUM NUMBER OF WOLVES IN WISCONSIN, DETERMINED BY THE WI DNR COUNT WINTER 2019 – 2020, WAS 1034. USING A NEW STATISICAL POPULATION MODEL, THE WI DNR ESTMATES THE MOST PROBABLE NUMBER OF WISCONSIN WOLVES AT THE LOWEST POINT IN THE POPULATION IS AS 1195 (winter 2019 – 2020). Please select your preferred wolf management option:

LESS WOLVES SAME NUMBER OF WOLVES MORE WOLVES NO OPINION

2. THE WI DNR WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN, CREATED IN 1999 AND REVISED IN 2007, APPROVED A WOLF MANAGEMENT GOAL OF 350 WOLVES. THIS NUMBER WAS SURPASSED IN WISCONSIN IN 2004. Please share your preferred wolf management goal or select no opinion:

PREFERRED MANAGEMENT GOAL OR RANGE OF NUMBERS:_____ NO OPINION_____

TO UNDERSTAND YOUR EXPOSURE TO WOLVES, PLEASE SELECT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TO DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH WOLVES:

_____ I HAVE NO EXPERIENCE WITH WOLVES

_____ I HAVE SEEN A WOLF, TRACKS, OR HEARD THEM HOWLING

_____ I HAVE SEEN MANY WOLVES, TRACKS, HEARD HOWLING

_____ I AM AWARE OF INCIDENTS WITH WOLVES THAT HAVE HAPPENED TO ME, MY FAMILY, OR RESIDENTS IN MY TOWNSHIP.

THANKS FOR RETURNING THE SURVEY IN THE ENCLOSED SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. YOUR RESONSES WILL BE ANONYMOUS AND WILL BE PROVIDED IN COMBINATION WITH THE RESPONSES FROM YOUR TOWNSHIP. IF YOU DON'T CARE TO PARTICIPATE, I WOULD APPRECIATE A RETURN.

THE RESULTS FROM THIS SURVEY WILL BE SHARED WITH WI DNR STAFF, POLICTY MAKERS, THE NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD, AND ACADEMICS AND RESEARCHERS IN THE FIELD OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT.

FOUR RURAL TOWNSHIPS WERE CHOSEN FOR THIS SURVEY TO REFLECT THE OPINIONS OF THOSE PEOPLE MOST EXPOSED TO WOLVES OR POTENTIALLY EXPOSED TO WOLVES. ANOTHER PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY WILL BE DONE BY THE WI DNR THIS SPRING ON-LINE, AND A PREVIOUS SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION DONE IN 2013 IS AVAILABLE ON THE DNR WEB SITE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT HOME, LAURIE GROSKOPF, TOMAHAWK, WI [redacted]

ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR EXPERIENCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE – FEEL FREE TO USE THE BACK OF THE SURVEY. 3/2021

TOWN OF HANSEN SURVEY COMMENTS:

I have livestock and they harass them all the time. I haven't had any killed YET by wolves but I have many friends that have. I think there should be a few up north and that's it.

Keep up the fight.

I just wanted to say that the DNR counts are way off in my opinion. There is no way that hunters could kill 20% of the population in less than three days. I have had multiple wolves on my land in the last year and I have seen pictures of 10 wolves on one picture from a friend's trail cam overlooking a food plot. I am not making that up, there were 10. So anyone who believes that there isn't a problem doesn't spend any time in the woods. (name and address withheld)

As a teenage girl who hunts, there are already a lot of challenges one has to endure. I did not think there would be a problem when I wanted to hunt the rut during bow season. 10 minutes into the hunt, I started to hear howling. Before I realized that it wasn't just my neighbor's hunting dogs, it was probably 150 yards away. I ran out to the truck, bow in hand, as fast as I possibly could go. 5 minutes after I arrived at the truck, a wolf popped out of the woods less than 100 feet away from me. This was my first experience with seeing a wolf in those woods. They had been in there for years. Every year, without fail, we would see them on our trail cameras. Some of these experiences have terrified me. The more we manage the wolf number, the less scared others may be to go back into the woods to pursue hunting, a family tradition in Wisconsin for many generations. While I understand many think we have overkilled wolves, I feel that if the limit was reached in two days of hunting, estimates may be a little bit off. I am very educated on this matter as I go to a very good natural resource school.

I had a wolf at the end of my driveway when garbage containers was put out. Scary. Also, one on the other side of my garage. I used to walk everyday, but don't consider it safe anymore.

Our fathers got rid of the wolves. As they serve no purpose, also are you sending money to the state to help pay for all the damage wolves do?

I can't think of one reason why I have to fear for my dogs' lives every time I put them out at night.

Our forefathers had a bounty on them for a reason. I feel there should be less than 100 in the state.

In the spring of 2019, we had a calf with substantial wounds on the side of his neck and hind quarters (gaping wounds). USDA came out and confirmed it was a wolf attack. On separate

occasions, we had a neighbor who lost several sheep in wolf attacks and another neighbor also had a calf attacked by a wolf.

As a livestock producer in heavy wolf country it is only a matter of when, not if, they find my cattle. The neighbors lost all their sheep to wolves and the DNR did nothing. It's time the DNR allows for ag damage tags to us producers that lose our livelihood to a government dog!!

Killed my dog in my yard.

The DNR is not being honest about the number of wolves in the state. I hunt coyotes, bobcat, and coon in a four township area in central Wisconsin and the number of wolves here is unbelievable and they try to say there is only around 1200 in the state. I believe 2400 is closer to the truth. I don't trust the DNR at all!

I have read or been informed that one wolf will kill, on average, 30 deer per year. I do not know how accurate this number is, but if it is accurate, that would be approximately 36,000 deer per year killed by wolves per year or an average of 500 per county. These numbers are not even close to accurate, just wonder if there is any reason for concern. Thank you for this survey.

My next door neighbor has (had) raised prize winning sheep for decades. His flock, number over 20, were completely killed in one night by wolves. There was no compensation. The children were devastated. Thank God they were not injured.

Our dog has been attacked twice!!

We can no longer walk our Woodland trails safely. Must carry a firearm! Have a horse with high voltage fencing around him. Still see wolves up close around the buildings! Have lights! We keep a shot gun with 00 buck loaded and ready at all times! Wolves are no longer afraid of humans, they cross our yard!! We live close to the family who lost their sheep to wolves. About 5 miles! We are seniors who love the outdoors and used to hunt deer, we can no longer hunt or enjoy our woodlands, or any state park trails! Children in our neighborhood can no longer play outside or ride their bike safely! We may need to fence all of our property with high voltage fence which is only way we can safely walk with our dog. We have 72 acres. Our neighbor's dog was killed by a wolf!

Numerous times I have heard 3 different wolf packs howling @ different locations.

Issue with coyotes in area. Deer population is decreasing due to coyotes killing them off. I know people say it is nature taking care of nature when coyotes kill deer. Some nights it sounds like they are killing their prey right out our back door. We don't hunt and I know they opened up for hunting coyotes and I think they, like wolves, need to be decreased in population. Need safety for our pets, etc. so we can let them roam in our yard and not fear of an attack. Thanks for allowing us to give you our opinion.

I am 74 and have always spent a lot of time outdoors. I saw exactly 1 wild wolf in Wisconsin before 1990. The estimate of 1200 wolves in Wisconsin is ridiculous. Probably twice that. Why does the DNR always over-count deer and under-count predators?

Our township has seen way too much carnage left behind because of packs of wolves. One neighbor had her dog killed. Another neighbor had a calf destroyed. Yet another neighbor had 13 sheep slaughtered. Last summer our teenage grandson and a couple of friends were camping in a tent a short distance from our barn in a little wooded area. In the morning, they told us that 2 wolves were within 20 feet of the tent. It sickened us so much. That was the last time they camped out.

They are nothing but killing machines.

Good management is a key to wolf control. Over the years, have only seen 1 wolf in my area that was about 6 years ago.

No wolves below Hwy 64. A friend lost a number of sheep to wolves. This is farm country. Landowners below Hwy 64 should be able to protect their livestock.

I have no issue with the idea of having some wolves around but the number of them allowed now is a pile of B.S. Let's keep pouring money into elk program so the [redacted] wolves have even more protein available to them, rather than rabbits and mice. Wish I knew who is allowing this to go on and why??? I admire your time and work you've put in to this issue. Thanks for your efforts!

Have seen about 6 wolves in the last 10 – 12 years. Always single, never multiple. Always on dead run or jog. Never stalking or prowling. This area has many coyotes. Name withheld.

TOWN OF MAPLE SURVEY RESPONDENT COMMENTS

Better management needed as wolves have killed large amounts of livestock and many not being compensated!

The packs in our area are having a large impact on the deer population and domestic animals too. We lost our older dog last Feb. to wolves – she had two pucture wounds on either side of her neck. She didn't recover.

Too many deer.

Several years ago I encountered a lone wolf while cross-country skiing behind my home. This year, I have seen several wolf tracks.

<u>Share the earth!</u>

Way too many wolves – cattle/livestock have been killed or badly injured. A pack of wolves, teaching their young to kill, will wipe out deer yarding up in heavy snow winters – not even eating them – just killing the entire group!. Happens near Lake Superior sometimes – I've seen it…or the remains of an attack. The wolf is a beautiful animal but there needs to be a huge reduction in their numbers in Wisconsin.

Less wolves = more deer for me to eat. Thank you.

A pack lived behind my parents home. Even came into the yard while they were working in the garden. They were snarled at and told by DNR to carry mace.

I just feel there is too many now.

No transplants. I have had bears and wolves and coyotes in my 40 acre woods. I feed cracked corn but only in limited amounts that can be cleaned up. I deal with wolves and bear by surprising them with banging frying pans together, and running towards them. I have seen a lot of does, but not a buck in three years. Land owners should be given a doe stamp (1) Too many does, not enough bucks. Don't make the same mistakes DNR did years back – bucks only – for too many years.

Wolves are sacred and should be respected – only killed as a last resort.

We need wolves. Not over populated, but enough to control other wildlife that can be a nuisance (problem).

They have killed many of my cattle, have made my farm a nightmare.

Why are we so far above the original goal? I have had them answer my coyote call – with a howl! Very close – too close.

No wolves.

My son and grandsons run a beef cow/calf operation in Douglas County. They have sustained losses every year since wolves were reintroduced. Last year, I believe they lost 16 animals – reimbursements do not ever actually cover their losses. My wife has returned home at night to find a wolf between her and the house. She had to wait it out in the car before she dared to walk to the house. Another incident at the farm was to find a cow having her calf with the calf half eaten with the calf still half in the mother. So, that said, the wolf population needs to be reduced. They find cows and calves easier to catch and kill than white tailed deer. They also had an impact on bear cubs.

If the people in Madison who think they know something about wolves would reimburse famers for their losses, there wouldn't be a problem but farmers are not reimbursed

adequately. Releasing wolves in farming communities is idiocy. The people who want them clearly don't know where their food comes from.

I am aware of wolves in my area. In fact, I'm afraid to walk the dog after dark. Wolves have been in my yard. Less wolves would be my preference!

Wolves and hunters compete as top predators. They depress the numbers severely in local hunting grounds in transient fashion. They have high hunting success.

I do a 9 hour grooming run every week for a snowmobile club. I have seen wolves on the trail but not very often. I do see tracks quite regularly though. If they're bigger tracks, like the size of my fist, I take notice. Not every year, but I have run across kill sites. Messed up the whole width of the trail. No guarantee it is a wolf kill but was deer hair on the trail.

During hunting season my family that were hunting seen wolves chasing deer. There don't need to be that many wolves. My brother and I did not get deer this past year because of them. I don't want to see any in northern WI. He has had them raise havoc with his cows also.

The Famers have had a lot of cows and calves killed by wolves, including our farm. People have lost dogs killed by wolves. DNR has tried to help some farmers but nothing they have done has worked for many farmers. There are too many wolves and they should be gotten rid of.

Thank you! For requesting the opinions and experiences of the people living in the wolf habitat areas. I own a large farm. Daytime wolf sightings are common place.

Wolves are here to stay in WI which I have no problem with. Our DNR need to talk to us hunter and trappers and get out of their fantasy world. My family and I run a bear guiding service, where we run bear baits in Bayfield and Douglas Counties. I can assure you there are at least 1000 wolves in these 2 counties alone. I personally have seen hundreds over the past 3 or 4 years. We need to have a season and manage them, not for 2 or 3 days in the spring – ridiculous.

The wolf population has far exceeded what is appropriate. These animals are destructive and dangerous to the cattle and children.

I would prefer to have the state in control of wolf management. However, I have some qualifiers that need to be addressed by the DNR. We need a science-based wolf management plan that reflects the viewpoints of all stake-holders. Wyoming does not allow dogs in the chase, both night hunting and electronic calls are not allowed, I believe. We need strict registration requirements. Personally, I would like to see tighter trapping restrictions as well. As an aside, a farmer friend of mine lost a calf to wolves this past winter. The DNR reimbursed him $600. His comment was "I should start raising bear dogs, I'd get $2,500 instead if I lost one." I hear a lot of anger and frustration over that one issue.

One cow was killed on my grandson's property last summer. As I was walking north on _____Rd. where I live, about ¾ mile from the house, I had a stand off with a wolf, waving my hands and yelling at it. Didn't seem to affect him. He showed his teeth and looked angry. Finally it walked in the woods. Its almost like they are not afraid.

I typically run 10 – 15 trail cameras throughout the year all around Bayfield and Douglas Counties, and in the early 2000's a wolf picture was very rare, so rare it was very neat to capture one on camera. In the last 5 years, it has gotten to the point that I can count on nearly every camera having a picture of at least one in not several wolves on it. Over the years, I have had several encounters with them and some area packs have become so bold in showing their presence I have removed cameras and gave up hunting/scouting all together to avoid conflict. We also have to keep our dog on a lead at all times and keep a close eye on her when we let her outside after dark. I know of several people who have had dogs attacked either in the woods or in their own yards over the last few years. Several times we have been woke up by them howling and tracks show they have been within 8 feet of our home. I'm not saying I would like to see them eradicated by any means. But we need to get the population back down to a more easily manageable number or I fear they could easily spiral out of control, which I feel they are doing currently. Thank you.

I would like to see all wolves killed off. They killed deer hunting for myself and everyone else.

They need to be managed at the state and local level!

No transplanted wolves in Maple!

TOWN OF RUSSELL RESPONDENT COMMENTS

I think trappers should get a chance @ wolves before dog runners fill all permits. Also, a area that gets a quota of 5 wolves gets 5. Not 3 and shut down because other areas shoot more in their area and it fills up the quota for other areas. One note: I live in the woods with small animals that have to be locked up every night for their safety. Not fair for my animals just for them to stay alive.

Discussing the issue of wolves in this State is like discussing religion or politics. You will never get a group of people to agree. I feel sorry for the wolves because they are just being what they are. They have to eat flesh to survive and most time must kill. Who can blame them for that? They are a species with a complex family structure and it must be disturbing to the pack when their members are shot and killed. Owning cattle, however, I can certainly understand the anger that comes with losing a calf/cow to a predator. Or as a pet owner losing a dog. Maybe the answer is not killing, but sterilization to keep the wolf population from exploding. Good luck with the issue of wolf management. They are a beautiful animal and certainly should have a place in our ecosystem.

Get rid of all. We don't need one single wolf in Wisconsin.

They are nuisances that kill livestock and potentially take down a small child. The less the better.

I believe in a common sense hunt of wolves to keep the population in check. I also believe farmers and family should not fear wolves on their property.

I'm sending this because our Mennonite neighbors will not reply and this happened in the Township of Birch. Birch is not in your survey group. With 4 persons in the house located on Co. J, they watched 4 – 5 wolves kill a deer who was pregnant with twin fawns. The wolves ripped her apart and ate her but laid 2 fetus aside. They, they carried the fetuses with them when they were done cleaning up the doe. This is just too close to us. DNR needs to attempt to keep wolves in wilderness areas – tranquilize and move them to northern wilderness. Thank you for doing this.

The wolf population needs to find its own equilibrium. They are a native population and endangered because of the rampant killing of the past. We should be beyond such ignorance but, as the recent hunt shows, hatred and bloodlust is driving this slaughter.

Farmers and individuals should prove they are having wolf problems and then a permit should be issued. Not just blanket to kill. There are more problems with coyotes and loose wild dogs than wolves. Also, why doesn't the DNR control the bear population? That is a serious problem in our area.

Number of wolves need to be determined by someone with more knowledge than I have. My only concern is deer fawn predation.

We know of a pair and a lone male that regularly travel in our area.

I was born on a small farm in _____ and lived in Lincoln Co. all my life. I presently live in the village of _____, where we have lived since 1968. I do have acreage and a log cabin in the Town of _____, where my wife says, I spend most of my time. Having this property has enabled me to spend many hours in the woods, as do my 2 sons who live about 1 hour away. I first saw a wolf on my property about 20 – 25 years ago. One of my 40's borders a private landowner, and when he started to have wolf problems. They were after his horses. This was substantiated by the DNR agent who visited the farm. I believe we can live with wolves, but I most definitely believe they are way over-populated. I found a young doe's remains only 3 weeks ago on my property. It was a fresh kill scattered all over, and by the next morning, there was only some hair left.

Finding many deer carcasses in one area. Five in a 20 acre area of woods on private property.

My father was attacked by two timber wolves on our property in 2015.

I don't believe the DNR actually knows how to count wolves and that these numbers are bogus. But I do believe there should be a yearly season with similar bag counts as this last hunt.

I hate wolves. Kill on site!

We have too many coyotes.

I don't understand the sense behind adding another predator. Such as wolves to Wisconsin that our beloved DNR did around 10 years ago. Blaming it on the wolves migrating from Canada…. (expletive)…and to all the ones saying that the last wolf hunt was just "a mass killing" obviously doesn't live with the animals nor sees the destruction these animals do. So to end my conclusion, that nothing will come from anyway, I don't believe that wolves should be in Wisconsin Period. Our fellow forefathers as always put a stop to something that the DNR just comes back in and says it's for the better reason.

Family dogs killed. Judges and DNR personnel need to have required field trips to New Wood for at least a weekend, with their family's dogs, and let them run and bark. Judges with no skin in the game will never understand. DNR knows they should have set a goal of 500 wolves for the wolf season, reaching over 200 in 3 days. New World order lovers, who want 500 to 800 million people in the world, there is 7 billion now. If you get rid of people, then wolves are necessary to keep the deer in check. No hunter or guns needed.

If you like deer you don't like wolves. They are predators and have no population control other than humans and sickness.

Wisconsin's Feb, 2021 wolf hunt was an example of the worst management of wildlife possible. The state DNR issues a huge number of wolf hunting permits – 2380 – twice as many as typical – for a quota of 119 wolves. 216 wolves were killed in less than 60 hours! Nearly 85% were hunted down and killed by hunters using packs of dogs, which is an extremely cuel and unsporting practice (for hunting down bear as well, I might add). Why was the hunt held in February when the females are pregnant?? 45% of the wolves killed were female! I have never seen or heard of such a mismanaged hunt. The WI DNR should be ashamed of themselves! Now they are planning another "trophy hunt" in November? The Feb. hunt was scientifically unjustifiable and illegal under WI State Law. The wolves need to return to the Endangered Species status.

TOWN OF RICHWOOD, RICHLAND COUNTY

I have not seen any wolves here. One time several years ago, I saw one when we had a flood and it was standing across the creek on dry land. I read about the society of wolves and was impressed. I think they are very smart animals. Thank you for the work you are doing.

I can't imagine that Richwood Twp. in Richland Co. was one of the four townships selected. Other than a very occasional wanderer, there are no wolves in the SW Wisconsin.

I seen a wolf about 10 yrs. ago. I live less than 3 miles from the Wisconsin R. That wolf was coming off the bluffs and going into the river bottoms. Crossed the road in front of me. Got a good look at him. About 3 yrs. Ago I found a set of tracks on some land I rent. In Feb. of this year (2021) I saw 2 wolves as they were as tall as the deer they were chasing. I have lived and farmed in this area for 42 years and have seen 100's of coyotes and you can tell a wolf by the height of them. I live 3 miles north of the WI River, Richwood Township.

We have bobcats and coyotes that are hard on small game birds.

Wolves are beautiful creatures and should not be hunted for sport. I never seen a wolf before, but would love to see one. Someday, I personally would love to see these animals thrive so future generations can experience them.

They have every right to be here, same as you and I. We need to stress conservation and wildlife respect to WI residents.

My opinion is properly managed.

Wolves enough to keep deer population low. Too many deer in our area!

I feel that without a hunt to manage the population wolves will lose their fear of humans and aren't afraid to enter areas populated by humans. I saw a large, thin, very old looking wolf within 1/8 mile of our house 2 nights in a row about 1 ½ weeks ago. We see single wolves or pairs around here occasionally. There are several beef herds in the area and I occasionally hear of calves lost to wolves or coyotes, but its been awhile.

1200 or more only if I can hunt and trap. (this record selected same number of wolves)

Don't need wolves!

Wolves should be treated as coyotes are. Open season year round.

As for wolves in this area, we have seen and heard them for 20 some years and we don't need them in this area.

Do not want any predation in my animals. When I worry every time an animal is pastured, the joy of country life is reduced. Keep a <u>small</u> number of wolves in the "north country" if you want them at all. Our herd does not need to see them.

Kill them all. SHOULD NEVER HAVE REINTRODUCED TO OUR STATE.

Have enough problems with coyotes killing animals without wolves added!!!

TOWN OF ALVIN, FOREST COUNTY

I would like to see no wolves in Wisconsin.

350 or less in the state, not 350 in one county – Forest Co.

My son-in-law sees wolves at his cabin area.

I and my wife have nothing against wolves. Its great to know they are out there. In fact, they add some mystic to our great Northwoods. I bow hunt a lot and have seen far more bears than wolves. Just not out of control. Thank you.

The wolves are not the issue in our county. We have had more significant problems from bear hunters with their dogs and training than having wolves in the forest. Considering how much time we spend in the National Forest, and having experienced no negative contact with wolves, the current population does not pose any issues for us, our family, or friends. It's time to stop catering to the hunters and start considering the residents of the state and counties. One additional comment: As a resident who lost a dog due to those poisoning the wolves, its really time to re-evaluate the real problem here, and it isn't wolves.

You got a live one when you sent this to me. We are overrun with deer. I have no idea about the management goal or range, but I'd like to be near them or see one once in a while. I feel like seeing a wolf up here is about the same chance as seeing a sasquatch. How do you change the attitudes people have? People here have an irrational, vitriolic rabid attitude against wolves. No one here has sheep or cattle to get riled about a wolf predating.

<u>Too many deer, not enough wolves.</u>

<u>SOURCES</u>

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WI Wolf Management Plans – various years including 2019 – 2020, 2012 – 2013, 2013 – 2014

L. David Mech, International Wolf Symposium, October, 2018, keynote address

Wolf Island: Discovering the Secrets of a Mythic Animal L. David Mech with Greg Breining. U of MN Press, 2020

About the author: Laurie Groskopf has been an activist on wolf issues for over 25 years, most intensively since 2009. She has lived in the Northwoods since 1974, and prior to that, was a student at UW Madison , 1969 – 1971 and graduated with a B.A. in Psychology from UW Platteville in 1974.

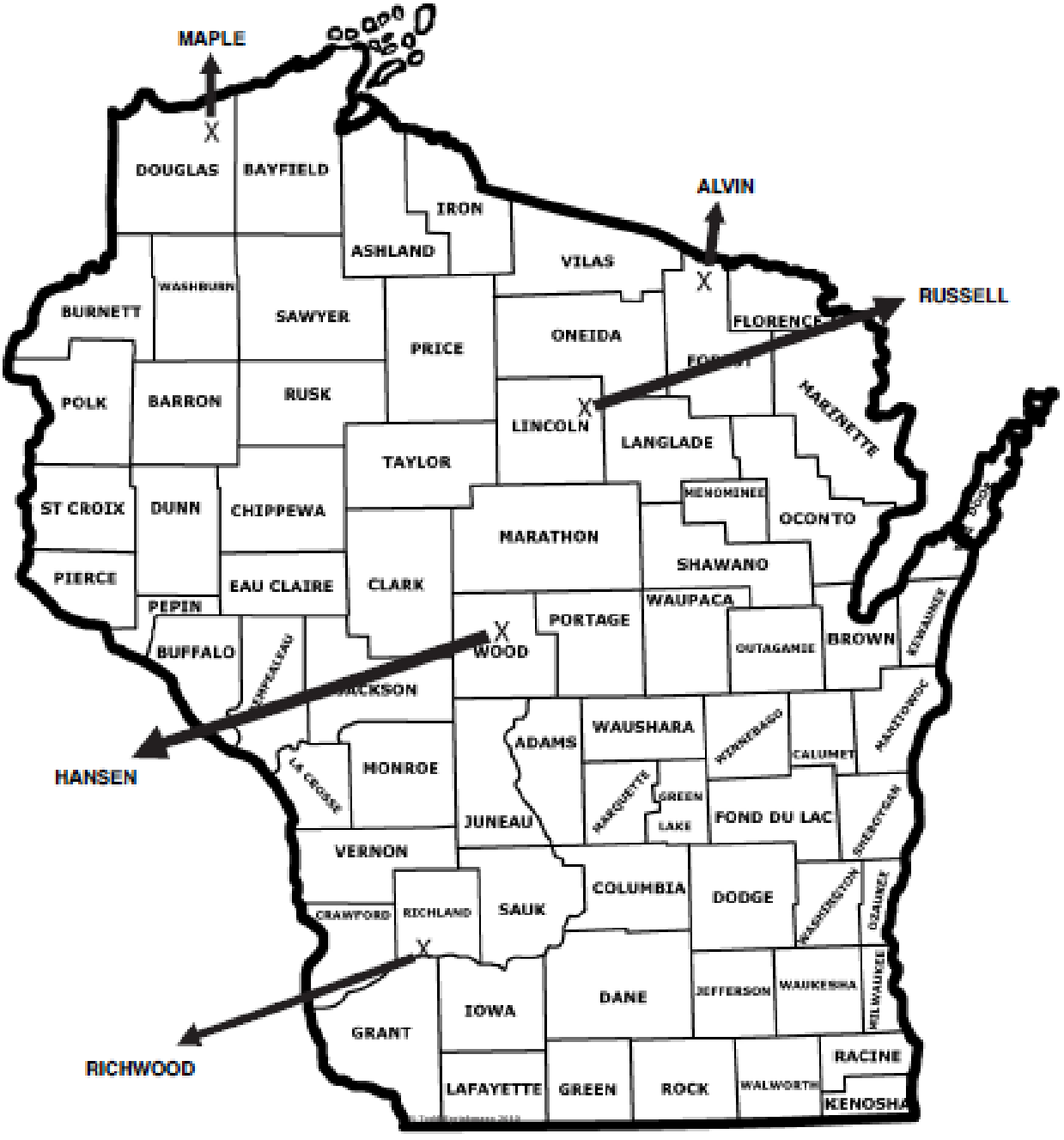
Serving in many organizations in the past, Laurie represented the WI Wildlife Federation on the DNR Wolf Management Revision effort last time wolves were delisted.

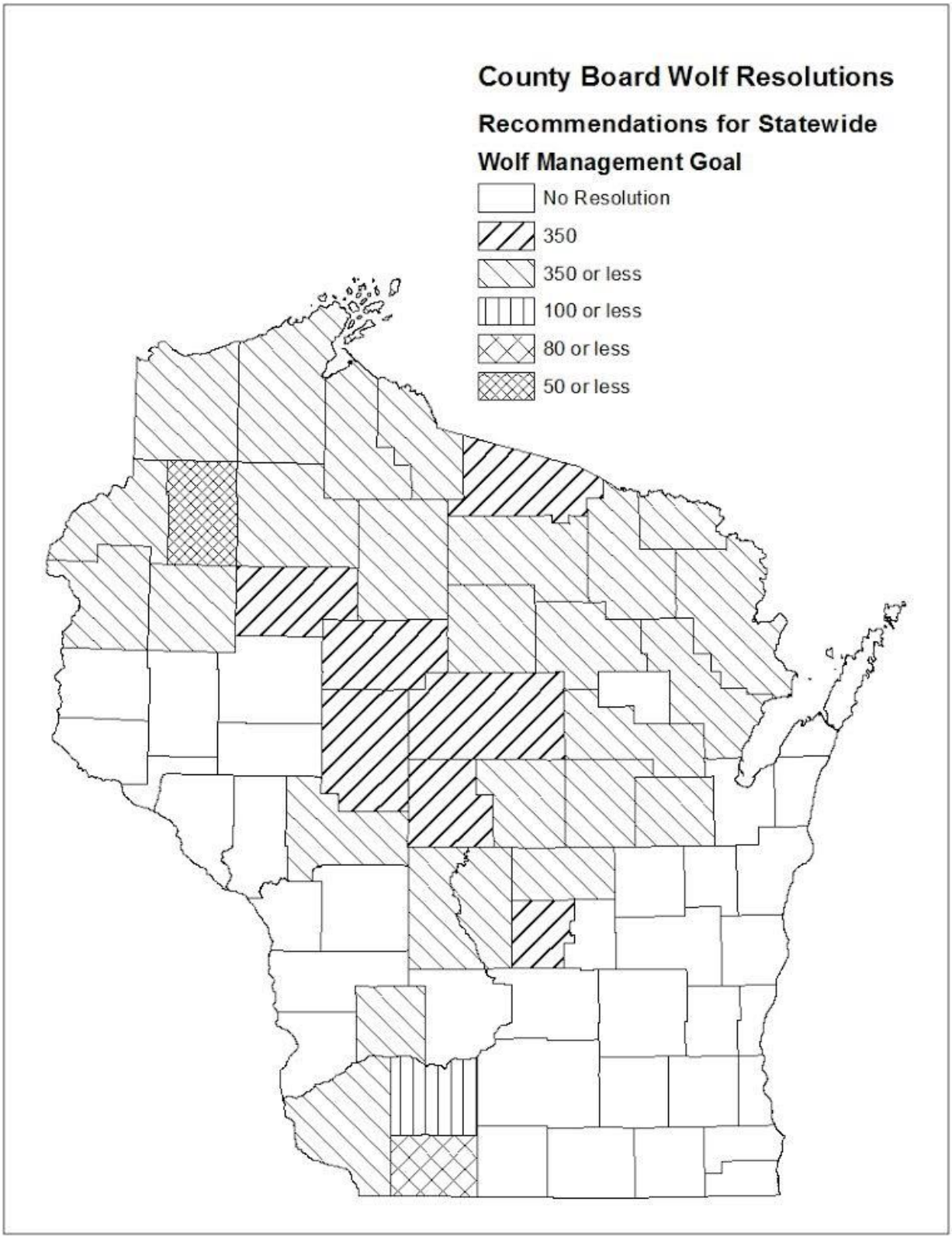
Laurie has volunteered as a wolf tracker for the DNR for 8 winters. She was a co-creator and on the board of WI Wolf Facts, a non-profit organization which is a consortium of wildlife and agriculture groups dedicated to sensible and responsible wolf management. She also organized and worked with hundreds of citizens and many organizations to enable county boards to discuss and act on recommendations regarding wolf management and goals. Between 2010 – 2017, 36 County Boards (1/2 of all counties in WI) passed resolutions in favor of a wolf management goal of 350, 350 or less, or several counties less than that. In addition, a number of statewide organizations also enacted policy to promote a goal of 350 or 350 or less due to Laurie's work with hundreds of stakeholder and groups. As a board member of WI Wolf Facts, Laurie helped organize and run "Wolf Summit II" and arranged for 7 videos to be made (posted on their web site) giving farmers and hunters a chance to tell the public about their personal experiences with wolves.

Twenty-two years of survey work gathering information for USDA, DATCP, ERS, and other federal agencies have taught Laurie the complexities as well as simple usefulness of public surveys. In addition, Laurie has worked in public information including training by EPA, done outreach with UW Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, served as Planner/Program Coordinator for community-based elderly programs in 17 counties in northern WI, and run a number of non-profits.

Laurie has attended many major wolf conferences and spoke at the Mid-West Wolf Stewards Conference in Minnesota. She also attended a college course offered at the International Wolf Center in Ely, MN.
Laurie lives in rural Lincoln Co. with her retired hounds and very supportive hunting partner, who is just about the best tracker in Wisconsin and the best friend and most experienced outdoors person a Northwoods lover could ever ask for.

WOLF PUBLIC OPINION SAMPLES




County Board Wolf Resolutions
Recommendations for Statewide
Wolf Management Goal
No Resolution
350
350 or less
100 or less
80 or less
50 or less

USING HARVEST DATA TO DETERMINE ACCEPTABLE HUMAN TAKE OF WOLVES
Prepared by Laurie Groskopf, 2/13/17

Background

In designing Wisconsin's first three wolf harvest seasons, the stated goal was to begin to reduce the wolf numbers toward the existing statewide population goal of 350, as measured by the overwinter minimum count. Data from two sources were used to determine what total human take would result in stable wolf numbers, and what total human take would reduce wolf numbers. Total human take includes all harvested animals, animals taken in control actions, hit by vehicles, illegal take, and rare other events.

Two sources were used: Layne Adams study of wolf harvest in Alaska, and a compilation of many studies done by Fuller (see Mech and Biotani, 2003). The Adams data showed a stable population would be obtained by a human take of no more than 29% of the minimum count. The Fuller studies were all over the board, but boiled down to a 22% human take being the stabilizing number. Therefore, WI DNR picked harvest quotas between 22 – 29% for the first three harvest seasons' take, minus other human take such as lethal control actions in response to depredations and the other human take mentioned.

Wisconsin's first three harvest seasons

In the spring of 2012, the minimum wolf count was around 820. Based on estimates of how many wolves would be dispatched in depredation controls, and other human take, a harvest season in the fall of 2012 resulted in 117 animals taken. Total human take was 239.

239/820 = 29%

The next spring (2013) the wolf count was essentially unchanged at 809 minimum. The WI DNR chose a harvest number which resulted in a harvest take of 257. The total human take was 364.

364/809 = 55%

The next spring (2014), the wolf count decreased by 18.4% to 660. The WI DNR made a decision to reduce the harvest for 2014. Post delisting US Fish and Wildlife Service rules state that any reduction of 25% or more would cause US Fish and Wildlife Service to do a review. The review meant they would ask WI if we were attempting to reduce the wolf population. Since our plan has a goal of 350, and since the WI DNR consistently said we were going to attempt to reduce the wolf population there wouldn't have been any sanctions. But DNR decided to reduce the wolf harvest anyway. The 2014 resulted in a harvest of 154, a total take of 222.

222/660 = 33.6%

The next spring (2015), the minimum wolf count was 746, an increase of 12.5%. As you know, wolves were relisted, and no harvest occurred in the fall of 2015. In April of 2016, the minimum wolf count increased to 866, an increase of 16%.

So it appears from Wisconsin's three wolf harvest season experience that total human take of 29% and 33.6% were not enough to reduce the wolf population. The only year the stated goal of reducing the wolf population in WI was achieved was 55% total human take in 2013.

What about Idaho and Montana?

When Wisconsin had its first season, Idaho and Montana had only conducted wolf seasons in 2009 and 2011 (they were relisted during the 2010 season). Since then, we have the benefit of 6 years of seasons in both states. How has total human take influenced their wolf numbers?

IDAHO

Year	wolf count	harvest	total human mortality	%
07	764	0	78	10%
08	849	0	153	18%
09	856	135	275	32%
10	777	46*	144	18.5%
11	768	200	296	38.5%
12	722	329	425	58.9%
13	684	356	473	69%
14	785	256	360	46%
15	786	256	358	45.5%

Wolf count is adjusted, not original in updates. *season ended due to relisting. We can see Idaho has essentially not changed its wolf numbers even with substantial harvests. Total human take in some years is up to almost 60-70% of their count.

MONTANA

Essentially, the story seems the same in Idaho and Montana.

2015	536	205	270	50.4%
2014	554	213	301	54.3%
2013	627	231	276	44%
2012	625	175	304	48.6%
2011	655	121	203	31%
2010	560	0	132	23.6%
2009	525	68	242	46.1%
2008	497	0	142	28.6%

We now have current hard data from the continental United States, including Wisconsin, from which we can design a harvest to bring us to the existing wolf management goal.

notes

I think the wolf population should stay around the 350 mark which it was set at. We see wolfs on a regular basis.

Mark Gustafson

[redacted]

Hartsburg WI 54840

Dennis Gutsmiedl
[redacted]
Oshkosh, WI 54904

land owner
in price county

(1) Do not know why the DNR is playing games with the people up north and the land owners up there

(2) try to sell land up north in the winter when people walk it and say no to many wolf tracks

(3) Just settle the numbers game. You said 350 make it that or even 400 I think everbody up north could live with that <u>because we are the ones that realy have to</u>

(4) This should have been done many years ago I am 65 the way the DNR is handleing this I will be dead or not hunting when the wolf population is were its shoulb be

Thanks Dennis Gutsmiedl
Do it right

Mr. Richard Henske
[redacted]
Manitowsh Wtr, WI 54545
715-904-1414

Wolf Management Plan Comments

I live in Vilas County where wolf density has increased; often causing low deer numbers.

Northern counties Iron + Vilas have severe winter indexes. When coupled with wolf predation, deer just can't make a sizable population.

- There are more wolf tracks than deer tracks in some of the areas where I trap
- I find dead deer on my travels - often with broken bones (only a wolf can break those bones).
- The hunting community has been ~~been~~ hunting community to the south where deer density are higher.
- I have lived here my entire adult life - The last 10 to 12 years has seen the population drop yearling
- Remember, up north a fawn will not have a fawn until they are a year and a half - Not so in southern Wisconsin

We need a strong wolf control program - Hopefully the 350 proposed number will be adopted

Richard Henske [redacted] Manitowish Waters WI. 54545

I am 87 years old! - "Help!"

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 South Webster Street
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: **Wolves in Wisconsin – Reactions to the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan - 2022**

To the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

A few thoughts from a concerned Wisconsin citizen, landowner and hunter:

1. The full draft Wisconsin's Wolf Management Plan 2022 (the "Plan") as prepared is thorough and provides information over a broad diversity of views on the topic. It reads like a masters or doctoral thesis, with context and data upfront and conclusions and summary after 96 pages of content, then 40 pages of conclusions with no summary.

   I am doubtful that many concerned stakeholders will read the management plan to the end. Maybe that is what the collective team of writers intended.

2. I take issue with some of the report's supporting methods and resultant conclusions.
   a. The Indian nations clearly have expressed and obtained zero harvest zones per their wishes and treaty rights. Additionally, by treaty they have set aside harvest values for which they can decide to harvest or not. This needs to be taken into account when harvest goals are set to achieve management objectives.
   b. Landowners and Farmers should be given similar consideration/deference in weighting the survey polling response and evaluation. Afterall, these are the people who interact/have day to day exposure to the wolves. Respondent residents in the southern half of the state, who live in cities and villages do not have the same exposure as those that reside on farms and homes in the countryside in the northern half. Many farmers and landowners in zones containing wolves, if given a choice, may prefer fewer or zero wolves on their land and adjacent areas. We should refine the surveys so their opinion is more clearly known, as they are more directly impacted by the management plan than others.

3. Wisconsin 2011 Act 169 was s. 29.014(1), Wis. Stats provides/requires the state to hold hunting seasons when permitted by listing status under ESA. As a game species to be managed by state and federal guidelines a management plan is required. Furthermore, the legislature directed the DNR to update the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan in part to provide for a speedy implementation of hunting seasons as required by the 2011 Act 169 in the event wolves again were de-listed and came under Wisconsin management control:
   a. This report clearly provides much content and high level and broad conclusions.
   b. However, <u>it does not meet the requirements as intended</u>, by the legislature nor the citizens, to include specific conclusions should the wolf be delisted, as to what quantity across the state, or in any of the zones as established by the draft plan would be

d. We have a lack of trust towards Federal Government oversight of Wolves. We experience judicial interference by judges in courts over procedural technicalities established by disinterested bureaucrats, and without geographic jurisdiction over Wisconsin. Matters concerning listing or delisting the wolves should be decided locally by the proper authorities having governance over the citizens and land in Wisconsin.

7. I also strongly support non-lethal means to control wolf population levels. I recommend the export of Wisconsin wolves to any part of the USA that wants more of them. We should trap and relocate to them Milwaukee and Madison WI parks so our downstate wolf supporters can enjoy them in their local environment and closer to home as well as Chicago IL, New York City NY, San Francisco or Los Angeles, CA, Washington DC, Detroit MI, Oregon, or anywhere folks want them to better manage their distribution and aid in their recovery in those locations. I recommend relocation to local parks with high undergrowth density for cover. These critters will thrive and multiply quickly for recovery. We have plenty of extra breeding stock beyond our Federally set biological goal of three hundred under the ESA.

8. The preparers of this Wolf Management plan and their managers should receive administrative and professional admonishment, punishment, up to and including consideration of termination and if appropriate, civil and criminal prosecution and penalty for their purposeful, deliberate wasteful misuse of public resources for they have woefully not fulfilled the requirements of both the administrative and lawful requirements as set forth by statues. They have deliberately expended taxpayer provided resources and not delivered a required Wolf Management Plan that would include actionable specifics as required by statue.

As you can tell, as a concern citizen, hunter, land owner, that your long term inactions, lack of transparency, avoidance of the requirements of laws enacted by the citizens of the state, and citizens that share my feelings and opinions, that we no longer trust that you will act in accordance with the laws of the state, nor in the interests of the majority the stakeholders and the states citizens.

The directive was clear, prepare a wolf management plan. You have not completed that directive.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hintze

Slinger, Wisconsin

Augusta, Wisconsin



GREEN BAY WI 543
24 FEB 2023 PM 1 L

Wolf Management Comment,

I am a hunter in northern Wisconsin and I always buy sportsmans license, but I am starting to question why.

I deer hunt in the new wood area in northern lincoln county and it is getting harder and harder to enjoy the hunt. Before the wolf population grew out of control or were "plasted" we would see 25 deer or so a year on average. We would also hear coyotes way off.

Now we are lucky to see 2 to 3 deer all season and we don't hear any coyotes anymore. but there are alot of wolf tracks.

It will be harder to keep the next generation interested in hunting if they don't see deer. We have doe tags in the new wood area but they are not getting filled, they are mostly for the farm country in southern lincoln county.

I understand your hands are tied by the federal courts, but when they are not the wolf population still isn't being brought down far enough.

One of the wardens told us the wolf population will grow and

Randy Hinz
[redacted]
Merrill, WI 54452

fall with the size of the deer herd. I thought that was our job as hunters to control the deer herd and enjoy the hunt, not the wolves. I guess not anymore.

Maybe transplant some of our wolves to the southern part of the state where there are alot more deer to be controlled and see how those people like it.

I read 350 wolves was a goal, now we have over 1,000 and growing without a hunt. What happened to the 350? That is enough.

Many years ago this state spent alot of money to get rid of alot of the wolves and now they have been brought back "planted" and are growing out of control.

If the wolves are not a problem why are we always talking and fighting over them? I know wolves are not the only problem when it comes to deer hunting but they are a big problem.

I do not understand the fascination with wolves. The wolf population needs to be brought down; "Way down" <u>not</u> kept where it is now.

Wisonsin hunter.

Comments on the 2023 Wolf Management Plan

This draft plan is an excellent start to a science-based management plan for an apex predator that has re-established itself in Wisconsin. We should all be proud of what has been accomplished by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, motivated environmental citizens and Wisconsin taxpayers. The references cited in the appendix are extensive and includes the major researchers of the ecology and biology of *Canis lupus.*

I completed my research of small mammals on Isle Royale National Park while at Purdue University and worked with wolf researchers during that time (1966-68). When I first came to the University of Wisconsin Center in Marinette, wolves were only talked about in the past tense. My father-in-law (LeRoy Lintereur), a career WDNR wildlife manager in northeastern Wisconsin, saw the last of wolves and would be amazed and pleased at their recovery.

The draft plan is a thorough look at the history and biology of this species, based on the peer-reviewed research of many individuals. Any one carefully reading this draft should come away with a clear understanding of the challenges that the WDNR faces managing this important species. It is also apparent that the concerns of all citizens have been considered, especially the livestock farmers. I'll list some the major points in the draft that I feel will benefit the Wisconsin wolf population; and then some further suggestions.

1. The omission of a total state-wide wolf population goal is a good idea. This **non-numeric approach** gives the WDNR the flexibility to limit hunting/trapping in parts of the state with different ecological and sociological carrying capacities. Earlier suggested population goals, such

as the 350 wolves first mentioned, proved to be far below what the environment and prey base can support. The non-numeric approach is currently used for managing deer, black bears and other species in Wisconsin and seems to have general citizen support.

2. Continuing research on wolf behavior, diseases, reproduction and sustainability are important and the draft covers these areas well. Wisconsin has a real opportunity to be a national leader in research and management of this once wide-ranging carnivore. Continuing research on human behaviors relating to wolves is also essential. Informing and persuading humans to adjust their behavior in wolf country is a challenge, but essential to reduce wolf-related impacts on farm animals, pets and hunting hounds.

3. Injuries to hounds used in pursuing wolves **should not** be paid for by Wisconsin taxpayers.

4. There should be strict limits on using dogs to hunt wolves such as number of dogs used.

5. Hound training /hunting should not interfere with wolf annual cycles of breeding and juvenile development.

6. Wolf hunting, if it is to be considered an honorable sport, should have strict limits on time of day just as deer hunters readily accept. There should be **no night hunting**, just as deer hunters adhere to as part of a hunting ethic.

7. There should be a drawing in different zones for number of hound packs that can be used.

Many of the suggestions in the report are **wisely pro-active** to avoid negative wolf-human interactions. It is important to **never again** allow such poorly prepared wolf hunt as occurred in two winters ago. The Gray Wolf is a species to be respected biologically and for some Wisconsinites spiritually, and for those reasons alone I would suggest that they are designated a **Trophy Game Species** and hunters be allowed only one harvest in their lifetime. Regulations can be crafted to allow hunters to still be involved in the hunting season.

Wolves cannot be managed without acknowledging their main prey the white-tailed deer. The cost to Wisconsinites of an excessive deer population for outweighs the cost of a recovering wolf population. The dangers to humans from deer (Lyme disease, CWD and car accidents) are many magnitudes greater. Wolves are yet another cost effective tool to reduce deer numbers.

Several other comments:

1. Depredation control and vehicle mortalities should count toward subzone quota limits
2. Use Anticipatory subzone Closure as a tool
3. More educational efforts in general and presentations **throughout the state** by wildlife managers that will provide citizens with accurate scientific information and dispel myths.
4. Fines for illegal killing and trapping of wolves should be substantial and include the loss of hunting/trapping privileges.

In summary, **the draft plan is an excellent and exhaustive start** with a fair and balanced coverage of all aspects of living with wolves. I

appreciate the opportunity to read the draft and make suggestions. Please keep me informed of the progress of the development of Wisconsin's Gray Wolf Management Plan.

Wendel J. Johnson, Ph.D.
Professor of Biological Sciences- Emeritus
University of Wisconsin- Green Bay- Marinette Campus
[redacted]
Marinette, WI 54143
[redacted]

21 FEB 2023

TO: WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ATTN: MR. RANDY JOHNSON (LARGE CARNIVORE SPECIALIST)
101 S. WEBSTER STREET
P.O. BOX 7921
MADISON, WIS. 53707-7921

SUBJECT: COMMENT FOR ESTABLISHING THE NEW TIMBER WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

DEAR MR. JOHNSON,

MY FIRST ECOUNTER OF WOLF SIGN SOUTH OF ST HWY 64 HERE IN OCONTO COUNTY WAS A TRACK I FOUND IN ALBRECHT LN WEST OF PARKWAY ROAD IN SECTION 8 IN THE TOWN OF BRAZEAU IN FEBRUARY OF 2019. TRACK MEASURED APPROX 3½"L x 2¼"W

MY SECOND WAS I SAW A TIMBER WOLF COME OUT OF MY HARDWOODS AND ENTER THE NEW SEEDING PLAN E 40 AC THEN S 40 AC ONTO VALLEY LINE ROAD THEN DOROTHY ROAD E TURNED N ONTO A HAYFIELD STOPPED AND LOOKED AT MY VEHICLE I TRIED TO GET A PICTURE BUT MY CAMERA'S BATTS WERE LOW. HE SURE WAS A BIG FELLA VERY WELL KEPT. MUST OF BEEN FEASTING ON A LOT OF VENISON. HE THEN WENT EAST ACROSS KULHAVER LN (DEAD END NORTH OF VALLEY LINE). THIS WAS THE MIDDLE OF JUNE 2002. HIS TRACK IN THE SOFT NEW SEEDING MEASURED 3¾"L x 2½"W.

ON SUNDAY NIGHT 9 FEB 2020 3 WOLVES WERE TRYING TO CATCH DEER IN MY YARD. DEER WERE NIBBING ON NEW GROWTH SON BITTERSWEET BUSH SOUTH OF HOUSE. WHEN I FIRST FOUND THE TRACKS I COULD SEE THAT

The 2 Biggest Wolves were sneeking Around the House walking in my tracks and attempting to surprise the deer. But they failed because of the Big snow pile.

ON Monday Evening 2 OF MARCH 2020 I saw 1 wolf Leave the Field By the Corner of my Hardwoods. That one looked medium sized and it must of Been the Smallest of those 3 that were Here in Feb 2020.

ON Sunday Eve 15 March 2020 4 different Wolves came Together in the yard close By my milk House. No Hair No Blood. I wonder why that Happened.

ON Fri Night 7 Oct 2022 the Wolves were Howly in 4 different directions at About 7 PM. I decided To See if I could Howl one in and one came Towards me really FAST But Stopped About 250 yds From me When 3 vehicles went By. "WOW" I can't Howl as good as Adrian Wydeven But one came Towards me.

ON 14 Feb 2023 at 1:30 AM When I Got Home I Heard 1 WOLF Howl To the West the Light wind was in my Favor it was Hard To Tell How Far away it was. I didn't Get it To answer me To Far I guess.

AFTER Hearing Reports From other people we've got a population of wolves Building up Here in Central and Southern Oconto County. With the Amount of domestic animals we have Here Letting the Wolves get To Heavily populated might cause A Lot of problems

IT MAY BE A good idea TO HAVE A LIMITED HARVEST HERE IF THEY ARE DELISTED. I'M REFERRING TO A HARVEST QUOTA SOUTH OF HWY 64 HERE IN OCONTO COUNTY.

THERE ARE OTHER SPECIES OF LARGE CARNIVORES HERE BUT RIGHT NOW I'M JUST COMMENTING ABOUT THE WOLVES.

I KNOW, ITS A LONG STORY BUT THATS THE WAY IT HAPPENED. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THE OTHER SPECIES YOU CAN ALWAYS CONTACT ME. THANK YOU AND THE DNR FOR THE OPPORTUNITY FOR HUNTERS AND CONCERNED CITIZENS TO COMENT ABOUT A NEW TIMBER WOLF PROGRAM

YOURS TRULY,

Robert A. Kadlec

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

ROBERT A. KADLEC

[redacted]

OCONTO FALLS, WIS. 54154-9779

[redacted]

fenceflag@windstream.net

From: fenceflag@windstream.net
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 1:28 PM
To: 'DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov'
Subject: Mitigating Wolf Depredations
Attachments: Gov.-Conservation Groups FENCE-FLAG® - K-CLIP® Pricing 2022.docx

Dear Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources,
I am commenting on your "Wolf Management Plan" and proposing a non-lethal solution to mitigate many of the Wolf Depredation issues that continue to be filled with contentious anger on both sides of the fence. Presently, the Wolves suffer the dire consequences whether in the Western States or the upper Mid-West as Wisconsin. You should find my research WWW.FENCEFLAGWOLFTRAINING.COM posted below informative with tried, failed, and expensive scare measures intended to resolve; BUT, surprisingly continue to be used to this Date. Please read my research posting and our direct pricing to Government and identified Conservation Groups is attached for review consideration.
Regards,
Don

Donald J. Kaleta, INV/SPS
Dolores B. Kaleta, CEO
MOM & POP PRODUCTS CO.
An Invention R & D / Consulting Co.
[redacted]
Rome, OH 44085
[redacted]
WWW.FENCE-FLAG.COM
WWW.OURK-CLIP.COM
WWW.FENCEFLAGWOLFTRAINING.COM

As Wolf Depredation on Domestic Livestock escalates, in the U.S. and throughout the World with the Wolves successful re-introduction populations spread, and natural dispersal, the contentious anger between Livestock Producers and Conservationists does also spread. My published research web site at WWW.FENCEFLAGWOLFTRAINING.COM is a tangible Non-Lethal suggestion, with minimal cost, to mitigate some of the anger on both sides of the fence!



ATTENTION: Livestock Producers & Conservationists
A Non-Lethal Training Suggestion To Mitigate
Wolf Depredations
On Livestock, Their Guard Dogs & Your Pets!
WWW.FENCEFLAGWOLFTRAINING.COM

fenceflag@windstream.net

From: fenceflag@windstream.net
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 9:36 AM
To: 'plewison@washingtonpolicy.org'
Subject: Responding to: Now is the time for gray wolf management policy to move forward
Attachments: RE: Mitigating Wolf Depredations

Dear Ms. Lewison,
Your posted blog in the "Washington Policy Center, 2-24-2023" received this Date, is cause for my response. The talk of "Wolf Management Plans" is certainly not unique as my **attached** suggestion to Wisconsin, with their reply, mirrors the same issues in your blog, as the resistance to stop using failed "scare" tactics continues at great financial expenses; and *Wolves continue to suffer the dire consequences.* The link https://dfw.state.or.us/wolves/updates.html to Oregon's continuing Wolf Depredation issues will show you examples of their continuing failures to mitigate Wolf Depredations. Quite simply, scare deterrents will not work if an associated non-lethal discomfort is not directly applied to the animal, or other, as a learned training to not again attempt to breach the barrier that they **VISUALLY** learned and recognized as cause for the milli-second non-lethal pain they encountered. A perfect example of failure, that continues, is the repeated use of "RED" as a color for Fladry as a scare deterrent, where with our vision and surely others, will be invisible in low light / darkness—when canine predators are most active. Please read my research posted at WWW.FENCEFLAGWOLFTRAINING.COM.
Regards,
Don

Donald J. Kaleta, INV/SPS
Dolores B. Kaleta, CEO
MOM & POP PRODUCTS CO.
An Invention R & D / Consulting Co.
[redacted]
Rome, OH 44085
[redacted]
WWW.FENCE-FLAG.COM
WWW.OURK-CLIP.COM
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received 1-4-2023

Wolf plan comments

After reading and rereading section 4 it is quite obvious the plan was written by wolf lovers for wolf lovers which Randy Johnson is one of them.

Without any numeric population goal, there is no accountability in the plan. Everything is left up to the wolf loving DNR biologist, tribes, and their wolf loving committee.

As I see it, the plan is to let the wolf population increase way beyond its current population which is way too high now. I suggest you do something to get the maximum population down to 350 wolves in the state, not letting the wolf population run wild like it is now.

Another thing the subzone around reservations is nothing but a big cop-out to the tribes. These subzones should be treated the same as the main zone. Maybe the tribes should fence the reservations to keep their wolves on tribal land. Then they would not have to worry about any of their wolves being harvested.

This is not a plan, but an insult to the people that live in the north woods. It is a farce with no intentions of decreasing the number of wolves in the state.

The December 16, 2022 issue of the Wisconsin Outdoor News has two articles in it one by Dean Bortz "Conservation Congress, WWF oppose wolf plan" and the other "Commentary" by Laurie Groskopf. You may want to read them; you may learn how people other than wolf lovers feel.

In summary, section 4 of the plan should be put in the trash can and a plan with some accountabilty and population numbers be developed.

Vern Keesler

Vern Keesler
[redacted]
Lakewood, WI 54138

Please send me a hard copy of the final plan

Febuary 27, 2023

To whom it may concern,

In my belief I do think that the new wolf management plan needs a cap number for the amount of wolfs in the state.

I also believe that there needs to be a better way to count wolfs in the state. From my time spent In the woods, I feel as if there are more out there then people Realize.

Thanks,

Alex Klein

[redacted]

To: Adam Payne, Secretary of the WDNR and Randy Johnson, WDNR Large Carnivore Specialist

I would like to compliment the WDNR for their hard work on the current draft wolf management plan especially on their willingness to focus now on **sustainability** of a changing wolf population rather than a numeric goal. Much has changed since 1999. Just as we have learned wolves do not have to be relegated to wilderness areas, but can adapt to multiple habitats, so too has science evolved with new biological principles and new research methodology. While some are stuck on the old "350" and opposed to this direction, change is inevitable. Would anyone stay stagnate with research/applied science from 20 years ago? Scientific research must continue to evolve as new information is gleaned. It is imperative to use the best available science with sound biological principles. Adaptive management is key.

That being said there is room for improvement with this current plan. In reading through the plan, it became apparent that much of the language and data reference points infer numeric goals (i.e. "quotas", "harvest" totals). How do you reconcile a harvest quota number with a non-specific population goal? While numerical quantitative data is more easily understood, in some ways it is contributing to the misconception of the old population numbers. Confusion and mistrust will be an ongoing issue given many former stakeholders may not comprehend the new Occupancy Scale Model when it's more convenient to cling to an easily understood quantitative number versus a fluctuating adaptive management process. Can the WDNR rephrase or clarify these distinctions? Former terminology such as "the goal is to reduce the population…" (pg.48) from a former wolf harvest season can be misperceived. Also, could the WDNR clarify with a more in-depth explanation on the historical context that prior population numeric goals were stepping stones as the wolf population was growing, not a maximum cap.

Other Recommendations:
A **WDNR Wolf Science Advisory Committee** should be re-established with qualified wolf/wildlife biologists and scientists.
Participant's involvement on the WDNR Wolf Management Planning Committee needs to be re-examined. There are numerous qualified stakeholders that have been excluded due to not being a non-profit. There are non-profits that represent lobbying interests with political objectives that have their own agendas. Committee members should be chosen for their knowledge of the subject matter pertaining to wolf issues and science.

Tribal Perspectives:
The WDNR's inclusion of tribal input is to be commended. Yet it may be problematic that the sovereign tribes are being instructed that – "…any contributions to this section focus on cultural relationships, history and other relevant items and avoid discussions or recommendations on policy." (pg. 38) Tribal entities should be included however much is deemed necessary by them to weigh-in on policy as well as cultural perspectives. Clarification is needed on which sections in the plan that tribes are contributing to with policy changes.

The WDNR has considered the inclusion of buffer zones (subzones 1B & 2B) around tribal reservation areas (that are excluded from the harvest areas) that must be protected. Reservation areas are considered by tribes to be refuge areas in accordance with their self-governing policies. The tribes have declared a zero quota that should be respected, not circumvented or ignored in order to increase quotas elsewhere, as some opponents would suggest. Every effort should be made to work with the tribes. The WDNR has thus proposed a low threshold harvest of 1 in conjunction with the tribes.

Re: Bear hound training / hunting of wolves:
When did the Wolf Management Planning Committee discuss at any time a "dog training season on wolves"? This appears to have randomly been inserted. As divisive as bear hound hunting is – why would the WDNR allow dog training to interfere with the wolf breeding season? While the WDNR may be legislatively required to have a wolf hunt season and implement bear hound hunting as an option, it is NOT required to have or implement a dog training season on wolves! Having a training season extend through January to the end of February, interferes with the wolf breeding season, wolf territorial patrols, wolf tracking and winter research and is NOT recommended. No other game species hunting seasons allow for interference with the breeding season or the non-stop harassment for up to eight months of the year when you factor in bear hound training (July-Sept), bear hunting with hounds (Sept-Oct), wolf hunting (Nov-Feb) all of which would allow hounds to pursue wolves. Any attempt to implement a regulated dog training season should be limited to December and close upon wolf season individual zone closures. As currently worded dog training will not close until the last zone closure. Hound training/hunting raises ethical hunting and fair chase concerns. The majority of Wisconsinites oppose dogs hunting wolves. What should territorial wolves do when the dogs catch up to them? Wolves unlike bears and cougars can NOT climb trees, but turn to defend themselves, resulting in canine fighting, and usually the death of the dog. Intentionally putting dogs at risk with wolves should not be rewarded with compensation. Canine fighting is a violation of Stat.951(08).
Act 169 needs to be legislatively readdressed. Act 169 has been detrimental to wolf management and needs to be eliminated and replaced with a new statute based on recommendations from the best available science. Bear hound hunting of wolves is unnecessary when it comes to the wolf quota. It is proven to alter wolf behavior as is illustrated by the wolf-dog conflicts and depredations already in evidence with bear hounds employed during bear hunting season. Dogs training on wolves should not be permitted as previous quota seasons have demonstrated in quick zone closures that it is unnecessary.

Transparency:
The WDNR has referenced that data is collected at every opportunity when it comes to wolf mortalities. Biological data was collected and monitored during the 2012-2014 wolf harvest season, but not during the 2021 wolf season. The WDNR should implement a return to collecting this type of data to further Wisconsin wolf research. Such policy changes will focus on having more transparency and sharing of data.

Research and Monitoring:
- Research how wolves impact CWD and benefit the health of deer in CWD areas.
- Enact a 5-year post-delisting monitoring in accordance with USFWS.
- Implement administrative rules to protect wolf den sites
- Implement research on impacts of behavioral changes on wolves from bear hounds

- Continue to research non-lethal abatement techniques in agricultural areas to support the farming community

Education and Outreach:
WDNR should implement educational endeavors to:

- Further explain the transition from Track count surveys to Occupancy Scale Model wolf population monitoring.
- Explain population monitoring efforts and wolf impacts on Wisconsin northern deer populations
- Employ cooperative social science public attitude surveys on a 5-year cycle

Correction: Pg. 131 "…engagement in live events such as forums, sports shows (e.g., *Wolf Info Now in conjunction with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show*),…and invited presentations has proven to be an effective strategy for disseminating information and these practices are recommended to be continued."

In summary, the WDNR has taken into consideration a multi-perspective range of diverse input in the compilation of this draft plan. Perhaps the most striking note is how the terminology has evolved from the limitations of a static numeric goal to show new research methodology in gathering data in wildlife population monitoring across changing ecosystems. Perhaps the WDNR can elaborate on how these new measures will be implemented. The WDNR has recognized its role beyond natural resource monetary gains to a role in conservation and stewardship encompassing hunting, recreation, ecotourism and wildlife watching. As the WDNR takes this forward step to bridge the gap between old methods and new adaptive management strategies, it will result in a more inclusive public process in the stewardship of our natural heritage.
Finally, I would refer the WDNR to the analysis statement by the Wisconsin Green Fire on the 2022 Draft Management Plan for additional details.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloriann Klein
[redacted]

NO FEAR

R.E. Public Input Regarding Timber Wolf Management.

With the caveat that I personally do not live in the distribution zone, I am in favor of allowing the natural increase of wolf numbers to correspond with their habitat carrying capacity and 'habitat' in this instance having nothing to do with human intent. It will be testament to our own evolution as a species to learn to share the land with wolves; every other native species has been forced to share with us, frankly have learned to stay out of our way at their own peril.

It's time that we strive for higher ground and acknowledge that wolves (as well as coyotes) fill a crucial ecological niche, a sturdy strand in the web of life fabric. Of course we know with settlement

and unceasing pressure since, we have torn this fabric to shreds to our own inestimable psychic loss.

With a renewed respect for wild, native restoration we should aim high and attempt to discover (undoubtedly over many years) the sweet spot where wolves meld seemlessly with the greater whole.

As to predation on 'livestock' the compensation should be distributed toward reinforcing the paddocks and fencing partioning the domestic from the wild.

In the event that the input and policy weigh in favor of the minimal then any shooting should only be done with the close supervision of state wildlife biologists — i.e. contrary to past policy only professional sharpshooters, again with thorough education, should undertake this.

Past predation occured because of random killing, the killing of alpha males and alpha females as well as the immediate subordinates resulting in severe pack disruption. The pack structure fashioned over millenia cannot be altered without consequences.

February 8, 2023

To Wolf Management Plan , planners and staff;

I want to thank the NRB and other persons who granted the extension to offer comments regarding the wolf management plan.

I am a retired technical college and UW extension Ag educator teaching post high school youth and adults for 37 years. I am a wildlife ecology graduate from UW Madison. I have hunted since I was 13 and I trapped a few years as a younger youth and two years while in high school. I have trapped regularly every year since 1980 to the present.

I am one who does not feel the lack of a set number is a bad thing. I do however feel that without a set number the responsibility and accountability ratchets up and I trust that the department has the resources and discipline to respond to the potential for increased social and ecological interactions.

I do have significant concerns with the expanding of the reservation borders into public and private land. To me we could be caught up with many lengthy private property rights that could delay any movement forward regarding putting the wolf management plan into action for the vast majority of the land base in Wisconsin.

I am also very concerned by the significant expansion of zone 4 which includes 4a as well. We have added over 200,000 citizens and 200,000 head of dairy and beef cattle into a zone that may well be managed for higher wolf populations with significantly more real potential for depredation of livestock and other human interactions. Having worked with dairy farmers for over 40 years I have concerns about managing many herds of livestock all surrounded by much higher human populations than many of the higher population zones past and present. To me there also needs to be a terminal dispatch for depredation animals. Transporting known and potential depredation animals into the existing higher population density areas of wolves to me is not good management. New wolves and in many cases single wolves take time to adjust and fit in if they ever do with territorial, pack oriented canines. The likelihood of more depredation or dispersing to lower density areas is very high in my opinion.

There are many references to sustainability as to the wolf population. Sustainability is a very subjective term when dealing with all the aspects of how a species fits into the environment and habitat that they share with not only other wildlife but in the rural and even suburban residents of Wisconsin be they farmers, non-farm rural residents or those participating in the multitude of outdoor activities that Wisconsin has to offer.

How much territory does a pack of wolves need to thrive? I feel that depends upon the cover base but also the food base and where wolves are the most common (northern 1/3rd of WI) the food base may not be limiting but there is far less edible biomass per square mile in the northern 1/3rd then in our southern portion of WI. We need to think seriously about how expansive we want our wolf population to be. There are several places in southern WI where we have thousands of acres of wildlife land surrounded by agriculture and high human populations. These areas could easily become home bases for packs that could easily find food in the agriculture areas surrounding these large wildlife areas. I would prefer not to see wolves as common predators in those regions but if we are going to let higher

densities exist in the targeted areas those younger wolves will need to disperse as that is the nature of the wolf culture. Putting seasons on any species brings resources to that species and I would hope that when the stake holders meet that a plan for a sustained harvest over 5- 10 years could be instituted and tweaked as needed. With each year of an added season we will get more data to really help us to know better the population numbers, movement trends, age distribution etc. Somewhere in the middle is probably where the interest groups need to meet and in our modern day politics being a centrist is like having the plague. We need a management plan that allows the citizens of Wisconsin to gain control and management of a significant predator to our rural and wildlife landscape.

Sincerely,

Bryce Larson

Dear Wolf Management Plan Committee:

I am writing to express my concerns with the current proposed plan.

1) The current plan has no triggers for population control. In fact, it has no metrics or triggers at all. While this may have intentionally been left out, in hoping to minimize conflict; the lack of specific benchmarks for management action makes the "Plan" not a plan at all.

2) The wolf has vastly larger home range than the Whitetail does. It is also THE Apex predator. Wolves should not be managed the same as Whitetail. Wolf depredation of deer, pets, hunting dogs, and Cattle must be minimized. I suggest reinstating the 1999 wolf population goal of 350, but if that's the wrong number, let the new carrying capacity of Northern Wis. habit changes be the guide with science that minimizes wolf conflicts.

I ask that these issues be addressed.

Thank You. Greg LeGrave [redacted]

I am a Wisconsin citizen since birth, a retired public school teacher, a lifelong learner and a conservation voter. Even though retired, I am still a teacher, without the comfort of a classroom, in educational outreach to promote peaceful coexistence with the gray wolf.

I want to commend the work of the DNR Wolf Planning Committee, in the development of the Wolf Management Plan. I applaud your conclusion to not adhere to a numerical minimum population count for the gray wolf in your report. The annual population modeling conducted by the DNR supports this decision.

I propose the DNR consider changes to the Plan in the following areas:

1. Nonlethal tools and strategies. The science is still evolving on the ecological function of the wolf and wolf behavior in the human-wolf relationship (Eisenberg, 2010). We cannot continue mass killing of wildlife demanded by one sector of our society. It is the obligation of the state agency in charge of resource management to dedicate attention to work with the agricultural sector in good animal husbandry practices, and the use of nonlethal tools and strategies followed by justified compensation for loss. Removing innocent wolves or the entire pack with the killing of livestock-killing wolves may be a

temporary solution. Santiago-Avila etal, 2018. This risks destabilizing the wolf pack, its cultural identity, and unknown wolf behavior in future predation, and public sentiment against this culling method. Bruns, Waltert, Khorozyan, 2019. Further, this study evaluates citations on the effectiveness of nonlethal measures in livestock protection.

The payoff to the DNR for establishing a relationship with the producer will come back as a reward in the form of building trust in your agency. The states of Washington, with an elaborate cost-sharing program and Minnesota's 80-20 matching grant program are possible models. A Wisconsin nonlethal approach to prevention/conflict mitigation should be adaptive, dynamic and creative. Eisenberg writes of a large ag landowner in western US who believes in gentle handling of calves so as not to injure them making them potential prey animals (Eisenberg, 2010).

I recommend the DNR consider a rule to provide sanctuary free of running dogs in a pilot wolf range, such as a federal or state public land; or closing of a site(sites) during denning season. The DNR should be studying the effects of the high volume of running dogs on young bear cubs and dog/wolf conflicts. Wisconsin citizens and out-of-state tourists can enjoy the great outdoors without the noise and intrusion of running dogs. In conclusion, I am strongly in favor of nonlethal use against wolves, except in case of serious threat to life. 2. Education/outreach. I was happy to read in the Plan the

proposal to develop education programming with a variety of interested wolf advocacy groups. McNay, 2002, makes a compelling argument for education: Injuries to humans inflicted by wolves are almost totally preventable. The goal of education should lead to peaceful coexistence, dismissing many myths surrounding this shy, hidden, forest animal.

Thank you for this opportunity to address my thoughts and values in behalf of this intelligent, social animal that we share space with.

Lois Lehmann

[redacted]

DeForest, Wi 53532

The following are comments on the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan-2022, made by a deer hunter, owning and hunting land in Wolf range

My name is Paul Lelinski. Our family owns 120 acres of hunting land in northern Rusk County-Wolf Range. My comments on the 2022 WI Wolf Management plan are from the viewpoint of a deer hunter. I have been hunting the property in Northern Rusk County since I was 12, I just turned 48. I am a hunter who has seen his, and his families, deer hunting opportunities on our private land in "wolf range" diminish so significantly that we have sought out other areas in the state to hunt. There are several contributing factors to the reduced deer hunting opportunities we are experiencing. Logging or lack thereof, winter severity, and predator load are 3 large contributing factors in northern Wisconsin. We, as landowners, have limited control over different aspects of each of these. On our land we continue to improve habitat to improve our herds health and quality. We love our land. We can not move our land. We want our land to be our own hunting paradise, as it once was. Without addressing other factors, predator load (primarily wolves) continues to be the most consistent stressor on our deer population. This plan fails to show course to manage the wolf population to a reasonable, not extinct, level that will once again allow the robust deer numbers of the late 1990's and early 2000's.

Below I will list my comments on various parts of the plan that are, in part, reasons I do not support the 2022 wolf management plan as currently drafted.

I understand that the early pages of this draft are background on wolf biology as well as how we got to where we are. I found some of this information very insightful and revealing.

Additionally, while I know that there is nothing scientific about "civilian observations", there is weight that comes along with them. The DNR acknowledges that from there consistent requests to the public to contribute to many of their management programs with observations. Whereas I will use mine and my neighbors' observations as basis for some of my comments.

In the early pages of the draft the there is a discussion on trophic cascade or ecosystem services provided by wolves. The first listed is "Limiting, and possibly regulating, the growth and abundance of prey populations." As pointed out in later pages of the draft, whitetail deer are the primary prey species of wolves. The immediate conclusion is, how can we allow the wolves to regulate the prey species population when we, humans, are already doing that?? I will point out this same sentiment in other parts of the draft. This is one of my leading critiques of this plan. You CAN NOT have 2 apex predators that depend on 1 prey species! Humans are the apex predator in today's world. We can not harvest deer in wolf range as if we are the only apex predator. Either we need to limit the number of deer man harvests or MAN needs to limit the number of deer wolves' harvest. This same section of the plan goes on to discuss the "Landscape of Fear". This is an additional consequence that I have personally observed in our deer population. Even the deer that are not killed act differently. There are several different graphs in this draft that show "conflicts" of various kinds and when they occurred. I believe every graph shows the prevalence of conflicts was low in 2014. I also observed a reprieve from the "Landscape of Fear" in our deer population at that time. This was an immediate and unmistakable result of 3 wolf harvest seasons in a row. As pointed out in more than one part of the draft, Wolves have shown to be very adaptable, changing to the present environment. This was shown when they realized they were being hunted. We observed a difference in the woods. Deer moved more freely because wolves moved much more carefully. This was also observed on trail camera picture occurrence. Wolf pictures dropped

significantly at this time only to rebound when they were re-listed, and the pressures were removed from them.

In another early section of the draft there is a discussion on additive or compensatory mortality. I found this discussion enlightening and possibly a great driver to what wolf populations should be. Currently our wolf mortality on whitetail deer is ADDITVE. There can be no questioning that. In our little part of the woods, we continue to improve habitat as do our neighbors, through logging and cultivated food. This is done to offset the forest succession that naturally occurs. With that said, our deer observations have diminished greatly. If the capacity of the land is being augmented by manmade changes to maintain its carrying capacity, then deer numbers/observations should remain the same if the wolf mortality is compensatory. Since there is a decline the mortality if Additive and that is unacceptable at its current rate. I think that compensatory deer mortality should be the goal of this management plan.

Later in the draft there is a discussion about "wolf acceptance and perception". In later definitions of the plan goals, the public's perception and acceptance is used for driving goals and decision making. Whereas this early discussion needs further critique. On page 24 it clearly states that the longer people live and work in wolf range, the more negative their view of wolves becomes. This needs far greater weight than that of academics and urbanites who only study and think about wolves, and don't truly know them. There needs to be a weighted scale when considering Wisconsin Resident Perception of wolves as a driving factor in decision making. Those who live, hunt, work, in wolf range and deal with that actual effects wolves have on the ecosystem, should have their perceptions count many times over that of the perception of someone who lives in the urban areas of the state and never even travels to wolf range. A distinction needs to be made if resident perception continues to be considered. One additional note in regard to resident perception of wolves. The draft goes into great depth in several areas to explain and emphasize the importance of the grey wolf to the native American tribes whose reservations occur in Wisconsin. When "resident perception" is used to drive decision making, Native American input needs to be withheld. Their lands are closed to any wolf take. Per their treaty rights they are given a prescribed amount of harvest authorizations when ever a season is permitted. The native American positive wolf perception has been slaked through the aforementioned measures and should not have a voice when it comes to management of the rest of the states wolf population.

I am not a farmer. I have little to draw from in comment on the parts of the plan that discuss the effects wolves have on the Wisconsin Farmer in wolf range. What I can comment on is that this draft exhibits many "pro wolf" comments and directions. Almost trying to convince the reader that wolves do not have an impact on the ecosystem or that the affects the do have are all positive. This is shown on page 28 in the discussion of predation on livestock. The draft would lead you to believe that "non-lethal" measures are more effective to protect livestock that "lethal measures". I believe this is yet another "pro wolf" comment in this draft. A non-lethal measure could be construction tall, wolf proof, fences around all your livestock pastures or installing lights that keep your livestock out of the dark, as opposed to trapping or killing the problem wolves. I can understand that no wolf can get over a 10' high fence, and that if you kill a wolf, another may replace it, but is fencing all the pasture to that extent or installing lights in the fields practical. Is this something that we should expect our agricultural producers to endure because the state will not manage the wolf population as a problem? As I said, I am not a farmer, maybe I am missing something here. One additional comment when it comes to farms in wolf range, as mentioned before, people who work in wolf range need to have their feelings/perceptions weighted much higher than those who work outside of wolf range. If we compare wolf management to other species management in the state, it would seem natural that problem wolves are trapped and

relocated or euthanized. That's how problem deer and bear are handled in and around agricultural properties. Again, another example of the "pro wolf sentiment" that permeates this draft.

On Page 98 we are introduced to the plan goals. My opinion is that they are extremely broad and not well defined. They leave so much room for people to "bend" them to fit a specific narrative. I do not believe the plan goals stand on their own with out better definitions. I realize there are pages of "qualifiers" however, they are wordy and broad. An example is "ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population". What does that mean? In earlier parts of the draft the state was originally looking for 350 wolves in order to remove protection from them. That must be "healthy and sustainable"? If that is the case, we are well past that, so we need to reduce the number?? "Fulfill their ecological role", again I don't understand. Are we talking about the historical ecological role of wolves? As mentioned before, humans are the apex predator now. While I don't think wolves should be extinct, I am not sure we missed them in the 80's when there were no packs thought to be in Wisconsin. By that I mean the rolls that the wolf plays in the ecosystem did not go un-fulfilled. Week or sick prey were taken out of the population by other predators. Human's control the prey populations now, not wolves. So, what is this plan goal driving at? Again, there can not be 2 apex predators.

As many have already pointed out, there is a glaring omission in this plan. There is no population goal and/or any metrics on how to arrive at one. The harvest strategy to either "increase, decrease, or maintain" seems ridiculous. Outside of trail cameras, people rarely see wolves. So, what would "The People" base their answer on. Perceived impacts of wolves? This is speculative at best. Are there any good impacts from wolves that people would perceive outside of a wolf hunter/trapper wanting better harvest opportunities? I don't know how anyone would answer that question if posed and civilian perception was again used to drive policy.

As I read through the plan goals, I feel like they do not do nearly enough to qualify the measures and tools that will be used to assess and manage the wolf population. It has a strong feel of a plan that does not want to manage or control wolves. I want to see some pressure put on the wolf population. Every other big game animal in Wisconsin has human pressure put on it through a harvest season. In most cases the harvest seasons are very generous. Yet in the case of wolves, when de-listed, a very limited quota is put on them. Again, "pro wolf" sentiment.

In addition, I believe that there is not nearly enough weight put into "consideration of prey populations" under the first plan goal. Wolves are the only predator species that we have in WI (outside of cougars that is believed to be a very small population) whose primary food source is another game animal, white tail deer. How can this plan gloss over that relationship? As mentioned earlier in my comments, I am a deer hunter. In wolf range, I do not believe that the whitetail population can sustain unlimited harvest by both humans and wolves as well as deal with the other, unavoidable stressors that put pressure on deer (winter weather, winter food sources, etc). It seems that the wolf population or management has to be directly tied to the white tail management in wolf range. There are even other qualifiers in this draft that discuss having enough food (deer) to support the wolf population as well as the "carrying capacity" of the landscape when it comes to wolves. That is a direct relationship to the numbers of deer. This plan does not come close to explaining the relationship between the 2. You are led to believe the deer exist to feed the wolves and that is it.

I take issue with the idea of the sub zones around the tribal reservation lands. This basically enlarges the tribal reservation and takes land away from "The People". The tribes have agreements in place that must be respected on THEIR land, not their neighbor's land.

In objective A on page 111 there is a guideline that says, “no radical changes in wolf populations”. Based on what numbers. The plan does not give us a starting point. If that is the case, I am further concerned that this is again another “pro wolf” measure. If we are to base “no radical changes to the population” based on today’s population, then I completely DO NOT support the plan. We currently have an overabundance of wolves due to the federal protections that have been in place as of late. If I am to believe that we will base this on whatever the population climbs to between now and the time management is given back to the State, then we will have an even larger population. I believe the population needs to be reduced extensively. This note is another attempt at placing verbiage in the draft that will promote or allow for a higher wolf population.

In Plan goal B it discusses compensation for wolf predation. While on the surface I agree that agricultural producers should be compensated to fair market value for their loss (I’m not a farmer so I may not have that fully understood), I do not agree that hunting dogs and pets should have a cap at $2500.00. Many pure breed pets cost well more than $2500. Hunting dogs can cost 10 times that amount. If there is going to be compensation because the state does not manage the population to a reasonable level (or can’t when wolves are listed) the compensation should be at least the value of the loss.

On page 124; Product C1d “continue to exclude reservation wolves from harvest consideration when developing wolf harvest quotas”. I STRONGLY disagree with this product. I am not even sure how “science-based management” can allow for this. The population models that are used to determine a harvest quota are to ignore certain wolves? Is that in a textbook I can read? This can not be allowed. The population is the population. “Tribal sovereignty and cultural importance of the wolf to the native Americans” is done by surrendering tags to the various sovereign nations as well as not allowing harvest on the reservation lands. To also not includes these wolves in the population estimates would result in a false population, and a deliberate, yet hidden, inflation of the wolf population. Again, another example of a “pro wolf sentiment” in this draft.

On page 125; Product C2c Zone specific tags are promoted. I disagree with this initiative. If the wolf harvest is based on zone specific quotas, let hunters go where the quota is not fulfilled. I feel like this would place an unnecessary restriction on wolf hunters/trappers. To compare this idea to zone specific tags issued for Turkey or Bear harvest is not an apples-to-apples comparison. Turkey and bear hunts are not quota driven, wolf hunts, to date, are. Again, another roadblock to reducing wolf numbers.

I further disagree with parts of this plan on page 127; Product C3a “ecotourism brought on by wolf population”. This plan is trying to make a comparison between Yellowstone National Park and Northern Wisconsin. I think this is an extreme stretch. I think this is and attempt by the writers of this plan to show some sort of “made up value” to an increased or large wolf population. To expect there will be any kind of a positive economic impact from a wolf population, other than a small one from a harvest season, is a made-up value. To make the comment that people will find enjoyment in seeing a track or scat is another attempt by the writers to try to find value that just isn’t there. To further believe that it will result in a positive economic impact is ridiculous.

Products E2b & E2c on page 133 are of paramount importance in my opinion. This plan relegates them to a mere afterthought. I think these products need to be a primary part of a plan goal. It seems, in a small way, this plan acknowledges that many activities are negatively impacted by wolf populations. Whereas there is economic loss associated with that. So many small businesses in wolf range rely on

things like deer hunters, grouse hunters, shore fisherman, campers, and hikers, they buy food, gas, lodging, etc. When those activities are reduced or moved to other parts of the state there is a large negative economic impact. That cannot be overstated, yet this plan does not give that point nearly enough emphasis.

In summary, I am a deer hunter who wants the impact of wolves in northern Wisconsin to be reduced. I do not believe that wolves should be extinct. However, I do not believe that the ecosystem needs wolves to stay in balance either. I do not believe all parts of this plan are bad or incorrect. I have made comment on the areas I felt needed to be critiqued. I support things like additional monitoring and utilizing our university system to better study and understand the wolf population. Wisconsin's wolf situation is unique in that wolf range in Wisconsin has the highest human population of anywhere in the US. This results in a large increase in conflict and issues related to a large wolf population that does not exist in other states. Further, wolves have shown, as noted in this draft, an adaptability that was not expected. Wolves continue to grow their range. The carrying capacity of what was once thought to be wolf habitat, has not limited wolf population growth. Rather, wolves have adapted and expanded their range. Since the population has not found an equilibrium and continues to grow it is time that humans limit the wolf population in consideration of all the issues and conflicts discussed in my response. With all that said, I see a plan, that I cannot support in its current draft, that uses a lot of words to try to justify a large wolf population, but then recognizes conflicts and issues. There is so much discussion, monitoring, and effort that must be spent on the different conflict issues (agricultural loss, hunting dog loss, loss of economic opportunity from reduced deer hunting in the wolf range, etc, etc.) when reducing the number of wolves would reduce the number of conflicts and thus the level of effort and money spent on such. That idea seems to be fairly simple.

WI Draft WMP Talking Points

What we like:

We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including:

- Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.
- There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves
- The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves
- The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)

What we don't like:

- The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below):
    - wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing
    - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones
    - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution
- The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.
- The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.
    - A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.

    - Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.
- The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.
    - Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods.
    - Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation.
    - Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.
- The plan should *require* the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.
- The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).
    - All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed).
    - Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science).
- Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and

especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F).

- There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence)
- There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider *each individual wolf* as a *person* and *relative*. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan.
- In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns *for wolves* point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.
- 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

Rating: 4-5

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Lowell H. Suring
Northern Ecologic L.L.C.
[redacted]
Suring, Wisconsin 54174
24 January 2023

Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist
randy.johnson@wisconsin.gov
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Avenue
Rhinelander, WI 54501-3349

Re: My Professional Comments and Recommendations on the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the *Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan* (dated 9 November 2022). I provide overall comments in the body of this letter and more specific, line-by-line comments on the draft of the plan as an attachment to this letter. These comments represent my personal opinion and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of my employers, clients, or organizations that I am a member of.

Throughout my career I have served as a Wildlife Ecologist/Biologist with State and Federal Agencies and with a natural resources consulting firm (https://www.northern-ecologic.com/team.php). I am a Certified Wildlife Biologist® and elected Fellow of The Wildlife Society and am an active member of The Wildlife Society at State, Section, and International levels. I am a member of Wisconsin's Green Fire Wildlife Work Group and an elected county delegate of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

I commend the Department of Natural Resources for drafting a comprehensive plan for ensuring sustainable management of the gray wolf population in the State. My comments and suggested edits on this plan are intended to give the Department insights to potentially revising and improving this document and the over-all management program for gray wolves in the State.

General Comments

Executive Summary

- Executive summaries should restate the purpose of the plan, highlight the major points of the plan, and describe any results, conclusions, or recommendations from the plan. This one does not get beyond the purpose of the plan while ignoring the rest.

Section 1: Gray Wolf Biology, Ecology and Population Dynamics

- This section should be revised to better present and interpret the significance of the information presented here to actually managing the gray wolf population in Wisconsin and to the development of a management plan for gray wolves in Wisconsin. This section should help describe the biological basis for the approaches in this plan for managing gray wolves with references back to this section that support the Objectives, Strategies, and Products. As it is currently written, it has little direct connection to the management philosophy and direction that you establish in the plan. As a result, it is really not of much value to this document.

- The status of gray wolves is described in the contiguous United State and immediate adjacent areas in Canada, but not in Alaska. Since you cite studies completed in Alaska in the document, you should include Alaska in that discussion.

- Many places in this document English units of measurement are used without reference to metric units. In other places, both are presented with metric units being the primary. One, or the other, should be used consistently (I recommend presenting both units of measurement).

- Selective Predation and Chronic Wasting Disease – The science behind gray wolves affecting the spread of CWD is not conclusive but it seems as if you are passing off on the concept too quickly. This discussion is hardly an extensive assessment of the strength of the science supporting it. Once that is done, it may be reasonable to accept it as a hypothesis, with caveats, and incorporate the concept into development of management strategies. Wisconsin may have the best opportunity so far to examine this with healthy populations of gray wolves and deer co-occurring with CWD actively spreading in the deer population.

- Prey Regulates Wolf Populations – Despite the statement "*To date, prey abundance does not appear to be a limiting factor for wolves in Wisconsin*", this section is presented in a manner that fully supports the hypothesis that "*prey regulates wolf populations*". This ignores the literature that supports the hypothesis that food may set an upper limit, but before this limit is reached, other factors, particularly higher mortality due to intraspecific strife, reduce population density (e.g., Smith et al. 2020).

Section 2: Human Dimensions and Cultural Significance

- The Department is to be commended for its effort to learn about citizen's attitudes concerning gray wolves in Wisconsin. I had experience with social science surveys addressing wildlife issues while with the New York State Bureau of Wildlife. The 59% response the 2014Wisconsin survey received was very high for this type of survey. Therefore, these data can be considered robust. The lower 38% response rate in the 2022 survey is still a good response and can also be considered robust. This response is reflective of people's changing general response to opinion surveys. This whole body of research is notable because it describes changes in attitudes from 2014 to 2022. This provides a really good opportunity to explore and understand people's changing attitudes about gray wolves in Wisconsin.

Section 4: Wolf Management in Wisconsin: From Recovery to Sustainable Management

Wolf Management Plan Goal

"*The preceding sections of this management plan endeavor to provide a foundation of science-based information on wolves in Wisconsin and define the current biological and social context in which wolf management must occur*."

- That may have been the intent but I do not think this was accomplished. A lot of information was presented but this would have been much more meaningful if it had been presented in the context of how that information was used to develop the management plan.

"*…while explicitly recognizing that inherent tradeoffs exist among some of the objectives*."

- It is certainly good to recognize that there will be trade-offs associated with the management strategies that form the basis of this plan, but how

those trade-offs are addressed and resolved is critical. Does this plan do that?

Goal Statement

- A goal is an outcome that is desired to be achieved. So, "Objective A" is an outcome and would be considered a goal. "Objective B" can be considered an actual objective which, when met, would help to achieve the stated goal. However, an objective is a specific and measurable action that can be reached in a short amount of time and has the following attributes: specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. I recommend the goal, objective, and strategy framework be rewritten to better fit traditional structure. Otherwise, this could lead to misunderstandings and confusion.

Implementation of Wolf Management Plan Goal

"*To effectively implement the plan goal, the use of a formal yet adaptable approach to evaluating objectives and guiding decision-making is recommended. This process should be values-based, informed by science, and include routine evaluation aimed at measuring progress towards management plan objectives. This plan recommends engaging the department's Wolf Advisory Committee in the process to annually assist in reviewing data, metrics and trends related to existing conditions on the ground in each wolf management zone.*"

- This is why there should be 2 committees, a Science Committee that will be involved in this aspect of the plan process and a Stakeholder Committee to ensure that the plan's implementation addresses society values. Enlisting the assistance of knowledgeable scientists to review data, metrics, and trends will result in better science applications; involving stakeholders in these reviews will not result in the best science. Having a mix of stakeholders involved in this aspect would result unhelpful discussions and watered-down "science".

"*Table 13. Wisconsin wolf management plan objectives and associated metrics by which to evaluate progress towards those objectives. Metrics may be qualitative or quantitative. Metrics may also be refined or modified in the future as experience is developed, including the addition or subtraction of metrics.*"

- The metrics are one of the most important components of the management plan in determining how well it is being implemented and how well implementing the plan is resulting in sustaining the gray wolf population in the State. However, this component appears to be one of the least well-

developed aspects of the plan. It is questionable whether the metrics listed are the most appropriate, the basis of many of the metrics is not clear, how the state variables of the metrics will be determined is not explained, and how the information gathered for each metric will be evaluated is not presented. The metrics should be the basis of a comprehensive monitoring plan that accompanies the management plan. The management plan should not be implemented until a monitoring plan is completed and ready to be applied.

A metric is a standard by which results can be measured. It is not clear to me how "qualitative" metrics can be meaningfully measured and evaluated.

Wolf Management Zone Definitions

"*This approach also reflects results of the 2022 public attitudes survey which found the most common preference regarding wolf distribution was for wolves to occupy about the same amount of the state as their current geographic distribution*"

- This is really good. You use the results of the public survey to directly develop an aspect of the plan. The information presented in Section 1 and Section 2 should also be directly applied to the development of the plan in Section 4. Otherwise it is not clear why Sections 1 and 2 were included in this document.

Zones 3 and 4

"*The plan recommends that the leading objectives within these zones be twofold: addressing and reducing wolf-related conflicts (Objective B) and providing multiple benefits associated with the wolf population (Objective C).*"

- This approach suggests the Department's primary method of reducing wolf-related conflicts is increasing harvest of wolves until a number of packs are eliminated. Findings in the published literature indicate that research results were unable to support a hypothesis that public harvest of wolves is a primary factor influencing decreases in wolf-related conflicts (e.g. ,DeCesare et al. 2018, Kareiva et al. 2022). However, to be most effective, lethal control should target definitely known individuals responsible for livestock losses (Bruns et al. 2020). Non-lethal deterrents are generally more effective for reducing wolf-related conflicts.

"*Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role (Objective A) is also recommended to be considered in these zones, but decision-making primarily be guided by the leading objectives (B and C).*"

- This is a bit confusing. Is the Department suggesting that they will not necessarily manage for a healthy and sustainable wolf population in these zones? How can "multiple benefits" be assured if the population is not sustainable? Will the Department prescribe harvest levels that will result in the eradication of some wolf packs in these areas?

Objective A: Ensure a Healthy and Sustainable Wolf Population to Fulfill its Ecological Role

- It would be helpful if this section on defining objectives were moved to just after Table 13. That way the information provided here would be available to the readers when they read when and where these objectives would be implemented.

- Are **benchmarks** different than metrics? Listing these "benchmarks" here is not very useful without discussion of how and when these benchmarks will be measured, what the benchmark value is that, when reached, or when not reached, will require action, and what that action would be.

Product A1b: Ensure the late-winter wolf population abundance is responsibly maintained above **federal and state listing thresholds**.

- Really? These thresholds were based on antiquated data and not a full understanding of the ecological relationships in this area. These numbers should not be carried forward in this plan. This product should be deleted.

Product A1d: Continue annual **winter snow tracking surveys** to collect data on the midwinter wolf population.

- It should be recognized that with the advent of global climate change snow cover adequate to perform these surveys will decline throughout the range of gray wolves in Wisconsin. There should be a strategy in place to guide adaptation to this change.

Product A4a: Work with department wildlife health staff to assess current and emerging threats to wolf population health.

"…*emerging threats, such as* ***the potential impacts of climate change*** *on wolves, their prey, and their habitats, must be considered and require a nimble approach to respond appropriately*."

- This needs to be elevated to Strategy level and not buried in the population health section. An adaptation strategy for how to address the effects of climate change on the wolf population needs to be developed and implemented as part of this plan. Climate change is going to affect all aspects of this management plan and needs to be addressed **now**.

Product C1a: Utilize public harvest to help manage wolf populations consistent with zone-specific objectives.

"*Once such zone-specific population objectives are identified*…"

- How specific are these objectives going to be? Just decrease, increase, or maintain the wolf population will not be specific enough to inform decision making (e.g., what are the confidence levels on the results of the scientific population modeling?). Further, zones will be too large to address local issues (e.g., depredation). As discussed previously, harvest objectives will not likely result in addressing depredation issues. Those issues will need to be addressed individually, on a site-by-site basis.

Product D1c: Ensure the 2022 Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan is widely available to the public.

"…*this plan serves as an effective outreach tool to increase public understanding of wolves and help citizens make informed decisions regarding wolf management*."

- Only the most dedicated people with a well-developed interest in wolves will access and read this plan. The plan is not in a form that will serve as an effective outreach tool. The format of the plan is not inviting to the public and it should not be relied on to provide information to the public.

Literature Cited

- The format of the citations in the text is not consistently the same throughout the document (e.g., placement of commas in the citations).

- I noted that several (many?) citations in the text (e.g., Paquet and Carbyn 2003) are not included in the Literature Cited section. All citations in the text should be checked to ensure that they are fully described in Literature Cited.

- The format of the references listed in the Literature Cited section is not consistent.

- It would be helpful if you included the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for each of your references in the Literature Cited section. A DOI will help readers of this document to easily locate a cited publication from your reference.

Additional Comments

- Historical funding of the wolf program as presented (pages 62-63) is useful information, but implementation of the tasks listed in this plan will require a substantial increase in funds above current expenditures. A complete evaluation of this plan is not possible without presenting a proposed budget for future gray wolf management and research. This information is necessary to gain approval of the plan from stakeholders, leadership in the Department, and the Legislature. It would also be helpful in effort to secure funding to implement the plan from cooperators, collaborators, and, potentially, granting organizations.

- A plan like this is not complete without a thorough discussion and presentation of a monitoring strategy. Additional effort is needed to fully describe the metrics (i.e., a system or standard of measurement) and the benchmarks (i.e., a standard or point of reference against which things may be compared or assessed) presented in this plan. What, exactly, will be measured or established for each, how will the measurements and assessments be accomplished, and what will be the points for the metrics and benchmarks where a change requires a response? Without knowing these aspects it is not fully possible to assess how the plan will be implemented or, perhaps, even be successful.

- This plan uses many technical terms to present and describe the biological and cultural background and strategies that make up this proposed effort to manage gray wolves in Wisconsin. A glossary of these terms is needed to ensure all stakeholders fully understand what is being proposed and to ensure that all language is interpreted in the correct context.

I have also provided more specific, line-by-line, comments in the copy of the *Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan* included with this letter. Although I made comments and suggested edits throughout the text, I specifically concentrated on the Introduction, Section 1: Gray Wolf Biology, Ecology and Population Dynamics, and Section 4: Wolf Management in Wisconsin: From Recovery to Sustainable Management.

Literature Cited (in this cover letter and in the attached line-by-line review of the plan)

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I am available to discuss any aspects of this review.

Sincerely,

Lowell H. Suring

Lowell H. Suring, Certified Wildlife Biologist®
Principal Wildlife Ecologist
Northern Ecologic L.L.C.
10685 County Road A
Suring, Wisconsin 54174

[redacted]
[redacted]
http://www.northern-ecologic.com

CC: Adrian P. Wydeven, Wisconsin's Green Fire
Wolf Management Plan Comments,
DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wisconsin.gov

Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan

2022

A plan for stewardship, conservation, and management of the gray wolf in Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Wildlife Management

DRAFT

Comments from LH Suring - 303 individual comments noted in a copy of the draft plan

WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMENTS

SUBMITTED BY: AL LOBNER

I have a significant amount of concern regarding the proposed Wolf Management Plan. First off there were several instances where the surveys used were from year 2014. In most instances we would be in the initial stages of developing a new plan and those surveys would no longer be relevant.

Another concern is statements made by individuals were contradictory to the graphs and surveys that they used to make their points. There were comments made that instances of aggression were more prevalent in bears that it was in wolves. Although that may be the case, I would like to see these numbers in relationship to the population of their respective species. I believe this would tell a different story,

There was also a comment that in the plan that the native people of the region were considered predators to the wolves, coyotes, fox, raccoon, cougars and bobcats. This does not coincide with what is being said from the natives today. Today they say the wolf is their brother. Which is the truth?

The comments in the plan regarding the relationship of range expansion vs population growth were also quite interesting. According to David Mech in his book, Wolves: Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation written in conjunction with Luigi Boitani, explains why packs get smaller when the landscape gets saturated with wolves. They will move to places that are not optimum because it is the only place, they can live without being killed by other packs in the region.

Over the years I have heard from pro-wolf groups that the wolf is considered part of the Public Trust Doctrine. I have read extensively on this subject and although there are groups that feel other things should be included in this Doctrine none have of them have succeeded in this effort. Only the high water to low water including (high tide to low tide) is the only premise that has met the juris prudence requirements of the Public Trust Doctrine. The comments in the wolf plan should not have included wolves and the Public Trust Doctrine together in my opinion. Just because someone says it doesn't necessarily make it true.

Future DNR Wolf Advisory Committee participation members was also a quite disturbing to me. There were several pro-wolf groups included in this committee and only one sportsman group (Wisconsin Trappers Association) included in the future committee.

Last but not least I strongly disagree with the buffer zones around the reservations. As taxpayers we have all contributed to have National Forests, State Forests, County Forests, and personal property managed. I don't feel it is right to have these public and private lands controlled solely by the tribes when everyone has contributed to keep these properties managed for future generations.



Re: Wolf Mgmt

FOR your information

3 years ago we had coyotes on our roads + fields.

Homes + condos built pushed out or eliminated them.

Now I have tons of rabbits + rodents to eat my garden + I need to fence ~~every~~ over everything

We meddle too much with nature.

I am very very very against these TRAPS.

This is extremely cruel!

Do not do this, to the wolves!

How many wolves there should be, I don't know. Transport them somewhere else!

P.S. I have always had a Dog with no problem with coyotes -

WI Draft WMP Talking Points

What we like:

We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including:

- Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.
- There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves
- The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves
- The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)

What we don't like:

- The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below):
    - wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing
    - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones
    - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution
- The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.
- The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.
    - A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.

    - Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.
- The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.
    - Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods.
    - Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation.
    - Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.
- The plan should *require* the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.
- The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).
    - All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed).
    - Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science).
- Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and

especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F).

- There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence)
- There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider *each individual wolf* as a *person* and *relative*. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan.
- In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns *for wolves* point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.
- 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

Rating: 4-5

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Date: 10 Feb 2023

TO: Randy Johnson

FROM: Keith McCaffery – Deer person

SUBJECT: Wolf Mgt Plan comments

Overall, I'm quite enthusiastic about the plan, but I have just a few comments. One of my major concerns is using the absence of quantitative goals for deer as a justification for not having quantitative goals for wolves. We had a 60-yr history of unit-specific deer density goals based on forestland KCC and farmland herd manageability that was dumped by the Walker Admin. Proper deer management calls for restoring these and I don't want to see the absence of quantitative goals for bear and wolves to be used against reinstating deer density goals.

Pp.17, 105-107: I subscribe, hopefully, to the hypothesis that wolf predation may be deterring CWD transmission (e.g., Shell Lake, Camp 10, near Three Lakes pen). We may have new tests in Adams and Langlade counties.

P.97: One of the goals should be to draw attention to the strictures of Act 169. It bothers me that DNR tends to consider statutes as concrete. Same goes for legislative restrictions of deer harvest strategies.

Pp. 103, 158: WGF strongly recommends adding western Langlade County to Zone 2. I've wondered why the area (west of this Langlade change) all the way to Hwy 73 should not be part of Zone 1. I'm looking mainly at the contiguous habitat including the Mondeaux District.

P.123: Instinctively, I react badly to qualitative quotas of more-same-fewer. My brother says that this is the way squirrels count. My deer background affects mv reaction!

P.159-165: WGF recommends adding area in square miles for each zone. I would suggest that you show (also) area of suitable wolf habitat based on our best understanding at this time.

1/17/23

Wolf Managemant Plan:

The final draft should make sure that the wolf population does not decrease in numbers.

Hunting and trapping are the most harmful activities causing the wolf population to go down.

In the draft, there should be a provision that hunters and trappers be heavily fined when not following the rules. It was totally shocking when the wolf kill exceeded the quota by 83%. In some cases, where hunters and trappers show that they don't care and repeat violations, their licenses should be revoked.

Thank you for allowing me to express my thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,
Ruth M. McCloud

Dear Wolf Management Committee,

My name is Chris Meinert. I am 50 years old, married to Sara Meinert. We have 3 children who are 19, 17, and 9 years old. As a family, we have been living in Wisconsin our whole lives. We also all started hunting at the age of 12 or before. My parents and I have a cabin in Iron County. We have been bear and deer hunting in this county for years. We quit deer hunting in Iron county about 10 years ago because of how drastic the deer population has decreased because of wolves. We now can only really find a good amount of deer near homes or towns where wolves are not. We used to see deer all over and had to avoid them on the roads. I feel bad for the few deer that make it without getting hit on the roads because they can only live near populated areas without wolves eating them. We still bear hunt in Iron County. We used to have three areas to hunt since I was a kid. Now we have had to leave an area, 3 years ago, because the wolves killed our dogs. A few years ago they killed our two lead dogs. These dogs were my daughters' babies and it was devastating seeing them, knowing their dog was gone. Two of my daughters started to not even come up north anymore because they were scared the wolves were gonna kill their other dogs and they did not wanna see it. There are other hunters that also have this problem, not just in our county. It seems that as soon as the wolves hear the dogs they start to try and hunt them. This past year we lost another area because a wolf pack moved in there. Now we are down to just one area to hunt which makes it very hard to get to the bears while keeping our dogs safe. My family and I have started hunting other states in the south because they do not have to worry about wolves. It is very hard to train young dogs when we are scared to turn them loose because if they fall behind or go the wrong way, wolves will most likely get them. I know there are other groups starting to look at other states to hunt for the same reasons. I do not want to have to move but I love my dogs and they wanna hunt so we have to fulfill their needs without having wolves to worry about. The establishments up in the north woods thrive on tourism and hunters. I know they are hurting business because there is very little big game in northern Wisconsin. Wisconsin wanted to sustain a population of 350 wolves. The estimated population is now over 1,200 wolves. Anyone that spends time in the wilderness doesn’t believe that number is accurate. My question is, why with the wolf population at over 1,200 are we not doing anything about it if the goal is 350 wolves? This doesn’t seem hard for me to figure out! Does anyone realize that deer have 1-2 fawns a year. Bears have 1-2 and occasionally 3-4 every other year. While wolves are from the dog family so they can come in heat every 6 months and have up to 8 pups each time. I think wolves are an awesome animal but not for the state of Wisconsin. I wish as a state we could do something about maintaining the 350 wolf population. We have seen the money spent to reintroduce the wolves using our hunting license and atv registrations that we feel could go to a much better use. My family/friends and I believe that we should have an open season until the number gets to 350 or less. Not only is it a concern to us hunters, but also the animals in the environment that are trying to survive while being hunted, especially pets. Thank you for your time, I really think that you guys can make a change for the better before the tourism and hunters never go back up there and the north woods fall apart.

ASSESSMENT OF WISCONSIN WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN

To Whom it may concern,

I have held a Wisconsin bowhunting license for 57 years and hope that my dedication and years of experience give weight to the opinions I am about to share about Wisconsin's Wolf Management Plan and wolves in general. I spent a great deal of time over several days reading the plan and taking notes in order to make an educated assessment of it. I hope what I am writing is read and not just filed or discarded. In case you don't get past the first page, I am posting my basic message here and will also repeat it at the end.

We have too many wolves the State needs to seek to manage their numbers as close to the 350-animal social carrying capacity number which was originally "sold to" sportsmen as the plan!

The following are my comments and opinions regarding items as referenced by page number from the plan.

Page19, Impacts of Human-mortality

Several studies were cited and summarized as follows; "*current research suggests as much as 24-29% of a wolf population can be removed via human-sourced mortality before populations begin to decline*". **By the State's own conservative estimates, we have over 1,100 wolves minimum which means up to 319 could be harvested annually before the overall population would go into decline**.

Page 20, Impacts of Regulated Harvests on Wolf Dynamics

A 26-year study of collared wolves in Alaska (Borg et al. 2015) revealed that "*breeder mortality and pack dissolution had no significant effects on either immediate or longer-term population dynamics in their study area, indicating that strong compensatory mechanisms may be able to reduce the negative impacts of breeder loss at the population level scale*". **This indicates that the argument of loss of the alpha male or female and possible dissolution of packs should not be considered as reason to prohibit hunting and trapping**.

Page 36, 2022 Wolf Attitudes Study (item5)

Wolf hunting has the support of 46% of the public to 29% opposed. **Hunting and trapping should be scheduled yearly once the federal protection is removed**.

Page 38, Wisconsin's Tribal Perspectives and Cultural Significance

The State of Wisconsin asked for a written narrative on the cultural significance of wolves from the eleven tribes within the State as well as the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Only the Commission and 3 of the eleven tribes responded. **With all due respect to the tribes and their rights under the treaties signed by their ancestors, I don't think that with only 27% of the tribes responding we should be held hostage to not having a wolf season. In addition, since they claim the wolf is their sacred brother who they will not kill, when a season is again instituted and a quota set there should not be 50% allocated to the tribes unless the desired harvest number is automatically doubled to**

compensate for that. Otherwise, the wolf population will continue to explode until it reaches the biological carrying capacity which will be a continuing source of ire to deer hunters. We don't allow deer to reach the habitat's carrying capacity nor should we let the wolves.

Page 46, Gray Wolves in Wisconsin

The State has maintained that the re-introduction of wolves happened naturally. **The last paragraph on page 46, however, reveals that the State did in fact assist in their expansion by relocating problem wolves to other counties within the State**.

Pages 47 & 48, Wolf Population Depictions by the Decades

The depictions show that Wisconsin's wolf population grew from an estimate of 25 in 1980 to 1034 in 2020. Of particular note is the fact that in the span from 2010 to 2015 the population increased 6% while sustaining hunting losses during three consecutive years. By DNR accounting it went from 704 to 746. Interestingly that 746 is the same number of animals harvested by hunters during those three seasons (from page 52 of the report). **This should give rise to a conclusion that either wolves are reproducing at an amazing rate, or the population estimate is far below reality.**

Page 50, Wisconsin Grey Wolf Population from 2000-2021

For the year 2020 the chart lists two sets of numbers for both pack numbers and total population. The population change went from 1,034 to 1195, an increase of 161 animals while the pack count went from 256 to 316, an increase of 60. It has been the DNR's claim that packs average 4 in number. With the new estimate of 60 additional packs at 4 per pack the increase in overall population should have been plus 240 animals not the 161 listed which would push the population total to 1,274 not 1,195. **For those of us who pay attention to detail this only adds to the suspicion we are being deceived by the department**.

Page 52, Mortality of Wolves in Wisconsin

Studies referenced on this page mention that mortality caused by hunting is partially offset by a reduction in natural mortality, in other words compensatory. The DNR justifies higher antlerless deer quotas to offset what would otherwise be compensatory losses. **This adds support to having a sustained harvest of wolves in the State.**

Page 54, Biological Carrying Capacity

The 2015 IBSE model referenced on this page (Stenglein et al.2015) predicted the "*Wisconsin wolf population, without harvest, stabilize around 1,242 wolves (SD) after 50 years*". From page 50 of this report there were estimated to be 746 wolves in 2015 and as I mentioned 2 paragraphs back was already probably 1,274 by 2020. **So according to the study the wolves have reached their biological carrying capacity in only 5 years, 1/10th of the time it was estimated to take. Once again it shows the need to hold regular hunting and trapping seasons to control the population**.

Pages 62 & 63, Wisconsin Gray Wolf Expenditures

Wisconsin reached the original goal of 350 wolves by 2004 when the Stated estimate was 373. In that year the State's wolf program costs were $195,646 of which $76,867 was depredation compensation payments. By 2020 the estimated population has risen to 1,242 with yearly costs to the State reaching $315,266 and depredation compensation $242,528. That means that we spent $522 per wolf in 2004 compared to $253 per wolf today. That is an improvement, but I can't help but think of the uproar if the State had to spend an equivalent amount of money to maintain the deer herd. If the herd is 1.5 million, that cost would be $380,000,000. In 2020 the State paid out $760,000 for deer damage. That is $2 per deer, which is .8% of what costs were per wolf. **The short of it is the State is spending too much money for merely the frivolity of having wolves on the landscape and not incorporating a hunting season with it. I say this while pointing out the hypocrisy of promoting the presence of wolves on the landscape of the north to try and appease the wolf-favoring population in the south who would not tolerate them in their urban setting.**

Page 125, Product C2c Zone Specific Harvest Tags

The proposal to go to zone specific harvest tags to reduce the possibility of overharvest in an individual zone is an unnecessary step which will exacerbate an already unfair system which gives the advantage to trappers and hound hunters over those using predator calls. I speak from experience having drawn a harvest tag in 2013 intending to hunt zone 1 only to have it close in three days leaving me no alternative but to go to another zone to even have a chance. A better change would be to allocate method specific tags.

We are never going to know what the sustainable wolf harvest is until we have regular seasons which are based on the rise or fall of animals taken from year to year. That system has worked for deer management. With that said, if over 600,000 deer hunters across all the seasons spanning 4 months, only harvest approximately 25% of the 1.5 million deer in the State, how can anyone realistically think hunters took out 25% of the wolf population in 2 days during the 2022 hunt? Either wolves are the dumbest animal on four legs or there are far more wolves than we are led to believe.

CLOSING STATEMENT

It would seem that money is no object with the DNR when it comes to wolf management so as an avid hunter I would like to see the State actively pursuing the de-listing of wolves in the courts as opposed to waiting for the federal government to move on it. Once de-listing happens, schedule hunting and trapping seasons with a balanced allocation of harvest tags made available to accommodate callers, trappers and hound hunters. Set the harvest goal at 29% of the estimated fall population yearly until the over-winter population estimate nears 350 animals which was the social carrying capacity number sold to the public when the wolf re-introduction got started.

1/23/2023

ALCIVIA

D.N.R.

I hope you start using facts and listen to the people who live in the areas affected by wolves to cut down there numbers.

I've hunted in Wisconsin for over Sixty years and have a cabin in Vilas Co. It used to be great deer hunting I quit going up north the deer numbers are down to nothing. There were a lot more coyotes and bobcats up there then and the same number of bears as now so don't pin it onto them.

All of Central Wisconsin except around open farm country is seeing the same effects of lower deer numbers and it will only get worse.

You are loosing Wisconsin greatest Sport and Resources Don't put antis and politics above common sense.

Set the Wolves population goal to 350 wich Eighty Percent of the People affected want.

Lynn Moeller

[redacted]

Granton, Wis 54436

ALCIVIA.com
1.800.236.3218

Wolf Management Plan Comments
Why 350 made sense

Between 2002 an 2003 the estimated over winter wolf population exceeded the 1999 plan of 350. The number was developed through careful deliberation considering the wolf's impact on environment, social interactions, and sustaining a wolf population within the state. Sustaining a wolf population according to the USFWS Endangered Species Act requires the wolf population reach and hold a population of 100 animals for five years. There is sufficient evidence that the population of 350 is spot on and that the number exceeding that is creating intolerable conditions within the state. By looking at the impact the wolf has had on the state once 350 was approached and then exceeded it is clear that the state has been forced into a downward spiral that no longer has an upside. Ignoring the impact the wolf has had or attempting to minimize the impact through distractions such as there are plenty of deer in the state; or livestock depredation is isolated to a few farms; or forest improvements are simply painting over the problems with rose colored glasses.

As stated in the WOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 9/10/2014 "There was an agreement between the DNR and sportsman in the 1980s to help fund the restoration of wolves in the state; sportsman provided $1 million and were promised that 80 wolves would be sustainable."

Between 1980 and 1995 the number of wolves was revised to 100, and in 1995 after careful consideration of scientific, environmental and social impacts, Federal and State regulations and goals, along with carrying capacities was set at 350. This was revised in 1999 to a plus or minus 10% of 350 as the overwinter goal as more reasonable to maintain. That 1999 plan remains in place as the 2022 Plan is under consideration.

Since the wolf population eclipsed the 1999 plan we have considerable data to consider if a revision from that plan is warranted. We have personal experiences, testimonies, depredation claims, deer harvest records, and elk reintroduction population tallies before and after up to the current estimated overwinter population of 1,034-1,057 in 2022.

There has been extensive work and analysis to determine the wolf's tendencies, needs, and abilities to survive by L. David Mech, Dr. David Mladenoff, Sarah Pratt, Dr. James C. Kroll, Adrian P. Weydeven, Teb B.Lyon & Will N Graves, and Paul Swanland who I rely upon considerably to understand wolf dispersal, colonizing, and optimal survival conditions.

Initial studies led to the conclusion that wolves need prime territory, avoidance of roads, and people. More recent studies support a wider area of Wisconsin suitable for wolf distribution based substantially upon prey availability – deer, elk, and beaver (one study included turkeys) as well as avoidance to people and roads. It is these revised studies that support the 2022 plan without a prescribed population. My personal theory is the availability of prey is the only limiting factor to wolf distribution. Being an apex predator puts them in the highest category to adapt to a complex mix of environments as we are seeing their dispersal support that conclusion. "Wolves present such challenges because they adapt to many human land uses (Blanco et al. 1992, Fuller et al. 1992, Thiel et al. 1998)."

My first consideration why the 1995 & 1999 plans are well thought out population goals regards the impact of wolves on deer and elk. Elk were introduced in 1995, areas already habituated by wolves. As the wolf population grew to and eclipsed the 350 one of the first casualties was elk recruitment. Recruitment of elk was zero for many years. When I addressed this with WDNR personnel I was informed it was primarily bear and coyotes. I rejected this opinion as they existed prior to wolves and recruitment was never zero. Not until a bull elk was killed by wolves along with Kentucky concerned about providing more elk did the WDNR consider lethal action required to support the elk introduction.

When I look at the deer harvest in wolf territories, we see a similar correlation. Beginning in 2003 as wolf numbers climbed, deer harvest declined and has steadily diminished. Hunters who hunted the north have reported seeing wolves and no deer. In Vilas County I hunted there since I was 16 years of age. My father and I would count shots in the fist hour. Our count was usually around 35. This last season I counted 3 shots for the four days I hunted. In the presence of wolves all CDAC's voted for growth in deer herds. When I bring this subject up to WDNR personnel I was told I am not considering bad winters and winter kill. I consider it however scouting in April in the area we hunt found a deer yard where the evidence of over 40 deer could be counted killed and completely consumed. We simply no longer see deer tracks, but plenty of wolf tracks. Yes this is anecdotal evidence.

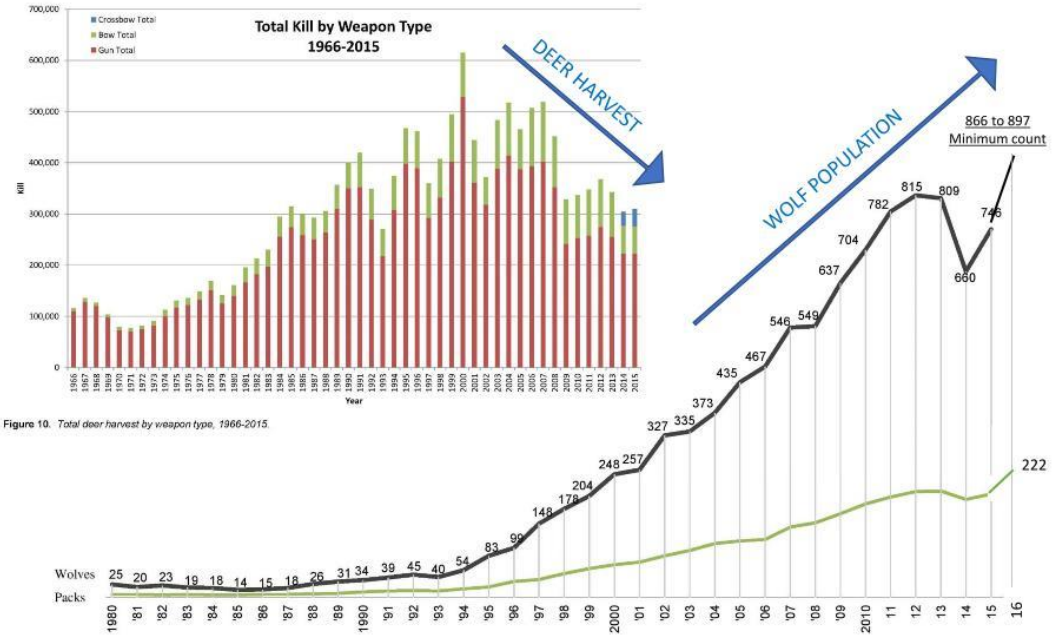


Figure 10. *Total deer harvest by weapon type, 1966-2015.*

Figure 3. Changes in Wisconsin Gray Wolf Population: 1980- 2016

Many see wolves as a method to reduce deer costs. This argument reminds me of the same argument why we should allow recreational pot because alcohol is worse. So we compound the problem by having two expenses on the books rather than one and even if marginally successful and the deer herd is drastically reduced the 600,000 hunters no longer participate.

As compiled by Welcome To Hunting Works For Wisconsin

Economic Data

HUNTING IS PART OF WISCONSIN'S CULTURE

- **895,000 people hunt** in Wisconsin each year.

- **12 million days** are spent hunting in Wisconsin.

HUNTING SUPPORTS WISCONSIN'S ECONOMY

- Hunters support over **34,000 jobs** in Wisconsin.
- Hunting generates **$1 billion in salaries and wages**.
- Yearly spending by hunters in Wisconsin is **$2.6 billion**.
- The average Wisconsin hunter spends **$2,800 each year**.

HUNTING IS A KEY SOURCE OF TAX REVENUE

- Hunters generate **$228 million in taxes** for the state of Wisconsin.
- Wisconsin hunters pay **$263 million in federal taxes**.

WISCONSIN HUNTING: THE BOTTOM LINE

- The total ripple effect from hunting in Wisconsin is **$4 BILLION.**

The next area of consideration looks at depredation. This chart can be located at https://p.widencdn.net/7o52me/WolfDamagePayments

Wisconsin Annual Wolf Damage Payment Summary (rev.2/22/22)

Cal Year	Calves $	#	Missing Calves $	#	Cattle $	#	Cattle Vet $	#	Hunting Dogs $	#	Hunting Vet $	#	Pet Dogs $	#	Pet Vet $	#	Captive Deer $	#	Sheep $	#	Horse/ Donkey $	#	Llama $	#	Pig $	#	Goat $	#	Chickens $	#	Turkey $	#	Total $
85	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	200.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	200.00
86	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
87	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	2,500.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	2,500.00
88	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
89	400.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	400.00
90	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	2,500.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	2,500.00
91	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	187.55	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	851.00	115	0.00	0	1,038.55
92	80.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	300.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	304.00	10	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	684.00
93	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	1,000.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	600.00	6	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	1,600.00
94	900.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	5,000.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	225.00	25	0.00	0	6,125.00
95	1,500.00	6	0.00	0	0.00	0	9.75	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	1,509.75
96	2,040.00	8	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	9,500.00	4	175.45	2	0.00	0	203.37	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	11,918.82
97	3,600.00	9	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	8,250.00	5	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	11,850.00
98	2,198.00	5	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	6,200.00	6	225.82	2	0.00	0	716.34	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	9,340.16
99	13,471.82	26	5,724.00	12	0.00	0	0.00	0	8,750.00	5	201.65	1	500.00	1	162.00	1	55,250.00	29	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	220.00	44	0.00	0	84,279.47
00	3,030.00	7	475.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	1,350.00	1	0.00	0	750.00	2	0.00	0	13,000.00	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	25.00	4	0.00	0	18,630.00
01	2,308.96	4	12,694.08	21	0.00	0	0.00	0	28,150.00	13	378.20	1	0.00	0	71.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	3,731.90	65	120.00	8	47,454.14
02	7,175.00	11	0.00	0	3,500.00	1	429.00	2	22,000.00	11	151.60	1	500.00	1	238.00	3	8,100.00	5	2,453.50	27	10,000.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	54,497.10
03	6,950.00	12	1,450.00	2	2,400.00	2	0.00	0	12,550.00	7	332.21	1	0.00	0	1,549.68	3	1,200.00	1	1,425.00	11	2,250.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	30,106.89
04	32,093.33	49	32,146.62	53	7,250.00	5	0.00	0	24,500.00	11	1,868.18	3	1,900.00	3	2,868.47	3	5,300.00	6	2,025.00	15	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	109,941.60
05	19,509.00	30	1,900.00	3	9,175.00	5	64.50	1	28,750.00	14	1,628.95	3	5,300.00	4	527.95	2	0.00	0	750.00	3	4,750.00	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	72,355.40
06	34,897.33	41	7,450.00	6	9,450.00	5	129.00	1	51,000.00	21	4,081.30	6	4,000.00	3	2,471.89	6	0.00	0	970.00	6	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	350.00	50	0.00	0	114,799.52
07	18,745.00	25	6,990.00	9	1,000.00	1	0.00	0	26,500.00	11	908.95	2	5,735.00	3	1,128.93	4	0.00	0	1,400.00	6	6,500.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	68,907.88
08	22,684.46	26	26,950.00	21	18,000.00	13	0.00	0	52,500.00	22	100.50	1	2,200.00	2	2,567.52	5	3,500.00	1	150.00	1	0.00	0	3,500.00	1	600.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	134,752.48
09	27,442.43	37	2,550.00	4	0.00	0	46.00	1	47,500.00	19	4,665.64	6	4,450.00	4	2,814.28	5	0.00	0	360.00	2	1,500.00	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	91,328.35
10	28,936.50	38	28,050.00	28	27,325.00	18	0.00	0	44,651.00	19	1,779.85	4	8,730.00	6	6,146.36	11	55,000.00	6	1,225.00	6	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	150.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	201,993.51
11	42,457.00	54	190,702.00	257	22,231.00	15	414.82	2	42,000.00	17	3,348.41	5	1,250.00	2	401.20	2	20,000.00	2	8,850.00	43	2,000.00	1	500.00	1	0.00	0	1,975.00	11	0.00	0	0.00	0	336,129.43
12	27,926.00	40	95,519.20	115	6,919.00	9	0.00	0	16,500.00	7	0.00	0	1,000.00	1	87.11	1	150.00	1	135.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	900.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	149,136.31
13	20,332.00	26	52,362.00	*62	14,348.00	15	136.75	2	56,000.00	23	0.00	0	5,300.00	3	79.61	1	2,575.00	6	200.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	151,333.36
14	22,514.00	22	51,055.00	*41	6,885.00	4	0.00	0	50,000.00	20	5,827.32	5	1,000.00	2	1,503.53	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	138,784.85
15	23,315.00	31	73,771.00	98	25,307.00	15	188.84	1	55,000.00	22	3,224.70	3	8,800.00	6	1,113.69	2	8,325.00	4	0.00	0	1,200.00	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	150.00	10	110.00	2	200,505.23
16	11,905.00	28	51,590.00	117	8,650.00	9	0.00	0	99,400.00	41	5,367.91	6	4,800.00	6	476.43	2	0.00	0	14,008.00	20	1,000.00	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	197,197.34
17	11,700.00	29	37,426.00	79	2,700.00	3	0.00	0	39,400.00	17	6,701.13	6	2,500.00	1	1,573.10	1	0.00	0	600.00	4	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	102,600.23
18	20,578.50	26	49,163.00	56	3,310.00	4	429.25	2	45,000.00	18	16,683.65	11	2,500.00	1	1,344.80	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	5,500.00	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	144,509.20
19	16,382.10	23	70,262.58	103	5,975.00	5	1,435.36	4	56,800.00	23	4,287.23	4	1,700.00	2	3,046.47	3	9,500.00	1	11,810.00	56	0.00	0	4,000.00	2	200.00	1	4,350.00	9	0.00	0	0.00	0	189,748.74
20	38,091.08	37	84,772.82	111	14,855.96	10	371.11	1	72,500.00	29	5,161.44	6	8,100.00	4	2,538.91	4	0.00	0	4,175.00	16	12,300.00	5	0.00	0	0.00	0	1,200.00	60	0.00	0	0.00	0	244,066.32
21	22,645.26	30	38,657.67	*51	24,988.00	10	3,125.50	2	37,500.00	15	5,310.95	6	5,850.00	3	544.18	1	14,875.00	4	13,347.50	25	12,500.00	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	179,344.06
	685,757.77	684	923,669.97	1,250	214,268.96	149	6,779.88	20	953,251.00	406	72,598.39	87	77,165.00	61	34,164.82	68	196,775.00	69	64,988.00	262	59,500.00	26	8,000.00	4	800.00	2	7,375.00	23	5,676.90	234	1,306.00	150	3,112,067.69

* Missing calves rule was in place limiting compensation to 5 missing calves for each verified depredation.
\# Indicates the number of that species compensation was provided on.

Depredation reimbursement started in 1982. Not until 2001 do we see an uptick in depredation, especially in livestock, but we also see this in regard to dogs. As reported in Wolf depredation on domestic animals in Wisconsin, *1916-2000, Adrian 'lkeues, Rarldle X..Jurcwicz. Lisa .\Talrglzton -Treues,Robert A. Rose, Robert C. CFTllging, and Adrian P. Weydeven*

"In Wisconsin, USA, over the past 2 *5* years, wolves have recolonized mixed forest-agriculture habitats range beyond public lands and recolonize agriculture and now number approximately 250 animals. Human-wolf conflict has resurfaced as a result."

Population size, pack size, normalization to people, and greater opportunity provide the axis for greater and greater depredation. These costs can be minimized if insufficient revenues from harvest sales occur however intolerance to wolves will accelerate and could provide impetus for lawsuits that in turn would be more costly to the state.

In the last few years we had a wolf visit our farm in Waukesha for approximately 18 months. She had three pups, reared them and I watched how she weaned them. She brought them to the edge of our hayfield and proceeded to cross over the middle. The pups would not follow. Within 30 days of that act one pup was hit and killed by a car and was confirmed 100% wolf. I reported this to the WDNR who scoffed, claimed they were coyotes until I described the size, then coydogs, and then wanted to know where I was trained in wolf identification at which point I suggested they come and observe from our dining room window as she was a frequent visitor. I heard laughter as they hung up. Recently 2022-2023 we heard a wolf howl.

Wolves follow the deer not the boundaries we place upon them and if unchecked or managed will adapt to every condition of the state. As more and more packs develop, individuals move to avoid conflict and will establish new ranges and to adapt to them. (Adrian P. Weydeven) The desire by some is to repopulate the entire historical range of the wolf.

Why is depredation and dispersal important? Wisconsin's primary business is agriculture and livestock, both beef and dairy.

Farms Operations[†]

Farm Operations - Area Operated, Measured in Acres / Operation	222
Farm Operations - Number of Operations	64,100
Farm Operations - Acres Operated	14,200,000

A study conduct by UW Madison:
"Wisconsin's farms and agricultural businesses generate **$104.8 billion** in economic activity and 437,700 jobs, based on data for 2017, according to a new study from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. This is an increase from a 2012 study that found agriculture generated $88.3 billion in economic activity and 413,500 jobs in the state."

Our dairy industry Wisconsin's namesake:
"What percentage of Wisconsin's Agricultural receipts are dairy products?
Dairy products account for over 1/2 (54%) of Wisconsin's total agricultural receipts earning the state the #2 position among the states behind California for the production of dairy products."

Milk Production [†]

Milk - Production, Measured in Lb / Head	24,884
Milk - Production, Measured in $	5,959,976,000
Milk - Production, Measured in Lb	31,702,000,000

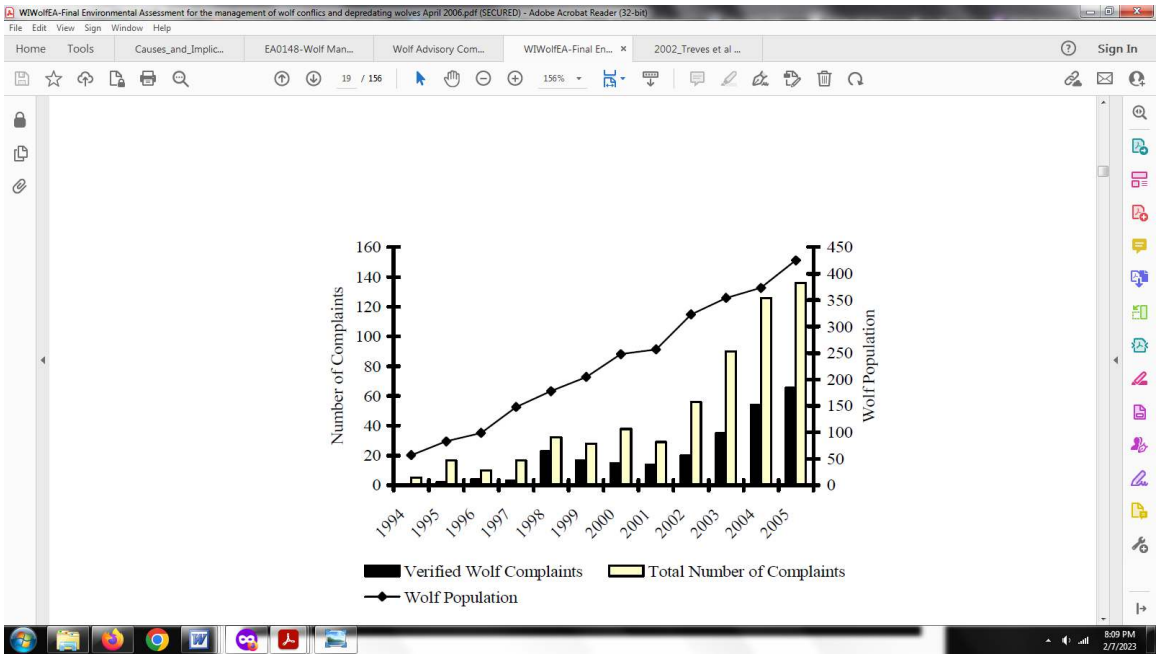
Stress in dairy herds will stop milk production and create conditions where cows will not impregnate. Loss of milk production will impact our cheese industry as well.

“The stress of predation by wolves can cause cows to lose pregnancies, **lower milk production** and lead to smaller weight gains, said Mattias Gugel, Tiffany’s

Livestock Inventory †

Cattle, Cows, Beef - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022)	295,000
Cattle, Cows, Milk - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022)	1,275,000
Cattle, Incl Calves - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022)	3,500,000
Cattle, On Feed - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022)	270,000
Goats, Milk - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022)	74,000
Sheep, Incl Lambs - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022)	82,000
Hogs - Inventory (First of Dec. 2021)	365,000
Chickens, Broilers - Production, Measured in Head	55,900,000

Wolf population increase by nature increases complaints, depredation, and intolerance.



Final Environmental Assessment For The Management of Wolf Conflicts and Depredating Wolves in Wisconsin, April 2006

Considering that the wolves inhabit approximately 25% of the state in 2022 and we see the cost in depredation accelerating as they expand is not a smart plan for Wisconsin or the wolf as they move deeper into more intensive agricultural areas.

Other positives I have heard regarding the wolf regard tourism where people will flock to hear wolves howling or perhaps even see a wolf. These are a few testimonials I have captured from people living in wolf country. One 64 year old woman jogging in white shorts and a white tank top had a revolver strapped to her waist. Not usually what one sees in jogger attire. I stopped to talk with her to learn why. She has a regular run she does everyday of nice weather. This particular day he caught movement coming through the woods right toward her and thought at first a deer. When she saw it her next thought was a dog but then realized it was a wolf. A neighbor who just happened by right then saw what was happening and had her get in their car. The wolf stopped and watched them for 20 minutes before heading off. She does not know what would have happened but carries the sidearm ever since.

Land o Lakes has invested in a bike path. A man was surveying it for a ride with his kids that afternoon when he saw three wolves heading right toward him. He accelerated and as he said fortunately he was faster on the bike. He did not return with his kids.

A bow hunter was preparing for the afternoon hunt. His last act of preparation was strapping a holster and pistol on his waist. Thinking he was not aware I suggested he not take the gun as the DNR will ticket him for carrying it while bow hunting. His response, "I don't give a F#&* what the DNR think. I have had so many issues with wolves I plan on always carrying. This is the third spot I have hunted to get away from them and they are everywhere."

In 1997 or 98 I saw my first wolf while deer hunting. It ran up and stopped 10 yards from me. We stood and assessed each other for a few minutes and then it left. A big beautiful grey. The next day my dad had it run up within 5 yards. He turned hearing it running thinking it was a deer upon which it pulled up short.

My recent experiences 2018-2021 have not been as wonderful. Walking to a stand one morning I saw three wolves coming toward me. I got to a clearing and watched as they circled. I could only see shadows in the moonlight. They finally departed and when I could no longer hear them proceeded toward my stand. I could hear them returning. I climbed the ladder and had them with me until 10:30 that morning. I left the woods when they departed.

The last encounter left me more rattled. As I still hunted to a location I knew about I saw 5 distinct wolf tracks in the sand. They were moving ahead of me. I got to where I wanted to sit and they were still moving along the road away to the west. I eased up along a ridge and was about to sit when a wolf west howled. This was answered to the east, north, and south in close proximity. I worked back to the road and headed to a knoll that provided good visibility. 20 minutes after taking up this position I watched a grey

and a black walk through the marsh. I left the woods. We saw no deer for the fifth year in a row.

These are not events that improve tourism. Many hunters I knew have gone south to hunt.

My goal is not to eliminate wolves in the state but to place them in a manageable number minimizing conflict. I am concerned that what we will see are more wolf attacks as experienced by Ray Calaway, Wood County having lost three guard dogs and 13 sheep.

As a livestock seed stock producer whose primary job is care, husbandry, and protection of our animals the idea of watching wolves tear into them and not allowed to do anything but watch is abhorrent as it would be to anyone. Reimbursement of loss of any one would be insufficient for the loss in genetic gain and uniqueness of 25 years of careful breeding.

With the uncontrolled population of wolves on the Indian reservation, 350 wolves to plan would provide all the benefits but minimize the damages and conflict. The idea that the state is even considering a taking of 6 miles around the Indian Reservation is baffling. The wolves like Yellowstone would have the protection of the Reservation. Should they move out of the reservation for some reason they become wards of the state and subject to the states rules. I suppose Indians could claim ceded rights but that involves harvest not mandating protection of certain species.

There are many reasons the state should abide by the 1999 plan of 350 plus or minus 10%. First, improve the opportunity of elk introduction. Second, restore conditions so that deer can recover and build the herds as CDAC's are working toward. Third, eliminate the threat to agriculture and livestock farmers and preserve the economic stability and ability to the state. Improve conditions for hunting not only for deer but all species such as Grouse that many who used to hunt in the state refuse to risk their dogs. It will allow tourism in the north as they work very hard to create economic opportunity to residents. And last it will reduce intolerance for wolves providing a successful path toward introduction.

The WDNR posts areas of the state that should be avoided because of wolf issues. Various surveys show that although most Americans value wolves, they do not do so to the exclusion of important human needs (Kellert 1986, 1987, 1999; Tucker and Pletscher 1989, Thompson and Gasson 1991, Wolstenholme 1996). Wolves Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation, Page 296.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael A Morack
[redacted]
Waukesha, WI 53189-7965
[redacted]

WISCONSIN DNR: WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMENTS
101 SOUTH WEBSTER STREET
P.O. BOX 7921
MADISON, WI 53707-7921

February 28, 2023

JOHN MOODY
[redacted]
GREEN BAY, WI 54324

Dear Wisconsin DNR wolf management plan comment reviewers:
Read the entire 139 page wolf draft plan and here are my comments:

- Set a population goal
- Eliminate any buffer zone around Indian reservations
- Take action or Wisconites "will take matters into their own hands
  Wisconsin Motto "FORWARD" ie: Non action on feral cat issue years ago... haven't seen a feral cat in the northwoods since then.

As for Mission Statement: Full range of outdoor opportunities:

- Wolves @ boat landings (Tamarack Lounge, Vilas Cty numerous wolves carrying away goose gosslings)
- Wolf tracks + scat + sightings while trout fishing (lots of kids not carrying Concealed weapons permits, bear spray, airhorns or weapons)
- Won't hunt Alvin, WI area due to wolves surrounding vehicle upon return.
- Wolf didn't run away while performing annual cleaning of wood duck nesting boxes

Numerous other outdoor opportunities and license revenue lost due to wolf concerns detailed p.15 (wolf packs are capable of killing bear as large as adult females) LIABILITY IF ANYONE GETS HURT

Basically: In tune with The Wisconsin Trappers Association, Wis Bear Hunters Association and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation view points.

I am owner in part of the Northwoods, recreate there all year, responsible and good land stewards.

Sincerely, John Moody

cc: File

I'm writing in regards to the DNR wolf management plan. If the DNR knew anything about managing wolves, they would have a bounty on them to get rid of them. Back in the days of common sense, that's what our forefathers did, and it worked. After that we had no deer, cattle or hounds getting killed by wolves. And no thousands of dollars getting paid for wolf damage every year. The money paid is not enough anyway for a hound. You raise a young hound pup with your kids, and hunt it with your kids, and it becomes one of the family. Then it gets shredded by a pack of wolves and the DNR gives you $2500 for it. That's just as big a joke as the DNR itself.

The DNR is supporting liberal, anti-hunting, and environmental groups more than sportsmen and hunters. If the people would all get together and tell the DNR we're not buying a gun deer license until the DNR comes up with a wolf season, it would wake the DNR up. But, the people aren't that smart so it won't happen.

The DNR knows nothing about managing small game either. Back in the day there was a $20 bounty on coyotes and $5 on foxes. To match those bounties today it would be about $175 on coyotes and about $45 on foxes. Fishers and otters should also have bounties on them. The fishers got the snowshoe rabbits next to the point of extinction.

I want a response to this letter.

Gary Muench
[redacted]

To: Wolf Management Plan Comments February 28th, 2023

Grey Wolf Facts

I attended all the early wolf information meetings on wolf recovery because as a Timber Manager there was talk of restricting timber harvesting in prime wolf habitat areas. Our company owned 40,000 acres in prime wolf habitat areas that had been managed for 80 years for hardwood sawlogs. After some studies it was determined that wolves' main diet is deer, and selective logging attracts deer, so the set aside was dropped. Then there was a proposal on how many wolves were needed to sustain recovery. If I remember right, I think the first number was 60 wolves in northern Wisconsin but from there the number kept rising until it was over 300, now we have 1500-2000.

Nobody at these meetings from northern Wisconsin was in favor of wolf recovery, but all the experts from southern Wisconsin felt we needed wolves up here. They told us that wolves howling would be music to our ears and the local businesses would fill their pockets from tourists traveling north to view and listen to wolves' howl. This turned out to be the exact opposite because once our deer herd was destroyed by wolves the businesses were empty during hunting season. As a matter of fact, a high percentage of northern hunters headed south or west to where there are some deer.

It is unsafe to take your bird dog or hunting hound in areas with wolves. A friend of mine in Laona had wolf tracks on his deck and one night his dog was barking by the patio door and there was a wolf two feet from his glass. Then a wolf bit and squeezed the cyclone wire on his dog kennel together but couldn't get in. His dog was outside later and went missing, never found. Another friend had a wolf dash out of the woods into his yard and grab his small dog in broad daylight and his wife screamed and it dropped the dog and after an $800 vet bill the dog survived. Many of my hunting friends have had dogs killed or injured while hunting.

Wolves don't only kill for food they just like to kill. Being out in the woods every day marking timber, cruising timber, or setting up timber sales for 45 years, it's easy to see what is going on. I've seen hundreds of dead wolf-killed deer on our logging jobs and a high percentage were killed and left to rot. Wolves very selfdom come back and eat deer they've killed the day before. Most wolf -deer chases are no more than 200 yards because a wolf can outrun the deer. These kills are very unsightly with a foot wide blood trail with these deer struggling for their life. A deer's only protection is running and the only thing that they can't outrun is a wolf. Where I hunt, the wolves howl at about 8pm to start the hunt, then they howl if they make a kill, or at 8 or 9 am when they return to get back together for the day.

There has been much misinformation as for historical number of wolves in the early days. (100-140 years ago) I had an old gentleman in the 1960's tell me around 1900 or before, some stray

dogs chased a deer into Crandon (Riggsville) and the deer was in such bad shape some men killed it with clubs. They hung it up on the main street in Crandon and he said people came from miles around because they had never seen a deer. I asked him if there were many wolves around at that time and he said no because there was nothing for them to eat. The deer started moving in when logging and farming began.

The point is the wolf experts say they want to restore wolves to their original numbers and right now we are 10 times over the original numbers. My grandfathers and great-uncles that worked in the woods and stayed in logging camps told me they never saw a wolf in their life. They said they heard a wolf howl occasionally. I have probably seen 20 wolves since the wolf recovery began and hear them howl almost daily. Wolves howl at noon whistles and police and rescue squad sirens during the day and night.

At one time Forest and Langlade counties had a half dozen of the best trappers around that made a living trapping for bounties and fur. I think a fox and bobcat bounty was $5.00, a coyote was $20.00, and a wolf was around $40.00. My uncle was one of these trappers and he would run a 25- or 30-mile trap line. If he caught 4 or 5 wolves a year, he felt he was successful- today he could probably catch 4 or 5 per week. He has told me wolves, if you could find one, were much easier to catch than a coyote or fox because they weren't afraid of steel trap odor.

In summary, something must be done to lower the wolf population in northern Wisconsin before they eliminate our deer herd. The few deer we have live by the road or around people's houses. In the deep woods, there are very few deer and in town it is almost impossible to grow a garden, apple trees, flowers, or shrubs in your yard due to wolves occupying the deer's preferred backwoods. Wolf management must be a commonsense program and NOT political.

Thank you,

Ken Mullins, Retired Woodland Manager

[redacted]

Crandon, WI 54520

PUBLIC COMMENT: ***Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan – 2022***

As a master naturalist, I know that establishing and maintaining robust wolf packs have an invaluable, cascading effect within ecosystems. As a concerned Wisconsinite, I know that wolves have an inherent right to be here and to flourish or decline based on the vagaries of nature—not the whims of man.

Why were wolves the only species in Wisconsin being "managed" based on an arbitrary, bare-minimum number? We must learn to live with these apex predators—allowing nature to dictate their populations. There are too many unknowns for us to be establishing numeric population goals.

Having read Section 4 of your draft plan, I believe the plan has been well thought out and I appreciate the efforts of those who were involved in its detailed compilation. It took almost 25 years for this new plan—which is too long to wait again to react if the dynamics of climate change and biodiversity suddenly cause wolf populations to dramatically change. That's why this new plan must be adaptive and must also never be guided by politics or special interests.

I have also read parts of the *Draft Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan* that will use science-based, adaptive and impact-based management as its basis. It will focus on minimizing conflicts, minimizing lethal take, and building of trust across diverse communities. Their plan acknowledges the critical need for long-term funding, as well as outreach and engagement—leaving wolves wherever they are if they are not causing problems.

Wisconsin will also need to consider funding. We need to research all non-lethal approaches to management—including wolf relocation into areas where they could flourish and become an integral part of another Wisconsin ecosystem (zone).

The fact that an irreplaceable keystone species was—and is, again—on the Endangered Species Act list indicates we have been doing things wrong.

We can assume that federal protection is unlikely to last forever. We must do our best to ensure that Wisconsin never gets caught up again in a cycle of protection, recovery, delisting, and overkill of one of Wisconsin's *gifts of nature*—the Gray Wolf. Your new plan appears to be a roadmap toward that goal.

Respectfully,

Deb Muraro
[redacted]
Dousman, WI 53118

Richard Nelson
[redacted]
Grantsburg Wis.
54840

Wolf Comment:

Maintain a population of 350 Wolves in the State of Wis.

Scott Nordin
[redacted]
Shawano, Wisconsin 54166

January 6, 2023

WI Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster Street, PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

I have read the entire draft Wolf Management Plan and have submitted online comments to observe the format. Although it is obvious that your administration is not concerned with receiving public input regarding this plan, my concerns follow:

1. The draft plan, released the day after the election, reeks of partisan influence. Its debut is long overdue, intentionally to delay any potential harvest of wolves. The present administration has no desire to effectively manage the wolf population. They'd rather let the wolves manage themselves.

2. The online public comment is tailored to conform to the desires of the administration. Initially this was the only way to comment, excluding those without internet. The public survey included in the plan is completely biased, solicited to a majority of urbanites with no clue about nature except what they see, hear or read via the liberal media. Why are there no public hearings scheduled in wolf country where the people are most affected by this plan? Many counties have passed ordinances in support of a maximum goal of 350 wolves. Where is this covered in the plan?

3. My biggest objection is the lack of any population goal. Without it there is no accountability. You expect us to trust you to manage the population, but you've lost my trust. Your population estimate is way low. You only count packs, no dispersing wolves or lone wolves, no pups. By neglecting to include a population goal you have absolved yourself of any credibility. Your count prior to the 2021 hunt was 1126 wolves. Hunters/trapper harvested 216 in 48 hours. There is no way they could kill 19% of the population in that period. The population estimate was/is way low. Your plan is biased against hunting wolves with dogs. Why, because this method has proven to be efficient in reducing the wolf population? This method should be considered a valuable tool.

4. The plan calls for increased buffer zones, especially around tribal lands. I object to this. The tribes were consulted regarding the plan, but the local tax paying residents were largely ignored. Any agricultural businesses within these increased buffer zones will be adversely affected, as will the residents, their pets and livestock.

5. I have been hunting and trapping for more than 50 years. The overpopulation of wolves has decimated the deer population in the northwoods. The remaining deer are congregated near the cities and residential areas which provide some refuge. There are very few deer in the wilderness areas. The wolves are a big problem for coyote and fox trappers. My brother and I trap from Shawano all the way north to the Upper Peninsula. Wolves are everywhere in this range. Some of our best coyote areas have so much wolf sign we won't set traps. Even though we avoid areas with heavy wolf sign we still catch them in other areas. We caught and released 8 wolves the last couple years. They are a time consuming problem and safety hazard to release. They also kill/mutilate many coyotes and fox that are in our traps. Observed wolf sign in our trapping areas has continually increased but your population estimate remains stagnant.

Sincerely,

Scott Nordin

WI Draft WMP Talking Points

What we like:

We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including:

- Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.
- There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves
- The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves
- The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)

What we don't like:

- The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below):
    - wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing
    - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones
    - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution
- The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.
- The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.
    - A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.

    - Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.
- The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.
    - Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods.
    - Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation.
    - Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.
- The plan should *require* the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.
- The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).
    - All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed).
    - Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science).
- Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and

especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F).

- There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence)
- There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider *each individual wolf* as a *person* and *relative*. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan.
- In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns *for wolves* point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.
- 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

Rating: 4-5

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Feb. 17, 2023

WI DNR
Madison, WI

Dear DNR Wolf Mangement:

The state is able to set seating capacity for resterants and buses. But can not set a target goal for number of wolfs to be in the state! It's like sending your kids to school that does not give out grades "No Accountability"

Sincerely -

Dana Olson
[redacted]
Grantsburg, WI 54840

To Whom it may Concern.

1. We need a Wolf Population Cap #
   Various counties have Voted on a 350 Population Goal of Wolfs.
2. Allowing a Soverign nation Control over private Property rights and Not allowing Lethal Control when needed

Please adress these Issues

Thank you,
Sam Pharris

Samuel Pharris
[redacted]
New Berlin, WI 53151

MILWAUKEE WI 530
10 FEB 2023 PM 2 L

WI DNR
Wolf Management plan Comments
101 S Webster ST
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

53707-79212 1

The wolf is an iconic species. They should be left alone. Farmers and Ranchers have an obligation to protect their animals without harming the wolf and other wildlife. They can own dogs as one successful means among others.

Marie Sporer Murphy
[redacted]
West Bend, WI 53095
2-27-23

MOUNTAIN LIONS

The eyes of cougars face forward and are close together, giving them excellent depth perception and the ability to precisely judge distance. Cougars have the most highly developed binocular vision of all carnivores.

Hello,

Please protect our wolf population! These majestic animals are a very important part of our world! We need to ban recreational killing of these beautiful animals. Work to increase protections and only use non-lethal conflict Resolution.

Thank you,
Karen Verhasselt

Mountain Lion Foundation
Protecting California Wildlife

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Wolf Management
Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison WI
53707-7921

MOUNTAIN LIONS

A mountain lion's coat is not the only feature that changes color. Their eyes, light blue at birth, are golden brown by 16 to 17 months of age.

Attention: DNR

Please support wolf protections by using non-lethal conflict resolutions and consider a total ban of recreational killing.

Sincerely, A. Dorn

Mountain Lion Foundation
Protecting California Wildlife

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Wolf Mgmt.
Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box ~~53707~~
7921
Madison, WI
53707

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Cats and many other carnivores walk upright on their toes, a stance known as digitigrade. Webbed skin and fur between the toes muffle sound as the cat walks.

Dear Wolf Management Committee,

Please support increasing wolf protections. These majestic animals are important preditors and part of the natural balance of our world!! I ask that you ban recreational killing of these animals. We should only use non-lethal conflict resolution!

Thank-you! Karen Arnold

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI
53707-7921

Mountain Lion Foundation
Protecting California Wildlife

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MOUNTAIN LIONS

As they grow stronger and more skilled at stalking, cougar kittens will leave their mother for days at a time to hunt on their own. This growing independence is a precursor to young lions striking out in search of their own home range.

Dear ~~W~~olf Management plan comments,

Please support increasing wolf protections & Total ban of recreational killing. This require non-lethal conflict resolutions.

Many thanks
From people who care!

101 S. Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin
53707-7921

Mountain Lion Foundation
Protecting California Wildlife

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V1713

My comment to your committee is a request that wolves not be a target of recreational hunting, and that you protect these creatures from lethal processing that harms the wolf population. Thank you for listening.

Wolf Management Plan Comments
PO Box 7921
Madison WI
53707-7921

La Elegante Zona Residencial del Río Cuale.
So-called "Gringo Gulch" on the Cuale River.
Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México.

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804 McKenzie Avenue
Fort Frances, Ontario

Feb. 18, 2023

Dear Wolf Management Committee,
PLEASE protect the beautiful wolves of Wisconsin. Please put a total ban on the hunting of wolves. Use non-lethal means when there is an interation. Sincerely Laura Honda

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Madison, Wisconsin
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INTERNATIONAL

I strongly support increasing wolf protection and requiring non-lethal resolution of conflicts. There should be a ban on recreational hunting. Predators are vital for a healthy ecosystem.

Wendy Hrushi

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Wolf Management Plan
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Madison, WI
53707

Photo Precision Limited, St. Ives, Huntingdon

THE RIVER AVON PULTENEY BRIDGE
THE ABBEY PLC6243

I strongly support increasing wolf protections and requiring non-lethal conflict resolution. There should be a total ban on recreational hunting of predators that are vital to a functioning healthy ecosystem.
Thank you.

Wendy Hrushi

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Madison, WI
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THE ABBEY AND GARDENS, BATH PT6304

Entrance to the world's longest driving beach. 28 miles of hard packed sand. Located in southwest Washington state. A tourist playground next to the ocean.

To Wolf Managment Plan

Please support Increasing Wolf Protections
Make sure non-lethal wolf protection is required & there is a total ~~ban~~ ban of recreational killing

Miriam Bushat

POST CARD RATE
Litho in U.S.A.

POST CARD

Wolf Managment Plan
101 S. Webster St
P.O Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707

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681363

I strongly support increasing wolf protections and requiring non-lethal resolutions of conflicts. There should be a total ban on recreational hunting of the predators that are vital to a functioning healthy ecosystem.

Wendy Wrobbin

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA
Night view of the dynamic downtown skyline which features the 57-story IDS Tower.
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Post Card

Wolf Mangement Plan
101 S. Webster St
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707

I strongly support increasing wolf protections. Conflicts can be resolved without killing wolves. I support a ban on recreational wolf hunting. Predators are vital to a healthy ecosystem.

Wendy Wrobbin

COLOURMASTER INTERNATIONAL

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Wolf Management Plan
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Madison, WI
53707

THE ABBEY
PULTENEY BRIDGE

PLC6349

2.18.23

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Long, muscular legs and a flexible backbone allow strong extended strides, while its long, heavy tail provides balance on quick turns and uneven ground.

Attn: DNR

Please have a total ban of recreational killing on wolves. Please support increasing wolf protections & save our wolves. They are a keystone species & will help restore our earth. Please save our earth & our animals. Sincerely, Lisa Madsen

WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMENTS
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. BOX 7921
Madison
WI
53707 7921

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Protecting California Wildlife

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TARJETA POSTAL
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Lito en México
©

V1314

2.18.23

Attn: DNR

Please have a total ban of recreational killing on wolves. Please support increasing wolf protections & save our wolves. They are a key stone species & will help restore our earth.
sincerly, Gwendolyn

WOLF MANAGEMENT
PLAN COMMENTS
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Un Bonito Atardecer en Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco.
Beautiful twilight view, Puerto Vallarta, México.

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Feb. 18, 2023

Dear Management,

Please spread the word that wolves are an important top predator in the wild. They need understanding for their protection and the value they provide. They need human help. They are part of our natural heritage.

Gordon Frankie

Wolf Mgt. Plan
101 S. Webster St.
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Address

Feb. 18, 2023

Dear Wolf Management,

I am a hunter, but I stop short of hunting wolves. They are important for our wild heritage.

Please think clearly about the long term effect of disrupting the environment by reducing wolves, top predators

Gordon Frankie

Wolf Mgt. Plan
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin
53707-7921

I strongly support an increase in wolf protections. Conflicts between ranchers/farmers can be resolved in a non-lethal way. I support banning recreational wolf hunting. Predators are part of a healthy ecosystem

Wendy Drescher

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Wolf Management Plan
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Madison, WI
53707

ROMAN BATH AND THE ABBEY, BATH PT6342

Please support A increased Wolf protection. I want a total ban of recreational killing. When conflicts arise, please mandate nonlethal means to resolve the issue. Thank you for your attention, ♡ Yvonne Roberts

248-D

post card

Wolf Mgmt Plan Comments
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THE OZARKS IN THE SUMMERTIME
The shut-ins of Stout's Creek on Mo. 72 between Ironton and Fredricktown. A beauty spot of Arcadia Valley.
SP-101

Photo by De Pew

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LA JOLLA CAVES

Fossilized shell and water level marks indicate that the ocean's might was busy for 200,000 years boring this cave into La Jolla's rock and sandstone cliffs. Access to Sunny Jim Cave is through a man-made tunnel from the La Jolla Cave and Shell Shop.

Please support increasing Wolf Protections. require non-lethal conflict resolutions and totally ban killing Wolfs for recreational reasons.

Sincerely Melan Mueht

Wolf Management Plan
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P.O. Box 7921
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Nature's Design
P.O. Box 255, Davenport, Calif. 95017
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Photograph by FRANK S. BALTHIS ©1987

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2/18/23

Dear Wolf Management

André PRINTS ©

We Are writing to ask you to protect the Wolf Population. Do Not harm the animals! We ask you to Ban & Prohibit all recreational hunting, Ban all trophy hunting Please Use only Non lethal Non Harmful methods for conflict resolutions with Wolves

Thank you,

To: Wolf Management
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison Wisconsin
53707-7921

CA-2

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Printed in Israel

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Cats usually walk through life. Like their domestic cousins, cougars choose an easy and deliberate walking pace and as a result their tracks typically appear clean and undisturbed.

Attention: DNR

I URGE you to support increasing wolf protections by using non-lethal conflict resolutions and consider a total ban of recreational killing.

Sincerely, Audrea Dorn

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707

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Dear Committe Members -

I am writing to encourage you to support increasing wolf protections. enuel to totally ban recreational killing. Thank You.

William Gierer

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI
53707-7921

Douglas Bay at Night, Isle of Man.
Douglas illuminations continue throughout the summer. The spectacle of Douglas Bay by night as seen across the harbour is quite unforgettable.
Colour Photograph by J. Arthur Dixon Studios.
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Protect wolves. Healthy ecosystems need predators. I urge you to find non-lethal ways of resolving conflicts. I urge you to ban recreational hunting of wolves.

Karen Lee

Wolf Manegent Plan
101 S Webster St
PO Box 7921
Madisn, WI
53707

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El Hotel Camino Real en la Playa de Las Estacas.
The Camino Real Hotel on "Las Estacas" Beach.
Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México.

¡Coleccione Tarjetas Postales!

I am a deer hunter but I do not support hunting wolves. I urge you to protect wolves. No one eats them. I don't support trophy hunting.

Paul Barret

Green country

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I strongly support increasing wolf protections. Wolves are part of a healthy ecosystem. Trophy hunting has no place in modern America. Wolf-human conflicts can be resolved in a non-lethal fashion.

Mindy Rose

C5CE

Harvey Barton of BRISTOL

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Wolf Management Plan
101 S Webster St
PO Box 7921
Madison. WI
53707

Ban recreational wolf hunting. Trophy hunting has no place in modern America. I urge you to increase protections for wolves. We need top predators for healthy eco-systems.

Chris Hunter

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HOTEL FIESTA AMERICANA
La Playa, los Asoleaderos y el Paracaídista.
The Beach, the Sun Decks and the Parachute Ride.
Puerto Vallarta, Jal., México. *Foto de la Vega*

¡Coleccione Tarjetas Postales!

Looking south on 27th St. to the business district of Billings, Montana. Eastern Montana College is in the foreground. This view taken from the rims north of the city.

C29723

U.S.A.

Distributed by Billings News Inc., Billings, Montana.

Dear Wolf Management Planning
We ask you to implement immediate measures to protect & preserve the wolf population & to only use Non lethal, Non-Harmful methods to handle any conflict with wolves. Thankyou

1882

MIKE ROBERTS
BERKELEY 94710

TO:
Wolf Management Planning
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison Wisconsin
53707-7921

SOUTH DAKOTA

BUFFALO or NORTH AMERICAN BISON - These huge animals which once roamed the western plains by the millions became almost extinct. However, today with preservation and management these magnificent animals can be found in abundance in our State and National Parks and some privately owned herds.
BADLANDS - BLACK HILLS, SOUTH DAKOTA
RP 382
Photo by Dale A. Jensen

Elite PRINTS

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Dear Wolf Management,
I support a ban on trophy hunting of wolves. I urge you to support non-lethal conflict resolution. Wolves are essential to a healthy ecosystem.
Sincerely, Judith Doi

Wolf Mgmt.
Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
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Air view of southern end of Bailey Island showing Land's End and Mackerel Cove with Orr's and Great Islands in background.

C25085

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I support a ban on trophy hunting of wolves. I urge you to support non-lethal conflict resolution systems. Wolves are essential to ~~healthy~~ healthy ecosystems.
Paul Anderson

Wolf Management Plan
101 S. Webster St
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Madison, WI
53707

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V3946

as a member of a hunting family, I want to express my feeling about the hunting of a non food animal like a wolf. It doesn't make sense and insults a true hunter. Thank you for hearing all our voices

Wolf Management Plan Comments
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI
53707-7921

El moderno Transbordador "Puerto Vallarta". The modern "Puerto Vallarta" Ferry connects Vallarta with Cabo San Lucas, Baja California.
Puerto Vallarta, Jal., México.

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International

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D-18543

Hello,
I URGE you to protect our Wolf population! Please use non-lethal conflict resolutions and consider a total ban of recreational killing. Sincerely, Ted V.

Post Card

Wolf Management
Plan Comments
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Dear Committe Member -
I am writing to encourage you to support increasing wolf protections and requiring the use of non-lethal means in resolving any human-wolf conflicts. Thank you for your consideration

Wolf Management
Plan Comments -
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI
53707-7921

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Bello atardecer con la alberca del Hotel Holiday Inn.
Sunset seen from the Holiday Inn swimming pool.
Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México.

¡Coleccione Tarjetas Postales!

VIEW FROM THE MALAHAT
Vancouver Island, B.C., Canada
This scene from the Malahat Drive shows a Panorama of the Saanich Peninsula against a backdrop of the Gulf Islands and behind them Mt. Baker raising its snow-capped peak. In the foreground crossing Saanich Inlet is the Brentwood-Millbay Ferry and to the right centre are the Brentwood Bay Ferry Docks.

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23284R

WILSON DRYDEN

WDU-4 Photo by E. Otto/Milserv

101 S. Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin
53707-7921

Dear ~~Wolf Management plan~~ comments,

~~Please, support increasing wolf protections. Require non-lethal conflict resolutions.~~
Total ban of recreational killing.

From people who cares.

ROSS FOUNTAIN
LAKE GARDEN
The Butchart Gardens
Victoria, B.C., Canada
The Lake Garden is a part of the 30 acre floral extravaganza that comprises the Butchart Gardens. As night descends, the Butchart Gardens take on a fairyland aura. The Ross Fountain is spectacular as surges of water dance to the silent vibes of the changing lights.

Wright everytime

Premiere
A 100% CANADIAN PRODUCT

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24009R

WILSON DRYDEN

WVT-78 Photo by Malak

101 S. webster street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, wisconsin
53707-7921

Dear comity plz,

sopourt increasing wolf,

protection. Non leathel conflict total ban of RECREATIONAL KILLING!!!

from a child who cares.

NATURAL COLOUR
J. Arthur Dixon
PHOTOGRAVURE
POST CARD

The Lighthouse, Douglas Head, Isle of Man
This landmark is familiar to most visitors as the majority enter and leave the Island by the sea route through Douglas which is the principal port and capital town as well as being the largest holiday resort.

Colour Photograph by J. Arthur Dixon Studios
I.M. 1236

Printed and Published by J. Arthur Dixon, Ltd., Newport, I.W., England.

Dear Committe Members -

I am writing to encourage you to increase the protection of wolves. by requiring the use of non-leathal means to resolve any conflict situation & to ban recreational hunting of wolves

Thank you

William Hagener

Wolf Management Plan
Comments
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI
53707-7921

2/18/23

To Wolf Management Planning Comments

We ask that you implement a ban on the recreational hunting and also ban on all killing of wolves, bears & wildlife. Please protect these animals & use only Non harmful Methods for wildlife Management

POST CARD

POST OFFICE PREFERRED

To: Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison Wisconsin
53707-7921

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

Hand Embroidered Panel by Audrey Walker. Commissioned by the City of Bath in 1973 to commemorate 1000 years of English monarchy 973–1973.
Panel is exhibited in the sun lounge at the Pump Room, Bath, England.

2/18/23

Ask smokers to properly dispose of cigarette butts, which can pollute our waterways and harm wildlife if left on the ground.

Please support increased wolf protections. I want a total ban of recreational killing. When conflicts arise please use nonlethal means to resolve the issue.

Thank you for your attention,
Yvonne Roberts

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
coast4u.org
(800) coast4u

"A Seal on a Rock"
Kyra Baldwin
9th Grade

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S Webster St.
PO Box 7921
Madison Wisconsin
53707-7921

2007 Coastal Art and Poetry Contest Winner

Please support increased wolf protections. I want a total ban of recreational killing. When conflicts arise please mandate nonlethal means to resolve the issue.

Thank you for your attention,
Yvonne Roberts

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Post Card

Wolf Management Plan Comments
101 S. Webster St
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

2-3 DR-54408-B

2-2-23

To whom it may concern: (Wolf Management Plan Committee members)

I Find many flaws in the wolf management Plan you are currently proposing!

Some that are most concerning are:

- No triggers for population control
- having the sovereign nations having control over private property Rights, while not Allow lethal control as needed.
- Not Setting Cap Limit on population goal !! .... 36 County boards voted on 350 population CAP (no more)

Please Address these issues before you summit a final plan.

Thank you

Mike Racer
Oshkosh, WI
[redacted]

Wolf Mangement Plan Comment

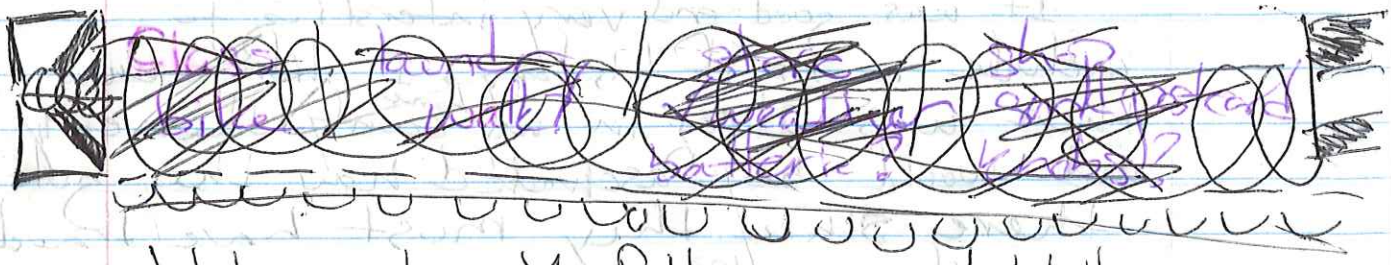
I have read the current draft wolf managment plan as well as past surveys and sat through the recent verbal public comment session. I grew up in Lincoln county and my childhood experiance of going to the School Forest and going out at night in the winter to howl for wolves was so great I have to 'defend' that as something I'd hate to have people take away from future or current generations. I read they are going to stop doing howl surveys which makes sense because I bet that the wolves can tell when it's people or some played call repeated.

Lincoln county is in 3 zones. I feel these zones don't make sense a lot but similar to hunting areas in state parks that's what happens when politics override the science. Inherently when you put multiple zones crossing over various jurisdictions or area designations it makes it more complicated to enforce regulations. When you keep changing regulations and selectively enforce them even when documented you encourage things like cruel treatment, unethical poaching, & disregard to other people and animals that aren't being targeted in a 'hunt'. (1)

I would like to see money & personel go towards research and getting rid of invasive things not hunting on species the deer (P), one of which is despicable as well as being hybridable. Speaking of the hybrids I don't think they should be released but I think they should be allowed to exist but would discourage things like wolf dogs. It [illegible] my belief after reading & hearing several misinformed commenters that past survey's instead of a survey it'd be good if efforts were taken to educate the public about varias issues that range from the wolves are actually self regulating via the amount of food and territory available to the fact that in [redacted] the deer population is [redacted] more at risk from CWD, jerks in oversized trucks ticket time and harsh winter/spring weather. I also think it's fascinating that a lot of the reported wolf depredations were actually coyotes. I feel sympathy for people whose pets or livestock get harmed but would like to see people take practical measures to avoid wolves or other things instead of hunting or killing them maybe relocate or put in co breeding program It'd be interesting to take genetic data when trapped/survey etc.

(2)

~~Politics are inside policy making~~



Wolves haven't fully recovered, while robust resident population exists, I don't believe management approach is supported, ~~with~~ although this plan seems to allow for a passive do nothing and ~~maintain a current~~ approach which makes it less bias toward 'harvest'. The population estimate being a range instead of a minimum or maximum is probably a better more nuanced way to think of it.

[My notecard got out of order so the rest of this is maybe not in order but more specific to details of the draft plan.]

'Recolonizing' is perhaps a loaded term. Whether an animal (or plant) 'belongs' somewhere is 100% a weird human judgement, nothing else cares. Sometimes you should use different phrases for the public vs science however it's a deeper conceptual issue.

It was good and very interesting to include a breif history. I didnt know there was wolves in my former county that early and would be fascinated how they got there since they must have traveled a quite a distance.

If the expansion of territory has slowed (even though the population doesn't seem to effect that as much as other factors) hunting/killing doesn't reduce conflict.

'Public harvest' is an interesting term I would like to see replaced. I do think it's correct to differentiate between general public and say wildlife services killing animals. I also think this term is a false equivalence of how likely the general public at large is or would have any interest in killing wolves.

The deer hunters having misinformed negative opinions is contributing to the wolves that are poached during deer season as well as the overlap between wolf hunt and deer hunt.

I agree with the buffer zones around reservations, and zero quotas, and hope people would respect that.

Recommending higher killing rates in (1, 2, 5) is a bit too much. Isn't the point of the plan that it makes a system to make that decision not actual permanent recommendations?

I would like the whole plan/objectives to focus more on the future because it's easy to get stuck in past issues and ways of handling things.

All wolve deaths should count toward population (unscientific to not count those). May be a moot point because moving away from hard counts but it angers me that ecspecially poached wolves may not have been counted when making decisions.

If you must have a season of killing, then in order to keep it to the number it's probably best to make any license zone specific. I think the ratio of thinking 1 kill for every 10 license is obviously not accurate and part of how too many were killed.

I support shortening the time allowed

between killing and reporting it.

Using a 1992 Federal Level or 1997 for state levels is an outrageous at of date data or basis for anything except to explain the evolution of understanding those levels were wrong and we don't know what a stainable level or whole range is at this juncture is.

I would like to see protection of den sites and more monitoring of health/genetics if they seem fairly healthy in general. Maybe worth microchiping some instead of collars but that's different possible use and data.

Strategy A5 misstates clear as primary prey of all wolves which actually varies per your own citations within this report and scientific knowledge. I realize more than one person wrote this but might want to clear some of the contradictions or statements that reinforce bias and misinformation.

6

I enjoy Aspens but not sure I support planting more and managing things like the forest mix of plants for hypothetical gains in animals. With climate change it's hard to say what survival rates of anything especially plants will be. I think elk are delicates but they face same issues as deer and making more hunters would probably make more ill informed wolf haters. Spent too much on the elk that were brought in but I'm going to stay on topic because this is already long. Have a q if elk pop ↑ pack density may change

Elk pop not high enough threat

I would like to see maximum info sharing between various stakeholders, tribes, etc.

Product D1e: May I request a skull for my skull collection? Do I need a scientific collectors license to go with that?

Abatment: Most of the abatment seem to deter and from experience it's ted attract animals away from where they shouldn't be. collars/geofence permatic ⑦

I think it should be managed by Bureau of Endangered Resources not Bureau of Wildlife management as it's federal list (despited).

There seems to me to be a lack of data about traps/trappers.

They don't bring additional disease risk anymore than similar canine species would.

I want to say I'm not in favor of labelling hybrids harmful wild animals. They are unfortunate but if habituated to people or bred they should be allowed to roam 'wild' but shouldn't be automatically euthanized either.

I object to Objective C. Bias as there's no 'satisfaction index' or similar surveys of other groups of the public such as tribes or hikers or bikers etc. The 'conservation' models of the past/current favor hunting as a use even after historic levels of mismanagement and permanent damage. This creates conflict within management that funding is somewhat dependent on certain groups.

8

I'm highly against allowing bait especially anything that may be toxic to other animals. You disrupt feeding cycles and travel of multiple species. Make them associate food with people.



Think the punishment for poaching any animals should be higher. I see voluntary compliance stated multiple times but it shouldn't mean ignoring indicators of future infractions/current ones. It's hard to police the entirety of the outdoors but seems that certain crimes should be considered more seriously.

I find it abhorrent people would use dogs to hunt dogs. Don't support a trailing season for that obviously.

Expanding territory and being generally healthy indicates they haven't reached a maximum population

Hunting in state parks is not maximum benefit to all users and wildlife. The 3R model that neglects hikers, bikers, beach goers, campers etc. You mention funding increase shooting ranges but not making more campsites or upgrading them or ancillaries. They bias appointments to committees will continue bias in use but it seems to be failing.

I don't support any night hunting. It's less safe and may encourage poaching as well as failure to registers.

If there is a hunting season please use a complete unbias lottery (no points or state vs non residents).

Don't think the public has a good grasp of issues such as habitat fragmentation, expansion and density of either the wolves or anything else frankly. Don't know it would change most opinions though. Education should focus on general issues more than complicated models etc.

I think referring to wolf range or non wolf range as to survey opinions to label people just reinforces the notions there's a part wolves are 'occupying' & that it's permanent, or there's a part they won't or aren't (known) to be in (or could). It's not statistically significant and according to your own statements it doesn't help predict people's opinions, yet creates unnecessary divisiveness people try to use to manipulate.

Framing, stereotypes, narratives are long held and are hard to annihilate. Letting people express themselves in public comments is great but I'd like to see some correction when they make highly infactual comments. Everyone is entitled to their own highly even wrong opinion but never miss a chance to give some brief factual push back on wrong facts please.

'Interesting' doesn't belong in front of 'pre' and 'post event assessment'. Not a great word choice for poorly regulated hunting of an animal that was recently almost killed to the point of extinction and intensively

(11)

It appears there's more concern about opinion then actual data and concern about science and environment in totality. I support engagement and education of the public while we acknowledge that the public is not always equal weight in decisions to people who have to implement and understand what's going on. Bias in who bothers to get involved in committees or comments.

'Regulated harvest' should be state sanctioned depletion of natural resources for personal profit unscientifically supported but politically mandated by at all state 'hunters' and gerrymandered politicians killing time.

Hunt is likely to disturb full range utilization and establishment of maximum capacity which will possibly risk population collapse/general instability, and increase conflicts and poaching.

12

I support more funding for land bridges s. wildlife and people can avoid roads/vehicle collisions. Don't think the building should be the dept but research should happen & help DOT etc with planning.

ESC: Fine but as 'general' 'opertunistic' by definition they will live everywhere they can manage to.

For an example of your 'At Large' committee appointee you cited a hunting group. So umm you doing the blab thing.

Shouldn't do CITES. Do you really need more paperwork? It takes resources away from state.

Cougar(s) is irrelvant to bring up unless it's addressing the ones known to be in the state or near by enough they roam in/through. If wolves effect establishment of territory vs keeping them moving or vis versa.

Thank you for extending the commenting period, and your welcome for adding to the legitmacy of your process.

1-4-22

To the DNR - Wolf Management.

I have read about the controversy surrounding managing the wolf population in Wisconsin in Wisconsin outdoor News. It seems there are lots of opinions, many offered by people who are not affected by the presence of wolves - such as I. But it also seems that volume is important in guiding DNR decisions. So even though I don't think you ought to listen too closely to people who don't live with the wolves, I feel obligated to express my opinion

I can't understand how the DNR can manage the population of a game animal without having an accurate idea of how many of those animals are in the state - which I don't think you do - or without having a population goal in mind. How can it possibly be determined whether you are properly managing the resources?

I know there are many directions in which the DNR is pulled by this interest group or that. You're never going to make them all happy - but the one thing you can do is have solid data to use to drive your policy to a goal so that you know when it's been achieved - & you

option for a mandated Wolf Hunt.

We need a healthy wolf population to balance out our over abundance of deer (+coyotes?).

The last mandated hunt was a disaster, resulting in overkill and embarrassment. We do not need a mandated wolf hunt. Thank you!

Florence Laidlaw
[redacted]
Viroqua, Wisconsin
54665
[redacted]

My Comment on the Wolf Management Plan, 2023 in Wisconsin

To the Wisconsin DNR:

Thank you for your hard work + dedication. I believe the plan tries to address all the issues in a balanced and fair way - However - I do not agree with the

[redacted]

Viroqua,
Wisconsin, 54665

Wolf Management Plan
Comments
101 S. Webster St.
P.O. Box 7921
Madison,
Wisconsin
53707-7921

Dear Sirs:

I understand after reviewing portions of your Wolf Management Plan, that a mandated Hunt is an option that is included in the Plan.

I oppose a mandated Wolf Hunt in the State of Wisconsin.

1. It is not necessary.
the people of Wisconsin want a healthy wolf population.
We have an overpopulation of deer, which has been troublesome for many.
Wolves can help stabilize our deer populations (coyotes as well) and bring about a greater abundance of wildlife.
about a greater abundance of wildlife.

Yellowstone in 1995 has proven to be one of the most successful Wildlife experiments. It resulted in reducing the elk populations which had been overgrazing the park, but the effects were even more important to biologists. The Ecosystem recovered, but the rivers, forests and the landscape - recovered. (https://www.bbc.com)

2. We have options for compensation if Wolves predate on livestock. Compensation for farmers - along with education (starting in grade school - & other public venues) can help to create support for a healthy wolf population.

3. The last Wolf Hunt mandated in Wisconsin resulted in a very unfortunate surplus of dead wolves. That was not only unfortunate, but counterproductive in bringing our ecosystem into balance. It went in the exact opposite direction and was a public embarrassment. That should not be repeated. In summation: Delete the mandated

understand the DNR is charged with producing a document that is scientifically and socially acceptable. By an intentional and well planned public awareness initiative, I believe the DNR can accomplish a plan which benefits the citizens of the state & reinforces our need for a balanced ecosystem. We have an abundance of deer in the state that can be managed by a healthy wolf population. No hunt is needed. I thank the public servants of our state for their dedication and hard work.

Sincerely,
Florence Sandok
[redacted]
Viroqua,
Wisconsin
54665
[redacted]

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation 2·22·2022
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI. 53707-7921

Wisc. Dept of Natural Recroos,

Its time to get these Wold Studys over with.

I have hunted 16 Western and Southern states and have read these studys for over 50 years. I am 82 years old.

Every state has almost the same answer to things that don't change from state to state

Like every Wolf needs the equivalent of a deer every 5 to 7 days. This has been the same to a long long time. Most range patterns, what there hunting pattern and distance is does not change.

These studys should be done a long-long time ago including how many Wolves there are

I have had a large pack of hounds since 1959 and have spent a large amount of time in the Woods.

I've hunted 16 western States all of Canada, Alaska, Mexico, Russia and Mongolia - I do have a background on what is going on outdoors. We do have an over population of Wolves in Wisconsin. You will never get ahead of them.

Sincerely
Paul W Schroeder
[redacted]

Received 1-4-2023

Wolf plan comments

After reading and rereading section 4 it is quite obvious the plan was written by wolf lovers for wolf lovers which Randy Johnson is one of them.

Without any numeric population goal, there is no accountability in the plan. Everything is left up to the wolf loving DNR biologist, tribes, and their wolf loving committee.

As I see it, the plan is to let the wolf population increase way beyond its current population which is way too high now. I suggest you do something to get the maximum population down to 350 wolves in the state, not letting the wolf population run wild like it is now.

Another thing the subzone around reservations is nothing but a big cop-out to the tribes. These subzones should be treated the same as the main zone. Maybe the tribes should fence the reservations to keep their wolves on tribal land. Then they would not have to worry about any of their wolves being harvested.

This is not a plan, but an insult to the people that live in the north woods. It is a farce with no intentions of decreasing the number of wolves in the state.

The December 16, 2022 issue of the Wisconsin Outdoor News has two articles in it one by Dean Bortz "Conservation Congress, WWF oppose wolf plan" and the other "Commentary" by Laurie Groskopf. You may want to read them; you may learn how people other than wolf lovers feel.

In summary, section 4 of the plan should be put in the trash can and a plan with some accountabilty and population numbers be developed.

Vern Keesler
[redacted]
Lakewood, WI 54138

I agree with Verns comments 100%
Dan Smyth
[redacted]
Lakewood, Wi. 54138

February 17, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I believe there are 2 major aspects of the proposed wolf management plan that need to be resolved before any plan is adopted. These aspects are:

- there are no triggers for population control of the wolves in Wisconsin.

- there is no set number as a goal for wolves in Wisconsin.

There needs to be a set population goal and triggers with actions to maintain that goal.

Sincerely,

Ed Smoe

FEB 17, 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

REGARDING THE PROPOSED WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN, I HAVE TWO ISSUES THAT I FEEL NEED TO BE ADDRESSED.

1) THERE IS NO SET POPULATION GOAL FOR WOLVES IN THE STATE. SIXTY NINE COUNTIES HAVE VOTED ON A GOAL OF 350 WOLVES, THESE COUNTIES NEED TO HAVE THEIR CONCERNS HEARD

2) THE PROPOSED PLAN LIMITS PROPERTY RIGHTS OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS BY AFFORDING CONTROL OF WOLF POPULATIONS TO SOVEREIGN NATIONS, WHEN WOLF TERRITORIES COVER BOTH PRIVATE LAND AND LAND BELONGING TO SOVEREIGN NATIONS.

I REQUEST THAT THESE TWO ISSUES BE ADDRESSED BEFORE ANY WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN IS ADOPTED.

THANK YOU,

Fran Snow

2/17/2023

To whom it may concern;

After reading the proposed wolf management plan, there are several issues I feel need to be resolved.

- Private Property rights. Wolf population control should not grant sovereign nations control over private lands owned by citizens.

- Population Goal. There needs to be a solid, published number for a wolf population goal in the state. This number should be based on biological and cultural carrying capacity.

- Population Control Triggers. There need to be clear triggers for wolf population management within the state.

Please address these concerns before accepting a wolf management plan.

Thank You,
Kyle Snow

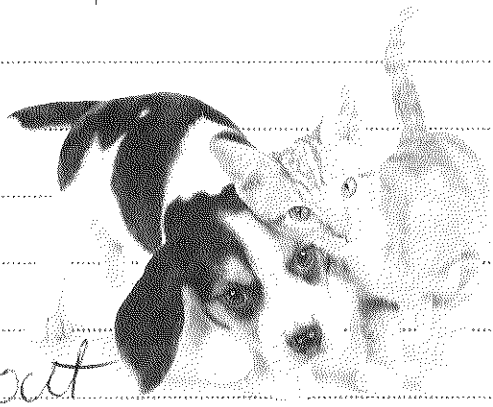
Jan 20 2023

To WDFW management,

I do not understand you people out west. Why you want to kill all the wolves

If there are no wolves the whole eco system will feed animals who are sick will get others sick. wolves take out the sick and the old.

You people need to Rethink your decision about



wolves

God made these creatures for a Reason.

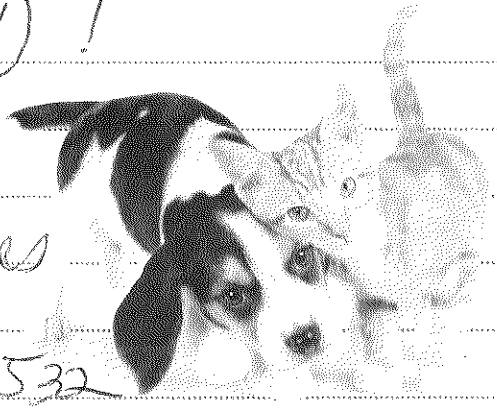
NOT for them all to be slaughtered away.

They serve a great purpose in this world.

The worse killer and destructer is

MAN!

Sincerely
Cathy Stanwicks
[redacted]
Northboro, MA 01532



www.spcai.org

Gary W. Sutherland
[redacted]
Brodhead, WI 53520

Dear Wis. DNR:

I just want to expess my disappointment in your new wolf plan. It is very poorly thought out and very incomplete. It does not address all the problems the wolves have created. The DNR needs to listen to the people who live in wolf areas and needs to listen to the Wis. Wildlife Federation.

Thank You

G W Sutherland

received 1-9-2023

Wolf plan comments

After reading and rereading section 4 it is quite obvious the plan was written by wolf lovers for wolf lovers which Randy Johnson is one of them.

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As I see it, the plan is to let the wolf population increase way beyond its current population which is way too high now. I suggest you do something to get the maximum population down to 350 wolves in the state, not letting the wolf population run wild like it is now.

Another thing the subzone around reservations is nothing but a big cop-out to the tribes. These subzones should be treated the same as the main zone. Maybe the tribes should fence the reservations to keep their wolves on tribal land. Then they would not have to worry about any of their wolves being harvested.

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In summary, section 4 of the plan should be put in the trash can and a plan with some accountabilty and population numbers be developed.

Vern Keesler
[redacted]
Lakewood, WI 54138

I agree with Vern Keesler.
Sincerely,
Ginger Szykowny
[redacted]
Lakewood, WI 54138

Comments DRAFT 2022 Wisconsin DNR Wolf Management Plan

Richard P. Thiel

[redacted]

Tomah, WI 54660

1. (Page 4) Habitat Use and Requirements –
A. No mention is made of *Simpson 2019* CFR demographic analyses on wolf responses to habitat quality. Her work is ground-breaking and conducted within Wisconsin and should not be overlooked. A paper submitted to the Northeastern Naturalist was just accepted. Her work has direct implications when considering / constructing harvest quotas because, as she demonstrates, habitat quality impacts wolf demographics positively and negatively.
B. As written, this DRAFT plan delineates a more conservative management approach in the state's "core" wolf habitat: Zones 1, 2 and 5. Core habitat is the equivalent to Optimal and Mixed Habitat types described by *Simpson 2019*. Referring to her work adds scientific merit for a more conservative management approach in these core habitat zones.
2. Harvest Management & Total Allowable Take (TAT) -
A. I notice that this plan does not go into great detail on techniques that are applied to harvest management. Perhaps this is intentional.
B. Total Allowable Take - Practiced for uncommon, low density and rare species that are harvested (examples - grizzlies in Montana in the 1970s; polar bears currently), it is not readily apparent to the general public (and perhaps some biologists). This concept of harvest management is implicit in the DRAFT plan, but not given proper relevance in its application to the proposed management of wolves in Wisconsin. It certainly applies to Wisconsin wolves. TAT takes into consideration all known mortalities (depredation control take, vehicle, known illegal, natural causes, etc.), and evaluates this against the maximum number of animals that can be safely removed from the population without causing a decline. For wolves this is generally somewhere around 25 to 30 %, although scientific uncertainties on this maximum figure exist. I recommend a conservative approach, especially in establishing quotas in Zones 1, 2, & 5.
As an example of TAT - when all mortalities, combined, exceed 25% of the previous winters' population estimate for that zone, the harvest quota would be ZERO. This approach avoids the potential that a harvest becomes an additive source of mortality.
In Zones 1, 2 and 5 - as stated in the plan - a conservative approach is recommended. Applied, I recommend a TAT in these zones never exceed 10% of the previous winters' population estimate. Conversely, in agricultural areas subjected to chronic depredations - and in zone 6, a very liberal quota could be established, since the objective is (a) keep wolves from establishing breeding groups here, and (b) reduce existing numbers because of inordinately high levels of conflict with humans in this zone.

3. Hound Training Period Page 127 – Product c2h – pursue admin rules allowing same. I am against provisions establishing a hound training period for wolves for 3 reasons: (1) ample training is already in place and in practice by a portion of this specialized hunter community coincidental to the bear training season – and the warden force provides no meaningful enforcement against such wolf-chasing practices, (2) in an already crowded calendar of harvest

related activities on public lands, when would such an activity not conflict with these and others rightful use of public lands (non-consumptive users should also be considered in this), and (3) public sentiment opposes this (unfortunately, not that the agency has ever really cared to recognize this).

This plan should outline elements of Act 169 that are recommended for change, returning to the agency greater and rightful exercise in managing the state's wolf population. Such things as season length, legal manners of take, authorizing the agency to determine when/whether a harvest is recommended (rather than statute's present mandatory mandate), etc. should be returned to DNR.

4. Page 141: Product D1e – Use of wolf specimens. A specified percent of wolf carcasses should be offered to research and scientific museums annually to provide time-specific specimens for use by the scientific community *ad infinitum.* As presently stipulated, no *real* motivation exists to supply specimens. These collections are of benefit to future researchers. A number of museums - private and public - exist within Wisconsin and regionally (ex. Chicago's Field Museum) should be approached and agreements should be completed.

5. Page 115 – 122 Objective B – Wolf-human conflict – No provision is made for, or mentioned regarding the continuance of landowner shoot permit. Is this being considered or is it being discontinued? This provision was lauded by those of us who implemented it in the field as "giving power back to the people", reducing the angst against what is perceived as governmental interference in a person's individual rights to protect property, etc. etc. It did not result in huge numbers of wolves taken, but did bring landowners relief, returning some respect for the agency. I recommend provisions for this program be returned to the tool-box in dealing with livestock depredations.

DT 30 Jan 2023

Thanks for reading public comments on your proposed policy changes. Please draw on the citations and logic below, which represent my interpretation of evidence relating to various issues in the wolf science-policy interface.

I support the elimination of the ill-conceived population goal of 350 wolves in late winter of the 1999 plan. I support continued use of winter snow-tracking because field-based ground-truthing is the only way to sort out the mess created by the inappropriate use of the scaled occupancy model explained next.

My biggest concern about the WDNR wolf management plan is the proposed use of the scaled occupancy model (SOM) to estimate statewide wolf abundance. With Dr. F.J. Santiago-Ávila, I have found five major shortcomings in the WDNR use of the SOM that each lead to over-estimation bias. I describe the five shortcomings below but first the implications. The bias we found in methods used by the WDNR means the 2022 estimate of the state wolf population is an over-estimate by a large margin. Future use of the SOM in such an unscientific and inaccurate manner makes all future population estimates suspect. The risk of such bias is to place the wolf population in jeopardy if a wolf-hunt is ever held again. Therefore, based on the science and without remedy, I predict the next wolf-hunt will lower the state wolf population to the statutory listing level or lower (Treves A & Louchouarn NX. 2022).

5 major problems with the WDNR SOM and the application of Stauffer et al. 2021:

1. Unprecedented two winters of snow-track surveys included in the 2022 population estimate, spanning Dec 2020-Feb 2021 and Dec 2021-April 2022. This means dead wolves were likely counted towards the probability of occupancy by wolf packs.
2. Models of past wolf occupancy were validated on data 2-5 years after the last wolf-hunt not 1 year after. That makes the 2022 application invalid.
3. Models of land cover were from 2016 and insensitive to increases in human-caused mortality (e.g., Feb. 2021 wolf-hunt, both legal and illegal killing, and summer 2021 USDA-WS killing). That makes Stauffer et al. 2021 invalid today. Its occupancy probabilities need appropriate validation with more recent data.
4. WDNR abandoned quality control standards for snow-track surveys that had been in place since 2000-2004. By using data from surveys blocks that were snow-tracked zero to two times, the WDNR likely included lone wolves, transient wolves, non-wolves, and erroneous counts of wolves for calculating occupancy probability.
5. Pack size and territory size were based on small samples that were not representative of the whole state yet were extrapolated across the state.

Our papers are available for free (Treves & Santiago-Ávila FJ. 2023. Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods. Pre-print free at http://facultynelsonwiscedu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOMpdf http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOM.pdf and Treves A and Louchouarn NX. 2022. Uncertainty and precaution in hunting wolves twice in a year. *PLoS One* **17**: e0259604. 10.25.465697https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0259604). Please note that if you do not click and download this free pre-print, I will assist any who would hold the WDNR accountable for collecting and reviewing the public administrative record. If you attempt to justify ignoring our evidence because it is currently a pre-print under review by a scientific journal, I hereby notify you that I post all published papers freely on my website and by the time you read this the paper is likely in print. Contact me directly at [redacted] if you cannot find the published version. Finally, if you attempt to justify your approach to the SOM by simply citing Stauffer et al. 2021, I will expose the undisclosed competing interests behind that article and the fact that the Journal of Wildlife Management was not signatory to the Committee on Publication Ethics until 2022, and is therefore not a well-regarded or reliable journal. Furthermore, please note the WDNR application of the SOM violates the steps required by Stauffer et al. 2021 to apply their model

scientifically. Therefore, I recommend fixing your unscientific application of their work, following our recommendations, and aiming for the best available science.

Above and beyond the problems we have found in the WDNR use of the SOM, this commentary addresses common policies and claims made by wildlife agencies about their jurisdiction's wolf populations. I have attempted two steps: (1) disentangling value judgments from scientific claims, and (2) my perception of the consensus in the scientific community if any. Paraphrasing Oreskes 2019: No single study should be considered reliable, even replicated studies await consensus in the scientific community, and only qualified experts with a track record in the particular field can weigh in on that evidence. Sometimes it is too early to claim consensus and sometimes consensus in the scientific community should be reached but the intrusion of claims by those who have financial or non-financial competing interests will distort or delay scientific consensus and its application to policy. Therefore, I offer below my own view of consensus within the scientific community about several bodies of evidence in the wolf science-policy interface. Where I cannot find consensus I try to illuminate the standards of evidence one should employ to weigh contrasting research and select the best available science.

Section 5 addresses scientific integrity requirements under US federal law and the potential legal jeopardy for lower jurisdictions receiving federal funding that do not adhere to federal rules on research misconduct. Here I am primarily concerned with the breach of scientific integrity represented by selective citation of articles that support the predetermined policy outcomes. See the recommendations ons scientific integrity from the National Academies of Science (NAS 2017. Fostering integrity in research. Washington, DC:) The National Academies Press), which states, "…careless or negligent crediting of prior work violates the value of fairness" p.36, https://doi.org/10.17226/21896 . Moreover, many scientists view selective citation as misconduct, e.g., see this Science article for the data supporting that claim De Vrieze J. 2021. Landmark research integrity survey finds questionable practices are surprisingly common Science 7 July 2021 https://www.science.org/content/article/landmark-research-integrity-survey-finds-questionable-practices-are-surprisingly-common. Beyond selective citation, the WDNR has an issue with transparency in data sharing, disclosing assumptions, and clearly explaining methods. I direct them to the following articles explaining objectivity in methods and assumptions: Treves et al. 2021. Transparency about values and assertions of fact in natural resource management. Frontiers in Conservation Science: Human-Wildlife Dynamics 2: e631998. 10.3389/fcosc.2021.631998. & Treves A. 2019. Scientific ethics and the illusion of naïve objectivity. Front Ecol Environ 7: 361. doi:10.1002/fee.2091. & Treves A and Santiago-Ávila FJ. 2020. Myths and assumptions about human-wildlife conflict and coexistence. Conserv Biol 34: 811–818. 10.1111/cobi.13472. & Treves A. 2022. Best available science" and the reproducibility crisis. Front Ecol Environ 20: 495. 10.1002/fee.2568.

1. Population viability assessments (PVAs), minimum viable populations, and strict numerical delisting targets.

First and most importantly, value judgments arising from personal, organizational, or governmental commitments, investments, and preferences for certain outcomes are the first steps in PVAs because the following inputs or decisions are value-based choices not scientific decisions: (A) how far ahead in time should one forecast (e.g., perpetuity or a few years, see Frankham et al. below for preserving evolutionary potential and consider whether the jurisdiction is fulfilling the trustee duty to preserve the asset for future generations); (B) how much risk of extinction is the public willing to tolerate and how much is the agency allowing? (e.g., near zero? Or a predetermined level of risk?). (C) Did the modelers exclude any threats (e.g., super-additive mortality from human-caused killing, illegal killing, catastrophic disease)? (D) Most PVAs risk being misapplied to jurisdictions rather than to actual biological populations. (E) The decision to focus on census population size (all individuals) or effective population size (Ne, shorthand definition is all breeding individuals). Each address different aspects of viability. The

former addresses demographic viability without guarantees that the surviving animals will be healthy and reproducing effectively, whereas the latter is more precautionary and addresses evolutionary potential. If evolutionary potential is preserved, one can generally assume demographic survival has also been preserved. In wolves, where virtually all packs contain only two breeders, effective population size can be estimated by the number of packs in one year (although this too may be an over-estimate because not all pairs breed each year) but the rest of the population provides a source of new breeders to replace those that die.

References and notes for section 1 only

Consider the distinction between science-informed decisions and making decisions based solely on science from the quote from Vucetich JA, Nelson MP and Phillips MK. 2006. The normative dimension and legal meaning of endangered and recovery in the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Conserv Biol 20: 1383-1390. “The ESA’s requirement that endangerment be determined ‘solely on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available’ does not mean scientists have exclusive right to determine the normative dimensions of specifying the conditions of extinction. This mandate merely provides science the exclusive right to determine whether specified conditions for endangerment are met by particular species.”

Carroll C, Lacy RC, Fredrickson RJ, Rohlf DJ*, et al.* 2019. Biological and sociopolitical sources of uncertainty in population viability analysis for endangered species recovery planning. *Scientific Reports* **9**: e10130. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-45032-2. Abstract: Although population viability analysis (PVA) can be an important tool for strengthening endangered species recovery efforts, the extent to which such analyses remain embedded in the social process of recovery planning is often unrecognized. We analyzed two recovery plans for the Mexican wolf that were developed using similar data and methods but arrived at contrasting conclusions as to appropriate recovery goals or criteria. We found that approximately half of the contrast arose from uncertainty regarding biological data, with the remainder divided between policy-related decisions and mixed biological-policy factors. Contrasts arose from both differences in input parameter values and how parameter uncertainty informed the level of precaution embodied in resulting criteria. Policy-related uncertainty originated from contrasts in thresholds for acceptable risk and disagreement as to how to define endangered species recovery. **Rather than turning to PVA to produce politically acceptable definitions of recovery that appear science-based, agencies should clarify the nexus between science and policy elements in their decision processes**. The limitations we identify in endangered-species policy and how PVAs are conducted as part of recovery planning must be addressed if PVAs are to fulfill their potential to increase the odds of successful conservation outcomes.

Frankham R, Bradshaw CJA and Brook BW. 2014. Genetics in conservation management: Revised recommendations for the 50/500 rules, red list criteria and population viability analyses. *Biol Conserv* **170**: 56-63. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2013.12.036 Abstract: Conservation managers typically need to make prompt decisions based on limited information and resources. Consequently, generalisations have essential roles in guiding interventions. Here, we (i) critique information on some widely accepted generalisations and variables affecting them, (ii) assess how adequately genetic factors are currently incorporated into population viability analysis (PVA) models used to estimate minimum viable population sizes, and (iii) relate the above to population size thresholds of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened species that were derived from genetic considerations. Evidence accumulated since 1980 shows that genetically effective population size (*Ne*) = 50 is inadequate for preventing inbreeding depression over five generations in the wild, with *Ne* ⩾ 100 being required to limit loss in total fitness to ⩽10%. **Further, even *Ne* = 500 is too low for retaining evolutionary potential for fitness in perpetuity; a better approximation is *Ne* ⩾ 1000. Extrapolation from census population**

size (*N*) to *Ne* depends on knowing the ratio of *Ne*/*N*, yet this information is unavailable for most wild populations. Ratio averages (~0.1–0.2) from meta-analyses are sufficient, provided adjustments are made for dissimilar life histories. Most PVA-based risk assessments ignore or inadequately model genetic factors. PVA should routinely include realistic inbreeding depression, and genetic impacts on evolutionary potential should be incorporated where appropriate. Genetic generalisations used in conservation, the treatment of genetics in PVAs, and sections of the IUCN Red List criteria derived from genetic considerations, all require revision to be more effective conservation tools.

Finally, the selection of a specific numerical target or even a range of targets presumes a value judgment at some point in the process. For an explanation of how this plays out in sustainable harvest models applied to wolves, please see Treves A, Paquet PC, Artelle KA, Cornman AM, et al. 2021. Transparency about values and assertions of fact in natural resource management. Frontiers in Conservation Science: Human-Wildlife Dynamics 2: e631998. 10.3389/fcosc.2021.631998.

2. Are lethal methods *valuable* tools in the toolkit to prevent adverse predation by wolves? (* you can replace valuable with other value judgments such as best, essential, necessary*)

None of the terms surrounded by * are scientific in this context, they are all value judgments. A scientist would write lethal wolf control is a tool in the toolkit. The adjective is a flag that someone is attempting to impose their values on their readers. A scientist would add the adjectival phrase "effective to achieve x" or "ineffective to achieve x" or related measurable criteria that do not presuppose a normative judgment about whether one should use lethal control (as do the * adjectives). Note the word control can be misleading if not defined as it may convey to some audiences that prevention has been achieved even when it has not.

In most cases in wolf policy, effectiveness of lethal or non-lethal methods is oriented to reducing future losses of domestic animals or wild animals. Starting with domestic animals, beware of certain value judgments inherent to this question: (A) do the domestic animals or wild ungulates take priority over wolves, especially when lethal control is envisioned? That would also be a value judgment. (B) Also beware of the value judgment that all lethal methods can be meaningfully grouped into a single category. Scientifically, neither lethal nor non-lethal interventions can be grouped for a claim of effectiveness because each variety and each implementation may differ from the next in effectiveness based on design, location, conditions, effort, etc. Only when followed by the details of studies of effectiveness can one group two or more methods together to make claims (i.e., the advocate for either needs to anchor their conclusion about a method in a study specific to that method). (C) Some methods for protecting domestic and wild animals from wolves are in a gray area between lethal and non-lethal. This and other false dualisms are common in this field. (D) Effectiveness as I have defined it above has no spatial or temporal specification but should. No method is always effective, therefore the claim of effectiveness should be applied to a particular time, place, and design of the intervention. When scientists communicate clearly, we cite a study when making such a claim. All implementations are experiments, no single study will predict with perfect certainty whether a new application is effective. (E) Another subtler value judgment is whether the effectiveness of lethal methods and effectiveness of non-lethal methods are commensurable, because the effects of one cannot be reversed while the other may be.

Given the caveats above, single studies are no basis for confidence until replicated. Therefore the methods that have been replicated by two or more studies show they are effective should give the most confidence. Therefore, systematic reviews or meta-analyses are our best basis for predicting whether a given intervention is effective. Even systematic reviews and meta-analyses

are prone to error if they have a small sample size to draw from, authors have competing interests, or the analysis did not consider strength of inference.

The strongest inference is drawn from randomized, controlled trials (RCTs) of methods to prevent predation on domestic or wild ungulates. Preferably those RCTs include crossover designs, blinding, and are subjected to authentic independent review and efforts at replication. The next and much lower strength of inference is the silver standard of before-and-after comparison without randomization. That is the highest standard reached for lethal control of wolves and was only reached in 3 studies to my knowledge (see figure below).

Michigan USA: Santiago-Avila FJ, Cornman AM and Treves A. 2018. Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. *PLoS One* 13: e0189729 10.1371.
France, 9 regions: Grente O. 2021. Présentation des objectifs et de la méthodologie de la thèse sur l'efficacité des tirs de loup et la gestion adaptative du loup, menée conjointement par l'oncfs et le cefe. Gières, France.
Slovenia: Krofel M, Černe R and Jerina K. 2011. Effectiveness of wolf (canis lupus) culling as a measure to reduce livestock depredations. *Acta Silvae et Ligni* 95: 11-22. (Note the data from this study were reanalyzed in a silver-standard design by Treves, A., M. Krofel, and J. McManus, Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 2016. 14: p. 380-388.)

In the below graphic, I summarize the three studies' findings on the effects of lethal methods on wolves but again note that we still have no RCT on killing wolves to protect domestic animals and note the methods for killing wolves in the three studies differed somewhat.

My co-authors and I do not consider the analysis by Bradley et al. (2015) in the Journal of Wildlife Management to be reliable because (a) the authors could not explain several steps in the methods to us, (b) they did not share the data for us so we could use our own methods, (c) their methods biased the results toward favoring lethal control by extending the time horizon for livestock losses beyond the point where wolves held a territory. Thereby, they counted vacant territories as if territories can kill livestock, rather than packs. Their approach seems analogous to a study of a hospital treatment that measured filled and vacant hospital beds rather than the survival or death of patients) - see detailed explanation and discussion in Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018. Furthermore, the journal in which Bradley et al. 2015 was published, only subscribed to the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE, https://publicationethics.org/) in 2022: Krausman PR. 2022. Improving the journal of wildlife management: A response to the perspectives of Johnson et al. (2021) and Gould et al. (2021). *The Journal of Wildlife Management* 86: e22167. https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.22167. Therefore, articles in that journal, the Wildlife Society Bulletin and Wildlife Monographs did not have the guardrails on publication ethics recommended by the Committee on Publication Ethics, which include scrutiny of potentially competing interests among authors, peer reviewers, editors, and the publisher, the Wildlife Society. Nor did the journals have guardrails for correction and retraction of misleading or fabricated science.

I asserted above that meta-analyses and systematic reviews are relatively more valuable than single studies for drawing generalizable inferences about the effectiveness of any method for preventing wolf predation on wild or domestic animals. Although the 11 studies below differ in standards of evidence, sample sizes, and inclusion criteria, one consistent conclusion emerges: without RCTs or other robust designs that control confounding variables, it is impossible to claim with confidence the effectiveness of any method. That does not mean we have zero information or knowledge, but rather that your caution should be heightened when we lack RCTs for this field of science.

Lethal management of wild wolves to protect domestic animals has only been evaluated with before-and-after comparisons without randomization (silver standard). The field should aim for the higher strength of inference provided by gold-standard randomized, controlled trials.

Effect	France	Slovenia	Michigan U.P.
Desired reduction in livestock deaths	33%	28%	25%
Undesirable increase in livestock deaths	11%	65%	75%
No effect	55%	7%	-

France (regions: Grente O. 2021. PhD thesis Montpelier U. and ONCFS q, France.
Slovenia country-wide: Krofel M, et al. 2011. Acta Silvae et Ligni **95**: 11-22. As reanalyzed for Treves et al. 2016. Front Ecol Environ **14**: 380-388.
Michigan Upper Peninsula: Santiago-Avila et al. 2018. PLoS ONE **13**: e0189729 10.1371.







*Note: Bradley et al. (2015) does not meet the criteria for reliability until they remedy irreproducible methods, a bias towards lethal control, and share their data for replication (Bradley et al. 2015. Effects of wolf removal on livestock depredation recurrence and wolf recovery in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. J Wildl Manage **79**: 1337–1346.)*

Moreover, van Eeden et al. 2018 in PLoS Biology showed how differently four studies regarding lethal methods published between 2016-2018 drew from the literature despite similar search criteria. "Our four reviews [6–9] jointly screened >27,000 candidate studies. The four sets of inclusion criteria differed in geographic coverage, carnivore species, and standards of evidence and research design (see S1 Table), which limited overlap in the studies that passed screening (only 19% of studies were included in two or more of the four reviews; no study was included in all four, S1 Fig). The differing inclusion criteria also meant that it was not possible to conduct a quantitative comparison (meta-analysis) combining the data from our four reviews, but we suggest that such an analysis should be conducted in the future as evidence increases. Nonetheless, our reviews came to remarkably similar conclusions, irrespective of methods, suggesting that our conclusions are robust."p.3 van Eeden et al. 2018 PLoS Biology. Because we brought together almost two dozen authors from 11 countries for van Eeden et al. 2018 in PLoS Biology, it is the leading review that drew the clearest consensus. That consensus included (a) the field needs stronger inference and (b) that lethal methods have not been studied with as high standards of inference as non-lethal methods.

Moreover, combining van Eeden et al. 2018 with more recent work indicates that several non-lethal methods are more effective in protecting domestic animals than lethal methods appear to be. Note that even though these meta-analyses do not concern only wolves, one can learn from studies of the effectiveness of interventions against other predators to draw inference about how these would work against wolves.

Among those non-lethal methods shown to be more effective and studied multiple times are fladry and livestock-guarding dogs when deployed and maintained correctly as explained in the source articles reviewed. The studies also endorse effective fencing albeit fewer RCTs have evaluated it.

References and notes for section 2 only (in addition to those cited above)

6. Eklund, A., J.V. López-Bao, M. Tourani, G. Chapron, and J. Frank, Limited evidence on the effectiveness of interventions to reduce livestock predation by large carnivores. Scientific Reports, 2017. 7:pp2097 | DOI:10.1038/s41598-017-02323-w.
7. Lennox, R.J., A.J. Gallagher, E.G. Ritchie, and S.J. Cooke, Evaluating the efficacy of predator removal in a conflict-prone world. Biological Conservation, 2018. 224:pp277-289.
8. Miller, J., K. Stoner, M. Cejtin, T. Meyer, A. Middleton, and O. Schmitz, Effectiveness of Contemporary Techniques for Reducing Livestock Depredations by Large Carnivores. Wildlife Society Bulletin, 2016. 40:pp806-815.
9. Moreira-Arce, D., C.S. Ugarte, F. Zorondo-Rodríguez, and J.A. Simonetti, Management Tools to Reduce Carnivore-Livestock Conflicts: Current Gap and Future Challenges. Rangeland Ecology & Management, 2018.
10. Treves, A., M. Krofel, and J. McManus, Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 2016. 14:pp380-388.
11. Treves, A., M. Krofel, O. Ohrens, and L.M. Van Eeden, Predator control needs a standard of unbiased randomized experiments with cross-over design. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, 2019. 7pp402-413. 10.3389/fevo.2019.00462.
12. van Eeden, L.M., A. Eklund, J.R.B. Miller, J.V. López-Bao, M.R. Cejtin, G. Chapron, M.S. Crowther, C.R. Dickman, J. Frank, M. Krofel, D.W. Macdonald, J. McManus, T.K. Meyer, A.D. Middleton, T.M. Newsome, W.J. Ripple, E.G. Ritchie, O.J. Schmitz, K.J. Stoner, M. Tourani, and A. Treves, Carnivore conservation needs evidence-based livestock protection. PLOS Biology, 2018. l 16(9). e2005577. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.2005577.
13. van Eeden, L.M., M.S. Crowther, C.R. Dickman, D.W. Macdonald, W.J. Ripple, E.G. Ritchie, and T.M. Newsome, Managing conflict between large carnivores and livestock. Conservation Biology, 2018:ppdoi: 10.1111/cobi.12959. 10.1111/cobi.12959.
14. Khorozyan, I. and M. Waltert, Variation and conservation implications of the effectiveness of anti-bear interventions. Scientific Reports, 2020. 10,:pp15341. 10.1098/rsos.190826. https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-72343-6.
15. Khorozyan, I., Defining practical and robust study designs for interventions targeted at terrestrial mammalian predators. Conservation Biology, 2021. in press:pp1–11. 10.1111/cobi.13805.
16. Bruns, A., M. Waltert, and I. Khorozyan, The effectiveness of livestock protection measures against wolves (Canis lupus) and implications for their co-existence with humans. Global Ecology and Conservation, 2020. 21:ppe00868. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2019.e00868. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2351989419306225.

Other promising methods tested by RCT only once against wolves includes range riding using low-stress livestock handling. Likewise, I recommend consideration of methods that proved effective from RCT studies with other predators, despite never having been tested on wolves, such as painted eyespots on livestock and humans assisted by deterrent noise-makers and dogs.

17. Louchouarn NX and Treves A. 2023. Low-stress livestock handling protects cattle in a five-predator habitat. PeerJ 11: e14788. http://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.14788
18. Radford CG, McNutt JW, Rogers T, Maslen B, et al. 2020. Artificial eyespots on cattle reduce predation by large carnivores. Communications Biology Nature 3:430, https://doi.org/10.1038/s42003-020-01156-0 | www.nature.com/com
19. Beckmann JP, Lackey CW and Berger J. 2004. Evaluation of deterrent techniques and dogs to alter behaviour of "nuisance" black bears. Wildl Soc Bull 32: 1141-1146.

Recent meta-analyses of lethal methods against predators of wild ungulates suggests unpredictable outcomes. Although it did not focus on wolves, many of the included studies were of killing wolves to protect wild ungulates. The authors below review the many decades of

research on this question and note the shortage of RCTs or the poor quality of controlled studies used to address the question. Therefore, I see no scientific consensus on the effectiveness of killing wolves to protect wild ungulates. I do see consensus on a value-based issue relating to evidence; namely that the design of predator-killing programs should be treated as experiments and monitored scientifically by independent uninterested parties. A recent study in Alberta, Canada also shows that "increasing large-predator populations do not necessarily reduce hunter harvest of elk" and that sustainable hunting of elk has continued, and populations have increased with increasing large predator populations (Trump et al. 2022). Another recent study analyzing 4 decades of efforts in Alaska, US to reduce abundance of large predators, including gray wolves, brown and black bears, found: (1) no positive correlations between killing of bears and subsequent moose hunting, (2) moose hunting was negatively correlated with the prior year's wolf killing (weak relationship) and (3) no differences in mean moose hunting during periods of recent liberalized killing of predators relative to prior periods (Miller et al. 2022).

20. Clark, T.J. and M. Hebblewhite, Predator control may not increase ungulate populations in the future: A formal meta-analysis. Journal of Applied Ecology, 2021. 58(4):pp812-824. 10.1111/1365-2664.13810. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.13810.
21. Trump, T., Knopff, K., Morehouse, A., & Boyce, M. S. (2022). Sustainable elk harvests in Alberta with increasing predator populations. PLOS ONE, 17(10), 1–13. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0269407 .
22. Miller, S. D., Person, D. K., & Bowyer, R. T. (2022). Efficacy of Killing Large Carnivores to Enhance Moose Harvests: New Insights from a Long-Term View. Diversity, 14(11), 939. https://www.mdpi.com/1424-2818/14/11/939

Even when interventions to protect other animals from wolves are effective, there is little consensus on how long effects persist. As the authors below have shown, virtually all studies are one grazing season or briefer. Few interventions have been studied long-term. One has to look at single studies to understand the likely short-term and long-term effects of an intervention, but then I caution the results apply only to that design and experimental set up.

23. 16. Khorozyan, I. and M. Waltert, How long do anti-predator interventions remain effective? Patterns, thresholds and uncertainty. Royal Society Open Science, 2019. 6(9). 10.1098/rsos.190826.

3. Estimating wolf abundance with methods other than validated mark-recapture methods

Recent work by Creel (2021) and Treves & Santiago-Ávila (2023) points out the many scientific shortcomings in the recent approaches taken by the states of Idaho, Montana, and Wisconsin to estimate their statewide wolf abundances. Before shortcuts can be safely taken to estimate wolf abundance accurately, precisely, reproducibly, and with sensitivity to changing conditions, the new methods should be validated by third-party, independent scientists comparing new methods to old methods. Thus far, no shortcut to mark-recapture methods has proven reliable.

Creel S. 2021. Methods to estimate population sizes of wolves in Idaho and Montana. Comment on "endangered and threatened wildlife and plants; 90-day finding for two petitions to list the gray wolf in the western united states". Federal Register 86: 51857. https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FWS-HQ-ES-2021-0106-49075. https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FWS-HQ-ES-2021-0106-49075

Treves, A., Santiago-Ávila, F.J. 2023. Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods. Pre-print posted for pre-publication review. http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOM.pdf

4**. Killing for tolerance**

Finally, the claim that killing wolves improves public tolerance has failed multiple tests by multiple lead authors using different datasets and entirely different approaches to the question (social scientific, population ecology, wolf survival). Unfortunately, I am a co-author on almost every study, so opponents may cite non-independence of the studies. That assumes I can somehow persuade or compel other scientists to do my bidding. That is ridiculous on its face but is probably best disputed by pointing to the diversity and independence of these authors compared to the homogeneity of the opposing side.

Moreover, disputing the independence of the many studies refuting the idea that killing improves tolerance also ignores the Nordic studies that do not involve me (see below) and ignores the weakness of evidence that killing improves tolerance. The contrasting views are either not peer-reviewed, have not been replicated, have shortcomings that have been exposed in subsequent peer-reviewed work, or did not address the question.

Furthermore, some advocates for killing for tolerance have pivoted to claiming killing wolves opens a space for dialogue with a few powerful, narrow interests. Setting aside the ethics of killing wolves for that purpose, the evidence from Hogberg et al. 2015 does not support the claim because the prime target demographic group in Wisconsin (men residing in wolf range who have familiarity with hunting) had the sharpest decline in tolerance for wolves after wolf-killing was liberalized to include public hunting and trapping.

In summary

- Attitudes to wolves became more negative or did not improve when protections for wolves were reduced [1-5].
- Poaching was higher when wolf protections were reduced, measured by individual wolf survival rates [6-9].
- Poaching was higher when wolf protections were reduced, measured by wolf population dynamics [10-13]. Attempts were made to challenge the latter results, all of which failed because they lacked data to support their claims [14, 15] or had shortcomings that made them irreproducible [16-23]. Our calls for corrections of the latter studies have yielded one correction thus far [24-26]. We await further corrections and retractions.
- Poaching is the major cause of wolf mortality and it is mismeasured or under-reported by agencies because of cryptic poaching [27-29].
- Miscellaneous work on poaching and the effects of lethal management, to guide more or better enforcement and also more effective management policies: [24, 28-38].
- Note a debate in the Nordic countries remains unresolved pending sharing of all data and transparent debate about statistical methods. The Scandinavian analysis that claimed that liberalizing wolf-killing will reduce wolf-poaching has been challenged [39, 40]. Similarly, two papers by the same pair of authors studying the Finnish wolf population concluded, “We conclude that tolerance for carnivores cannot be promoted by legal hunting alone…” [41] but in 2018, they concluded, “Our results provided evidence that poaching is a matter of local intolerance toward wolves and that the problem is mainly related to wolf hunting.” [42] but suggests legal killing pre-empted illegal killing by removing wolves that would have been poached [41, 42]. Clearly, further investigation with accepted methods is warranted.
- I oppose the use of hounds in mammal hunting because the precautionary and prudent scientific study of this method has not been conducted to confirm that unlawful interactions do not occur and harm endangered species, target wildlife, by-standers, or the hounds themselves (36).

References for section 4 only

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5. How research integrity influences the quality of science

Certain principles of research integrity affect the quality of science so strongly that failure to adhere to minimum standards of scientific integrity result in unreliable, irreproducible, or fabricated scientific findings. The US federal government has repeatedly tightened regulations and policies to avoid breaches of research integrity, so I will restrict myself here to point out the most common and problematic research misconduct that would render policy based on such science unsound and vulnerable to legal jeopardy.

- *Falsification, fabrication, or plagiarism is illegal for any recipient of federal monies*, which could place state and tribal wildlife agencies in legal jeopardy if they produce such work, because of federal support for fish and wildlife agencies. Financial penalties may be due upon conviction. A portion off such penalties can be won by whistle-blowers who report research misconduct (see https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/ for federal regulations and policies including relevant Congressional Acts).

- N*on-disclosures of potentially competing interests, whether financial or non-financial.* Authors of scientific work whose institutional affiliations are state or tribal wildlife agencies should beware of this breach because it can lead to correction or retraction of scientific articles ,following the Committee on Publication Ethics guidelines on transparent disclosures https://publicationethics.org/. Similar recommendations apply to US government agencies NAS National Academies of Sciences EM. 2017. Fostering integrity in research. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. & Biden JR. Order PE (Ed). 2021. Memorandum on restoring trust in government through scientific integrity and evidence-based policymaking Washington, D.C.: & Treves A and Batavia C. 2021. Improved disclosures of non-financial competing interests would promote independent review. Academia Letters Article 514: 1-9.
- Other breaches of research integrity include selective citation, sloppy peer review, publishing in predatory journals that simulate peer review but publish anything if paid, and intentional use of inappropriate statistical analyses or p-hacking (De Vrieze J. 2021. Landmark research integrity survey finds questionable practices are surprisingly common. Science 7 July 2021, https://www.science.org/content/article/landmark-research-integrity-survey-finds-questionable-practices-are-surprisingly-common. Kretser et al. 2019. Scientific integrity principles and best practices: Recommendations from a scientific integrity consortium. Science and Engineering Ethics: 1–29 & Mejlgaard et al. 2020. Research integrity: Nine ways to move from talk to walk. Nature 586: 358-360. 10.1038/d41586-020-02847-8. & Nelson A and Lubchenco J. 2022. Strengthening scientific integrity. Science: 10.1126/science.abo0036. & Bohannon J. 2014. Who's afraid of peer review? Science 342: 60-65. http://www.umass.edu/preferen/You%20Must%20Read%20This/BohannonScience2013.pdf .
- A general lack of transparency, failure to share data, failure to disclose assumptions, methods, value judgments, and failure to embrace open, independent review can all affect the reliability of science. Indeed, articles published by the Wildlife Society before 2022 were published without the ethical guardrails of the Committee on Publication Ethics, COPE (Krausman PR. 2022. Improving the journal of wildlife management: A response to the perspectives of Johnson et al. (2021) and Gould et al. (2021). *The Journal of Wildlife Management* **86**: e22167. https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.22167), signifying that such articles should be considered less reliable until proven each article followed COPE best practices on its own. This also means the Journal of Wildlife Management is considered less reliable than journals or publishers that have been signatories to COPE for longer.
- Finally, government agencies in the USA are trustees of nature including wildlife. They are trustees for current and future generations, so their duty is to preserve first and regulate current uses second, to prevent substantial impairment of the trust assets. Catering to a subset of the public or interest groups is unlawful. Failure to regulate illegal uses or over-use is likewise unlawful.

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Are wolf populations regulated by prey or are they self-regulating?

Tim Van Deelen 1/9/2023

The draft wolf plan (Plan) has a heading in section 1 entitled “Prey Regulates Wolf Populations” and ends with a sentence saying that “To date, prey abundance does not appear to be a limiting factor for wolves in Wisconsin.” This apparent contradiction requires some explanation.

Stating that “Prey Regulates Wolf Populations” is saying that there is negative density dependence in the growth rate of wolves and that the mechanism of the negative density dependence associates with declining per capita prey resources as the wolf population increases. In the literature on wolves and ungulates, limiting factors are those that influence growth whereas regulating factors are a subset of limiting factors that enforce an equilibrium (carrying capacity) through density-dependent negative feedbacks (Messier 1991, 1994).

There are two meta-analyses that attempt to describe the relationship between equilibrium wolf and prey densities. This relationship is the called the “predator numerical response.” The first analysis is in Messier (1994, Table 2) where he assembles 33 observations on coupled wolf/moose populations in North American. When plotted, this relationship is a saturating function meaning that as moose density increases, wolf density levels off (Figure 1) indicating that at high moose density something other than prey density is enforcing the equilibrium density of wolves (i.e. something else is regulating). The shape of this saturating function is known as a type 2 numerical response.

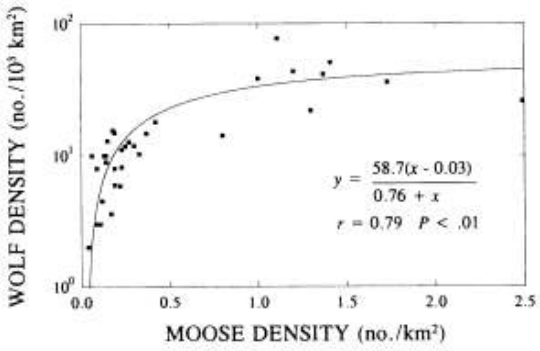


FIG. 4. The numerical response of wolves to changing moose density. Wolf density (presented on a $\log_{10}$ scale) was related to moose density with a hyperbolic, Michaelis-Menten equation.

Figure 1 Reproduction of Fig. 4. in Messier (1994) showing a type 2 numerical response.

The second meta-analysis is based on a dataset in Fuller et. Al (2003, table 6.2). This dataset contains 44 observations from studies in North America where there might be 1-6 representatives of 9 ungulate prey species ranging in size from Bison to deer (white-tailed or mule). To standardize across different prey species’ masses, they created an ungulate biomass index (BMI) which is effectively a conversion to deer-mass equivalents, hence BMI_{deer}= 1, BMI_{elk} = 3, and BMI_{moose} = 6, etc. The relationship that they show is variable, but they describe it as linear (Figure 2) indicating that equilibrium wolf densities are proportional to ungulate prey biomass expressed as deer-equivalents – a type 1 numerical response.

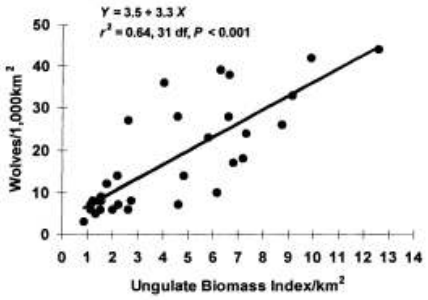


FIGURE 6.2. Relationship between ungulate biomass index and wolf density, plotted from data in table 6.2. (Adapted from Keith 1983 and Fuller 1989b.)

Figure 2 Reproduction of Figure 6.2 in Fuller et al. (2003) showing a type 1 numerical response.

Cariappa et al. (2011) re-appraised Fuller et al.'s (2003) relationship using Akaike's Information Criterion to compare type 1 and 2 models fit to the data and found that support for the two models was equivocal. When exploited or expanding wolf populations were removed (because they were non-equilibrium), type 2 models fit marginally better. Mech and Barber-Meyer (2015) added an additional high ungulate-density observation and declared that the relationship was proportional (type 1).

Some comments:

1) Mech and his colleagues argue that a type 1 numerical response demonstrates that prey numbers "regulate" wolf population growth. Strictly speaking, the type 1 numerical response only demonstrates that prey numbers limit growth. Regulation requires identification of the density-dependent feedback mechanism. A type 2 curve demonstrates that ungulate density and wolf density decouple at high ungulate density and that something else is regulating.
2) Wisconsin wolves show negative density dependence in their population biology. This is evident in the numerical and spatial patterns of growth (Van Deelen 2009, Stenglein and Van Deelen 2016) and in components of growth like survival (Cubaynes et al. 2014, O'Neil et al. 2017, Stenglein et al 2018), reproduction (Stenglein et al. 2015) and compensatory behavior in cause-specific mortalities (Stenglein et al. 2018).
3) The meta-analysis approach is relatively crude and doesn't account for different ecological contexts. A regulation-by food argument is essentially a full "bottom-up" trophic cascade argument. In fact, the strength of bottom-up forcing varies with latitude and ecosystem productivity and ungulate systems are sensitive to it (Messier 1994. Crete 1999). The curve-fitting exercises in figure 1 and 2 could be complicated by observations in systems where the real shape of the numerical response of wolves differs (e.g. differing equilibrium densities). Human influences are another important spatial factor (Stenglein et al. 2018) and could regulate apart form any prey limitation (Stenglein et al. 2015b).

Conclusions

Does prey density regulate wolf populations? Strictly speaking, probably not. Clearly, prey density limits wolf population growth, especially at low prey population density. The decoupling in the type 2 numerical response and the lack of regulatory information in the type 1 argue against regulation by prey density. Moreover, I see no evidence of strong feedback mechanism directly related to per-capita prey shortages (starvation of key age classes, nutritionally regulated reproduction). Mechanisms of regulation (e.g. the feedbacks) have more to do with variation in mortality and variation in spatial risk associated with intra-specific strife, territoriality, and human impacts (O'Neil et al 2017, Stenglein et al 2015b, 2018). In fact, density dependent mortality was independent of prey density proxies (Cubaynes et al 2014, O'Neil et al. 2017) when evaluated as a cofactor. Indeed, analysis by Y. Shen. E. Olson, and I (manuscript in prep) indicate that expansion of Wisconsin wolves occurred as an expanding wave, behind which, local density reached an equilibrium nearly immediately with growth slowing down as the wavefront reached habitat boundaries. Put another way, population growth was nearly completely related to territory occupied.

Do wolves self-regulate? Yes. Internal controls on growth are features of large mammals and apex predators and wolves are both. Review of life history theory demonstrates that increasing body size is associated with a switch from populations regulated by top-down exogenous forces to bottom up (density dependent forces) because species become too large to be safely preyed upon (Sinclair, et al.

2003). This pattern is enhanced in terrestrial carnivores who develop endogenous life history features (female territoriality, socially enforced “birth control” etc.) that enforce it (Wallach et al. 2015).

In Great Lakes wolves, the most prominent density dependent mortalities are those related to territoriality and interspecific strife interacting with human influences on the landscape (O’Neil et al. 2017, Stenglein et al. 2018). Put simply, Wisconsin wolves appear to be regulated by available high quality (minimal risky human influences) habitat through social mechanisms.

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing with regards to the wolf plan. Do to the no number for population and also the power given to soverign nations over private land. For these and 34 other reasons I ask that the wolf plan be rejected.

Jacob Van Schyndel
Trapper.

Jacob VanSchyndel
[redacted]
Green Bay. WI 54313

This is the day the Lord has mac

JANUARY 12, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this in regards to the DNR 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan.

I am very opposed to creating buffer zones surrounding tribal reservations.

I would also strongly request maintaining a population goal of 350 wolves in the final plan.

Thank you for your time and cooperation in the matter.

Sincerely

Larry VanderLoo

THE WISDOM OF WOLVES

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO I TALKED TO A PERSON IN YOUR DEPT. PAUL SMITH. I ASKED WHY WOLVES ARE HUNTED. HE SAID MAINLY FOR TROPHY REASONS, SOME FOR MORAL REASONS. I FEEL DOGS, SNARES, POISON, TRAPS, BAIT SHOULD NOT BE USED IF WOLVES NEED TO BE HUNTED. NONE OF THESE METHODS ARE USED WHEN HUNTING DEER. SOME LAZY PEOPLE WILL USE DEER BAIT OR BAIT TO HUNT DEER. I TALKED TO A PERSON WHO WOULD HANG A HOOK WITH MEAT BAIT ON IT AND AND THE WOLVES WOULD JUMP UP AND BE HOOKED AND SUFFER A TERRIBLE DEATH.



I HAVE SEVERAL FRIENDS THAT FEEL THE SAME WAY.

P.S.
GLAD SOMEONE GOT RID OF FRED PREHN WHO WAS NO FRIEND OF THE WOLVES. BIG CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH HUNTING HIS OPERATION SHOULD STICK TO TREE.

IF YOU NEED MORE FEEDBACK CALL ME

262-241-5447

THE WISDOM OF WOLVES
LESSONS FROM THE SAWTOOTH PACK.

P.S. WRITING DURING FOOTBALL GAME

Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan Draft Review Public Comment

From: Penny Warner ([redacted]

To: dnrwildlifeswitchboard@wisconsin.gov

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 01:07 PM CST

Hello, Please let me know that you received this email with my comments. Thank you!

1. Name: **Patricia Warner**

2. I have read **ALL** of the draft plan.

3. **I am a Wisconsin resident**

4. Overall, the plan is very comprehensive. I attended all the Wolf Management Committee planning meetings via zoom and appreciate the amount of work that went into this draft. I do however feel the committee was heavily weighted with the anti-wolf groups. These are the elements that I liked:

- The previous plan had a numerical goal of 350 wolves, and I am glad it has been removed as there has been much controversy over the intent of that number. I like the new direction of the department to use science when determining harvest numbers in future hunts. I hope science dominates planning and future quotas are set at zero as science has proven **the wolf can manage their own numbers and will not exceed the carrying capacity of the landscape they inhabit.**
- Recent surveys indicate a shift toward more acceptance of wolves in Wisconsin with wolf advocacy being in the majority of responses. Social media has promoted misconceptions concerning wolves and has encouraged hatred toward the animal that promotes cruel and inhumane practices.

    - I would like you to revisit **Product D3a and D3b on p. 131 in the proposed Wolf Management Plan** and actually **begin the work** of creating materials such as lesson plans, wolf boxes, wolf units and guest speakers, etc. that can be distributed to our public schools, clubs, church groups, scouts, etc. This would ensure that our future generations would have accurate information about wolves. Reach out to organizations such as HSUS, the Sierra Club, TWIN, TWA, etc. that could work in conjunction with DNR personnel to create a variety of materials. TWIN was very successful in the 1980's and 1990's with their development of a

variety of educational materials. Their creation of the Adopt-a-Wolf-Pack program not only **generated revenue for the DNR**, but was distributed around Wisconsin and several other states and succeeded in educating participants in wolf ecology and their role in completing a diverse and robust environment. The public's understanding of the wolf's role in our environment is particularly important now with the proliferation of CWD across our state.

5. These are the elements that I disliked:

- **Product C2H Hound hunting training should be taken out.** It is not part of the law. I own a home and 170 acres of forest land in Oneida County, and I do not want hounds harassing the wildlife on my property. Hound hunting is no better than sanctioned dog fighting **which is against the law.** Since hound owners are purposely encouraging their dogs to fight with another canid, zero compensation should be awarded to the owners of those dogs. Instead, those dog owners should be prosecuted for cruelty to animals, **which is part of the law.**
- **Ban the use of chocolate and Xylitol in baits.** This inhumane and cruel practice kills not only wolves, but dogs as well.
- **Ban hunting at night.**
- **Wolf Population Monitoring p. 64-66** As stated in your plan, radio telemetry collars on average lasted 5 ½ years. Since the implementation of the GPS collars, the life of a collar is less than a year. This is very costly for the department and suggests that the wolves are being tracked by their collars and killed by poachers. The 2020 report stated that of the 16 recovered illegally killed wolves, 13 were wearing collars. Additionally, 60 of the 76 collars were no longer sending signals. That GPS failure rate is unacceptable. **Reinstate the radio telemetry collars.** The below methods need to be continued since the department has transitioned to the new occupancy model, which is comprised of a hit-or-miss approach of guesstimating the number of wolves in our State.
    - Summer howling surveys are the only accurate way to determine if pups have been produced in any given pack. It also gives an estimate of how many wolves are present in that pack. There should be at the minimum, a summer howling sampling of known packs in Wisconsin.
    - If the department continues to rely on volunteer trackers for winter wolf counts, then the volunteers need to have training in the field with DNR personnel. An internet course cannot sufficiently train a volunteer. Over counting by inadequately trained volunteers is not helpful.

6. It is very difficult to rate this plan until it is implemented, and we see the results. I watched the NRB meetings with horror as they tried to completely eradicate the

wolf from its rightful place in the environment by overriding the DNR's recommendations during the last hunt.

7. Considering the 2022 survey and the changing attitudes towards wolves in Wisconsin, this plan should promote policy changes that will bring an end to wolf hunting and trapping in the state. In future committees, greater emphasis should placed on wolf advocacy groups to more accurately reflect the majority of the citizens in Wisconsin.

To the D N; R.
Concerning the wolf
Just keep the No. where
your experts said would
be compatable weird the
enviroment when you
reintorduce them - Here
out of control.

Allan D Hooker



Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Tom Schwefel	Unknown	Dec142022	12:56:21	Wolf draft concerns	I have spent several hours going through the proposed new wolf draft plan. I realize you need to be thorough but a 167 glorifying wolves is a bit much. Before you think I don't support having wolves in the state, I do. 90% of what I reed before my eyes glazed over was about the poor wolf. The overall population need's to be controlled in some way. Hunting being one (noticed that some of the money funding the wolf programs are come from Pittman-Robertson fund. Which comes from sports people). One of the statements I find confusing 1)Wolves kill 15-19 deer per year. I'm assuming you are referring to each wolf? If so why not include that simple word each? If not explain further. 2) Based on the risk reward scenario wolves have evolved to become highly effective at identifying weaknesses among their prey. I don't doubt any predator doesn't go after weak or sick animals. It's obviously easier to run down. What do they do when they don't find sick or weak prey? Wolves are very intelligent pack animals. They more than likely will go after whatever is available sick or healthy. Your comments make it sound like they only go after sick animals. I'm not a wolf expert. I am willing to bet a pack of wolves can run down a full grown elk or deer in snow. Let's face it the elk program cost millions of dollars. The state has struggled to grow the herd. Having wolf packs that continue to grow in a area that has a elk herd is wasting money. One of the charts showed no elk killed in 2018 by wolves. I find this absolutely impossible. What I do find interesting is how few elk are confirmed killed by wolves. For that matter deer as well. What are the wolves eating? 3) One of the statement's claimed that wolves account for 34% of elk mortality and the elk herd is growing at 10%. Sounds like the elk herd is on the loosing end. How many wolves do you estimate to be in the Clam lake herd area? 4)Estimates of 292 wolf packs(this is your number). Average of 4 wolves per pack (again your number). 292x4=1168 wolves in the state as of 2022? Is this correct? The DNR was in a huge panic when hunter's (Again who are paying for part of this program) shot 219 wolves in 3 or4 days. Might be off by a day or 3. This was in 2021. The sky didn't fall, the sun came up and low and behold we still have 1168 wolves based on your numbers. 5) There is a percentage of human mortality for wolves that you give. 29%-35% that is acceptable without causing concern for wolf numbers. This would for a overall human mortality number of339-409 wolves. Am I correct? 6) Input from the tribes. The tribes do not have to hunt/kill any thing they don't want to. Any wildlife on the reservation that they want to protect should be up to them. Outside the reservation is considered differently and should be managed accordingly. Not just with one groups input. If the state just decided it's going expand management of some species because of special interest groups is just plain wrong. Again you get money from Pittman-Robertson fund. Needless to say I couldn't finish going up through the overly long one sided draft plan. If I found time in my busy schedule I will continue to look at the draft, so this may not be the last you hear from me. Not that I expect to have any input into the final draft. Unfortunately I didn't receive a questionnaire so this is the only input I will be able to contribute. It amaze me how much trouble the wolves have caused. To bad there isn't give and take on both side's. Thanks Tom Schwefel
Mike Kohl	Y	Dec142022	16:51:00	wolf	get the politics out of this . you are not listening to the people of WI.. we vote on something and you do what you see fit. listen to the committees . mike kohl president of outagamie conservation club. wiocc.com thank you
Kevin Feind	Y	Dec142022	20:47:34	Wolf Study Comments	Randy, I have read the draft plan twice. As cited, there has been a significant amount of polarizing views on the wolf in Wisconsin. I feel without some safety checks in the population estimates based on track surveys, there is a risk of bias as to counts. With public involvement in counting, I feel there is quite a risk at high or low track counts due to person opinion (people lie). I question the ability of doing track counts on private lands. Accessibility must limit volunteers' effectiveness. I'm concerned that the area of western Wisconsin that appears to be labeled as outside of wolf range. To the commoner, that sounds as if no wolves exist there. I don't see that as possible. I don't see documentation of wolf population estimates on tribal reservation lands. Obviously, that number needs to be established, if it hasn't been, and added to the state population count if it hasn't been. I've had a 25 year career with the DNR, and know how the Department historically struggles to communicate with the public. This poor communication has resulted in distrust, frustration, and anger. Procedures need to be established to help in communication. This should include personnel that actually know something about wildlife, and a regional media representative should be considered. The woman in the deep south has done a poor job due to her "big city" unconnected background. Regaining trust will be an uphill road. I was very involved in the reintroduction of wild turkeys in northern Wisconsin. In the turkey program, we also had to overcome what was once considered unfavorable habitat. Today, turkeys have surprised even the most optimistic, with how they've done in the far north. Now, we see that "unfavorable habitat" classification to areas that should have wolves, such as western Chippewa County to the state line. With this classification, I fear track surveys are either limited or not done at all. This again leaves a huge hole in the overall state population estimate. Thanks for your time. Kevin Feind Solon Springs, WI
David Russell	Unknown	Dec152022	3:40:29	Wolf management plan draft	It does not need a hunting traping season as wolves never need to be killed and there aren't enough left to sustain a season. Deer over populate as do many other hunted wildlife but wolves are not, please leave then alone.
Ieva Zariņa	Unknown	Dec162022	6:00:23	Comment on Wolf Management Plan	Dear Sir or Madam, I would like to comment on the wolf management plan and specifically, I would like to oppose wolf hunt which has been included in the draft despite the fact that it is not legally admissible in accordance with the federal law. There are also ethical and practical reasons why hunting wolves is wrong and counterproductive. 1. Wolves are powerful agents that can assist in species regulation, recovery and the fight against the climate change. 2. Killing wolves actually increases the risk of wolf-livestock conflicts; 3. Wolves, as apex predators, are largely self-regulatory and hunting/culling can, in fact, increase wolf density and cause the related problems of over-exploitation and conflict; 3. Wolves are highly sentient, form deep attachments and they are truly devoted to their families and capable of grief which is why it is wrong to estimate their demographics as mere numbers just like it would be wrong to kill people who are in excess in some region. 1. Wolves as powerful ecosystem health agents. Wolves are a keystone species and also, an umbrella species. It means that many other species depend on wolves and by protecting wolves, you also protect these other species. While it is more clearly conceivable how wolves might affect their prey species or scavengers, wolves actually bear benefits to songbirds, amphibians, reptiles, plants and even the quality of riparian systems. You can read more about it here<https://secure-web.cisco.com/1gemQeppp1sZ36-H0LKMK6OL-yNVSVs5-I6-lw6spMUO-wKbhg1gjGnBGgpbLNsz9SF8pJNTigp-8LV9auX3sgByVp-xfy7z9qeeiz3od9W0_iaStbIgqllKmqKhasLJR78Klm2GP9lIuJmyD0mcUz6ShCcBfEaAOg2WzjFhXEKGDBep3SLmun0KYJv7wrAYvQZVeDxN0XNyW2SuCYnPfuU-JLFWssQ-1auu8uBgvrOJOVR1pCtrh5GNV7hAJZ0mIV4_lS3vcCA5ipTppoFLWF7v4YW20JQMttRON4RtmPz3uH-zT1txwi7aVgxa4lTyWlbAHDStUMoq-EKhTTEfKZA/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.livingwithwolves.org%2Fabout-wolves%2Fwhy-wolves-matter%2F>. In fact, wolves are so powerful that even in small numbers, they bring large benefits that manifest themselves in the entire ecosystem and that is why some of your best scientists have recommended rewilding and nature restoration projects that rely on two key species - wolf and beaver (you can find the link to the publication in this document<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XGovY_ZY23RMBHAtL4c2jSzXEaFX6JaO/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=106495592074605043817&rtpof=true&sd=true> where I have listed wolf-related scientific publications any wolf management expert should have read - I have also added brief summaries of the key points). When it comes to their prey species, wolves can

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					ensure long-term health through removal of sick individuals but also through genetic selection (removal of breeders with poor genetics who would pass on the disease-gene to their offspring). Wolves can help in limiting the spread and prevalence of such diseases as chronic wasting disease, brainworm, tuberculosis, osteoarthritis among others. While we often consider wolves as 'killers' and 'harbingers of death', it is a wrong view - wolves kill only as much as it is necessary in order to keep the total of death to minimum. This means that, under normal circumstances, by the act of killing (or even simply by residing in an area), wolves will reduce the total number of deaths through decreasing the rates of disease or overpopulation-related mortality in ungulate communities. Such mechanisms do not necessarily need to rely on killing. Where wolves live, ungulates tend to gather in smaller groups and to change their movements which can also curb the infection rates by limiting social group contact (just like during Covid, we are advised to keep distance from one another and to avoid large social gatherings). Unexpectedly, wolves can also reduce, for example, road traffic related mortality. A study in Wisconsin (also included in the links in the aforementioned document) shows that wolf presence changes deer behavior reducing deer-vehicle collisions by as much as 24% and consequently, saving $48 million. The same study states that wolf-caused livestock loss in Wisconsin can reach $174'000 annually. Also, it is worth considering how much wolves 'earn you' through tourism, science and education opportunities and through the reduced disease rates or even by improving the quality of water. Wolves are great allies and helpers and the species that scavenge on their kills are often endangered (birds of prey, wolverines, pine martens etc.). Another research shows that with climate change, scavenging species might be at risk through the reduced late winter mortality which can be detrimental on a population demographics level because late winter carcasses offer important resources building up the animals' fitness for the reproductive season. Breeding success depends on foraging success and species like wolves can deliver a more equally distributed abundance of carrion throughout the winter period. These are just a few examples on why wolves are important and why wolves are not a threat to us but some of our most powerful allies. All of these services, however, depend not just on wolf numbers but also on the stability of their social groups and local populations (which is why a declining population suffering hunting pressure is not desirable) - if wolf packs are unstable and the demographics are fluctuating, wolves will not be able to carry out the same activities with the same consequences. For example, if wolf pack is disrupted due to loss of members (breeders or old, experienced wolves), wolves will not be able to hunt successfully and they might begin relying on other food sources that are not their main prey. Such food sources could even include livestock (lone wolves and small packs that cannot take down large, wild prey or do not have the accumulated knowledge of their home territory, will be forced to roam and get whatever food they can - an easier prey). 2. As I mentioned before, wolf packs that are disrupted can cause greater risk to livestock farming. Usually, wolves do not select attacking livestock, especially, if livestock is found in areas close to human settlements or protected by fencing, guardian dogs, range riders etc. Wolf main prey is large ungulates (elk, moose, white-tailed deer etc.). However, wolves are opportunistic predators. If wolves are travelling alone (dispersing wolves, wolves who have lost their pack etc.) or in small groups, they will not be able to take down large savvy wild prey and they will be unfamiliar with the surroundings (difficulty to locate prey). Under such circumstances, wolves are likelier to attack livestock if they come across it. Also, in unstable, disrupted wolf populations, there are vacancies filled by newly arriving wolves who are unfamiliar with the territory and who have not yet formed a pack - these situations cause greater risk to livestock. Similarly, hunting has the tendency to reduce the number of old wolves in the population. Old wolves have the knowledge of the prey and territory as well as of the defense and territory maintenance. Without this knowledge, young wolves will not carry out the same behaviours as wild wolves under natural conditions. (Moreover, wolf breeding success actually peaks at the age of 2-3 years after which it declines. Thus, removal of older wolves can increase local wolf density because only younger breeders are left who produce more pups.) That is why stable local populations are beneficial over declining, fluctuating populations and disrupted packs. In the list of publications you will see that wolf hunting can increase the risk of attacks on livestock in the following year by 4% in cattle and by 5-6% in sheep (risk rate increases with each wolf killed). Additionally, if one ranch 'protects' itself against wolves by trapping/hunting, this causes a displacement of the problem and neighbouring ranches in other regions suffer greater depredation risk. Preventive methods<https://secure-web.cisco.com/1qmMzxxiNFFgVbV83rn5R8HAcCBIBnUJ9ihWoTXEcJld4apOqk3A-wzPUN9j08iTKmuFBfKNU1yybgNcn-GOm7FL3Q1zdyppR-OxLsBSCZN9xmlVJuE1F1LV8RkQq0nisMfFdAIODx9ixe9weA8w1ZF-fTmqMR8ZHeAUgSffEDWZqwXTBTXIm49j5pd5ti1ouGW55istUUisHtKncWgiY_0U5QnpFTxZ-WjWOm40JryFxZzRtf1gsHuzNfQvMnT6AvoiN3YX7UasOelOPHhtz0Obq0Aqn3nCAy7ab6UiP5X6YRgWtUa5z6TXzm4X2ktPz4cxlL2NH4kXA7DKM7gRWYw/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.coyotewatchcanada.com%2Ffiles%2FWolfAwarenessRanchersGuide2ndEd..pdf> (such as electric fences, guardian dogs, guardian donkeys, fladry, carcass removal etc.) are far more effective (at least 95% efficiency rating) and do not pose the aforementioned risks. Also, people tend to exaggerate the actual conflict rates and wolves kill, for example, less than 0.04 sheep per year in the U.S. of the entire sheep stock while large percentages of livestock are lost to disease, bad weather, calving complications, poisonous plants etc. More livestock units are stolen by humans than killed by wolves. More sheep are killed by dogs than by wolves. Furthermore, research in Europe and USA shows that there are no problem wolves. In places where habitat will be too fragmented, wild ungulate availability too low and livestock will be accessible, wolves will be pushed to attack livestock. Those are 'problem places' that create 'problem wolves' and removal of 'problem wolves' will not resolve the issue of the 'problem place'. Any wolf that will end up in the 'problem site', will, once again, become a 'problem wolf'. Therefore, the issue of the site specifics (why wolves attack livestock instead of hunting down wild prey and how this can be prevented through fencing, guardian dogs etc.) has to be solved in order to stop the attacks. Culling of the wolves will be inefficient because after these wolves are gone, other wolves will move into the area and the issue will be renewed. 3. Most life forms in nature are regulated by either bottom-up or top-down effects. Bottom-up effects include the population's dependency on food resources (a reduction in food availability can lower population numbers and/or demographic rates). Top-down effects are usually predator-induced - it is how predator species regulate prey species numbers and other demographic parameters. (Other agents of control are for example, disease-causing bacteria, viruses, environmental changes or extremes etc.) Large predators like wolves are regulated by their prey species but they do not have a top-down regulating agent because they are not anybody's prey. Wolves can sometimes be killed by other predators due to competition but such killings do not form a regulating mechanism. It is therefore thought that wolves might need external regulation. But, like most large predators (based on body mass), in normal circumstances (meaning that the ecosystem is not severely degraded or subject to other dramatic deviations from what is natural, or impacted by humans through anthropogenic food resource availability in garbage dumps etc.) - wolves regulate their own numbers through biological and social mechanisms. Hunting and culling can, in fact, reduce the efficiency of self-regulating populations and become counter-effective. Biological mechanisms through which large predators (including wolves) self-regulate depend on smaller litter size, giving birth only once per year (or like bears, only once every 1 - 3 years). Large predators tend to rather invest in fewer offspring (unlike many other species who rely on the quantity of offspring attempting to compensate potential loss via greater numbers of children). Also, due to their larger size, large predators need to maintain bigger territories (in order to satisfy their metabolic needs by including the optimal number of ungulates over a range of habitats). Wolves defend their territories which is why only one wolf family (pack) will occupy their large territory. This reduces the number of wolves per square miles and wolves will keep their large territories pushing out other wolves (a partly social mechanism). This sets a limit on how many wolves can actually live in a specific area

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					and wolves themselves sustain that limit. In places where wolves do not live, often smaller predators thrive who have larger litters and who have smaller territories. Thus, without wolves you can end up with more predators per area (a higher predatory density). Equally, in places where the local population is constantly disrupted through hunting, the territories will fluctuate and wolves will need to start off with smaller packs that cannot defend large enough territories. The number of wolf packs can increase and these packs would be initially smaller but they would nevertheless produce pups to establish their own social group. Such constant disruptions can thus lead to smaller packs, smaller territories, and more wolves per area (higher wolf densities). Another self-regulating mechanism is carried out through breeding suppression and alloparenting. It might sound complicated but you already know what it means - it means that in wolf packs, usually, only the breeding pair will produce pups and other pack members will assist in raising the pups of the breeding pair. Thus you get a pack unit in which not all wolves who are capable of breeding, produce pups. The wolf density per area is thereby even further reduced. When wolves are lethally removed, once again, new packs are formed and many wolves who did not have a breeding opportunity, come by one. While it might sound nice, it can be detrimental to the resource stocks because too many breeders per area can produce too many pups and the demand for resources can exceed the capacity of the local ecosystem. Additionally, in such affected populations, small packs might try to increase their numbers in order to have enough providers and defenders in their pack and to reach a normal, average pack size. Thus, more wolves can be allowed to breed also within the pack. Because in hunted populations, vacancies are often filled by strangers (migrating wolves), breeding rates can increase due to the increased encounter rates with unrelated individuals. Wolves tend to avoid inbreeding (breeding with close relatives). In stable populations it is harder to meet unrelated individuals and thereby, to get a breeding chance. In disrupted populations, wolves roam more freely and the chance to meet an unrelated wolf is greater. You can see now that, oddly, removing wolves can actually increase local wolf density and even wolf numbers. The more frequent the disturbance, the lower the likelihood that wolves will reach the self-regulating capacity by forming large enough packs that can maintain large enough territories and hunt down large enough prey and where breeding opportunities are essentially limited at 2 wolves (a breeding pair) per 100 - 6000 km2 (wolf territory size). 4. Finally, there are ethical considerations. If you visit the Wolf Science Centre (Austria) website<https://secure-web.cisco.com/1ic-KEd81ihh1kAm1DgnZ0nG6Xi3HO7tCRvmn8RI3MX_t5bVMvOgrhTV3gRHMEqog2H806er4muKPWRrcrCgWotTx65ISYonlk_H-Sl6MiRlnBC_6XNHUgOeqIZ9oVsI2pzFUL8-rCnhlmjaGpUDx3g6CAcKbmxIAOkyoE4A4lZDleLXixF8IEGsYyfb5d_wmVECVLvte5rFtaophGk4tNt5Y40vj5LQNHL2_oQAzhWG1_Zyyc3FEqyIJg6_Z8J3U-L0SAiODo-sX4JMmlxU2mkTpbaLgqiY68S4InCgTigL9Da8l9_tU4_Hah0EtFzyYgxCis5Y-9lUXqTpWV7yHhA/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wolfscience.at%2Fen%2Fwsc-research%2F>, you will see an abundance of scientific publications dedicated to wolf sentience, prosociality, affiliative relationships, intelligence etc. You will see that wolves are not different from dogs but when it comes to social bonds and cooperation (even with humans), or other aspects of intelligence, wolves frequently surpass dogs. Their research has actually led to discoveries that suggest - humans are not responsible for the cooperative, friendly nature of our companions, the dogs. These traits are inherited from their wild ancestors and humans have only redirected them so that dogs form the same attachments that wolves do - but with us, humans. Whatever you think or feel about dogs, you should be thinking and feeling about wolves. Dogs, too, kill sheep. Would you feel it a justified decision to kill stray dogs randomly because one poor animal killed somebody's sheep? Or would you rather try to see the bigger picture inclined to justify the dog and to see how it is our responsibility, as well? We tend to think more highly of dogs because their affections and cooperation are directed at us but wolves possess the same traits, only they direct them at one another within their social groups. We also tend to think of wolves as killers but it is very likely that wolves actually kill fewer animals than dogs do (than we do) if we realize that our meat consumpion is a paid-killing. Wolves only feed 2 - 3 times per week and it is possible that their consumption rates are lower than ours and those of dogs'. They provide for themselves instead of paying someone to butcher livestock. Through their activities, health and balance is brought to their prey communities and it is how they earn their share. From the ethical perspective, studies have demonstrated the strong bonds that wolves develop for one another. For example, wolves tend to howl more frequently when someone whom they have bonded with is gone for a period of time (as compared to when a dominant wolf is gone for a while). This means that wolves howl out of sadness and longing for their missing 'buddy', not merely out of fear and anxiety that is attributed to situations when a leader, an authority, the main provider has disappeared. Wolves are extremely prosocial. For example, in order to rescue endangered species, sometimes wolf pups are added to wild wolf mothers' dens alongside the mothers' own offspring (of the same age). What is the success rate of such adoptions? 100%. Wolves raise these young as their own. Do we have a society in which adoption is a 100% successful? Wolves even adopt pups of their 'enemies'. Male wolves who take over the breeder's role in a pack by killing or chasing off the former breeding male, extend their protection and provision over the former male's offspring. Many times you can observe interactions between wolf siblings<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4iPx3JrTvc> where you would be surprised to learn that the patience and caring that you are witnessing is not between a mother and her pup but rather between the big sister and her younger sibling etc. If you have younger siblings, you will know not to take this level of tolerance for granted :) Many books have been written by wolf scientists and many movies have been made and in those, you can encounter stories of valour and loyalty and grief over loss of loved ones and acceptance, forgiveness, bravery. For example, there is a story of a wolf family which trespassed in another wolf pack's territory and got caught. The family consisted of a pregnant mother, a father and four pups who were too young to fight the much larger pack who now sought to defend their territory (and you will remember why it is important for wolves to do so - if they do not defend their territories, it can put the whole ecosystem at risk of depletion). Thus, the male wolf father is the only one who can protect his family. And despite the odds of a far greater number of strange wolves approaching, he turns around to stand against them and to fight to his death because this could give a chance for his pregnant mate and children to escape. He confuses the attackers by running through their lines but his children cannot watch his father fighting on his own. His children are too young and too small to fight but they can run. So one of them runs out in the open thus enticing some of the attackers to follow. Two more of his siblings join in and do the same until their father is left to stand against four adult wolves. The young wolves and their mother escape and their father manages to fight off the four wolves but he is very injured and he is close to death. Later, his family howls to try to call him back and to hear his voice and to know what is happening but he does not answer. On the following day, his pregnant mate risks her life wandering back into the rivaling pack's territory to track down the male. She finds him and she does not leave his side for many hours until it becomes too dangerous for her to stay (if she dies, her unborn pups die, and very likely, so do her last spring's children because they are not yet big enough to provide for themselves on their own). Soon after she leaves, her mate dies having succumbed to the injuries he received while protecting his family. She had had the opportunity to say her goodby and he has seen that his sacrifice resulted in the survival of his family. He dies a successful protector. This is just one of such stories of sacrifice and loyalty. There are other stories where packs appear to grieve their lost mates. Scientists have found wolf skulls that suggest - wolves care for their injured pack members. The fractured jaw evidences that the wolf has received a blow (by an ungulate hoof) rendering him unable to hunt and to feed properly. But the wolf has survived years after his injury until dying of other causes. Which means that his pack provided for him and maybe even regurgitated food for him until he recovered. Wolves with mange are not banned from their packs and instead, they live largely 'free-riding' and benefiting from other pack mates' greater effort in provisioning. Wolves with mange are more

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					likely to recover in bigger packs and these packs provide them what is essentially healthcare and social care due to partial disability. Such insight suggests that it is wrong for us to treat wolves as 'management units', numbers that can be added up or retracted to our convenience. So what are we to do? We should allow for stable populations to form. We should introduce preventive, non-lethal coexistence measures<https://secure-web.cisco.com/1qmMzxxiNFFgVbV83rn5R8HAcCBIBnUJ9ihWoTXEcJld4apOqk3A-wzPUN9j08iTKmuFBfKNU1yybgNcn-GOm7FL3Q1zdyppR-OxLsBSCZN9xmlVJuE1F1LV8RkQq0nisMfFdAIODx9ixe9weA8w1ZF-fTmqMR8ZHeAUgSffEDWZqwXTBTXIm49j5pd5ti1ouGW55istUUisHtKncWgiY_0U5QnpFTxZ-WjWOm40JryFxZzRtf1gsHuzNfQvMnT6AvoiN3YX7UasOelOPHhtz0Obq0Aqn3nCAy7ab6UiP5X6YRgWtUa5z6TXzm4X2ktPz4cxlL2NH4kXA7DKM7gRWYw/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.coyotewatchcanada.com%2Ffiles%2FWolfAwarenessRanchersGuide2ndEd..pdf>. We should value wolves and exert the policy of true accountancy where we stop viewing wolves as a cause of economic loss where the loss is in fact a tiny fraction of the profit the wolves bring us. We should spread the word and educate the public and disallow lies to be circulated in the media. Public education has been proven to increase tolerance toward wolves. After what you have learned, do you not regard wolves differently already? Research in Germany shows that people who know more about wolves, also have better experiences with wolves and attest to greater tolerance levels - they do not mind wolves living ca. 30 - 35 km from their homes. School trips can be arranged to visit the Europe's wolf conservation and science centres which would especially benefit children from rural communities by forming their founded opinions early on and teaching them the basic principles of coexistence without which we have no future. You can familiarize yourself with specific publications here<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XGovY_ZY23RMBHAtL4c2jSzXEaFX6JaO/edit?usp=share_link&ouid=106495592074605043817&rtpof=true&sd=true> (it is a list I have compiled including brief summaries of key points). I believe that any wolf population manager should be informed on these findings. Thank you for considering my message. I hope you make the right decisions. Sincerely, Ieva Zarinja
james federman	Unknown	Dec182022	21:07:31	Wolf population	I am in favor of fewer wolves, higher hunting quotas .
Margaret Melville	Y	Jan12023	8:39:07	Wolf Hunt	The last wolf hunt was a debacle for the State of Wisconsin. That hunters outside of Wisconsin could sue to kill wolves was an abomination and embarrassment. The DNR needs to be vigilant in protecting wolves and their habitats. They are an integral part of the ecosystem. Margaret Melville Cedarburg WI
jane woosencraft	Y	Jan12023	11:10:13	Wolves	I tried multiple times to enter my email in order to get a code to enable me to comment on the wolf plan, but it won't work. Hopefully the new plan will not allow the wolf kill quota to be exceeded by 83%. Thank you. Jane Woosencraft Green Bay, Wi
Tom Murn	Y	Jan12023	13:14:08	wolf management in WI	DNR re recent proposal for wolf pack number adjustments in WI -- the figure I will keep referring to is 1 wolf pack per 50 sq mi in old growth forest. I assume that would be the target for management of this resource. the emphasis should be on restoration of old growth forest over larger continuous areas while continuing to limit wolf interactions with the public and the public's assets such as livestock. Thomas Murn Newark WI 53511
David Waggoner	N	Jan12023	13:19:56	Wolves	I live in California and travel every summer to fish trout in Burnett,Washburn, and Polk counties. I place a high value on seeing wildlife as I fish the streams. Frequently I see deer. And occasionally I see bears, beaver, otters, mink, turkeys, fishers, turtles, and many species of birds. Once in 50 years I had a wolf trot by, following a deer, and 5 minutes later came by again. He saw me and paid me no attention. That was a thrill of a lifetime. Count me as a tourist that places a high value on being able to see wolves. Dave waggoner Newport Beach ca [redacted]
Tammy Vignali	Unknown	Jan12023	13:48:56	Wolf Management	To whom it may concern, Having a wolf hunt is disgusting and completely irresponsible for an endangered species. It also shows Rich boys with guns Trumps Our environment. The only thing that should matter is what is best for the wolves and our environment. Look how letting rich and greedy people do what they want to Our environment has gotten this country. Let's start doing what's Right. Extremely disappointed in Wisconsin, Tammy Vignali
	Y	Jan22023	11:03:13	wolf management plan comments	Hi, I have 200 acres of land near HWY k in oneida county, we manage it for wild life and timber, have food plots and we do very selective harvesting of the resources, we almost treat it as a preserve. in resent years there has been a great increase in the wolf population and severely depressed deer numbers, we have 9 cams out all year, this year we had 15 wolfs at one time on a cam, I know this seems unlikely but have it on cams, ususally we see 3 or 4 at a time, my neighbor has horses and they get terrified by them and one was attacked he said, neighbors are afraid to let their dogs out, the wolfs are becoming much more bold, one followed me for a short while when cross country skiing , the local dnr wants wolf management and is frustrated there is none now, I thing this is a politcal hot potato now, please use common sense on how to manage the population, Thanks,
Mary Shabbott	Unknown	Jan22023	14:15:30	Comment on the wolf plan	If any type of wildlife/management plan hopes to follow science with the animals being the priority, NO type of hunting will be included. You can not boast a new, updated wolf plan that protects this keystone species and include hunting. Nothing good ever comes from hunting these animals. They take care of their own population. They self-regulate and do need your interference. Leave them alone. Provide protections for these animals and stop coddling a small minority that only wants a trophy hunt. Mary Shabbott
Jacob Lewandowski	Unknown	Jan22023	17:18:58	Wolf management plan comments	To whom it concerns, I am writing in regarding the wold management plan. I believe we should look at regulating numbers of wolfs with the means of legal hunting/trapping practices. This is better than using tax dollars for federal wildlife hunters/trappers. I also believe we need numbers that mirror the 350 originally decided on or at a number very similar. I believe we should go with a hard set number. We also need to diminish the reservation system from the plan where small sub zones are created. This adds more confusion. It also is not right that they have say over an animal which is not the reservations property, but rather the state when it steps its foot off the the reservation property. Thanks, Jacob Lewandowski
Roy Eliason	Unknown	Jan32023	8:47:17	FW: DNR Website Information Request: Endangered Species and Natural Communities	Wolf control is an issue in many countries. Instead of culling them why not tranquilize them in the field and spay and neuter them there?
Chad Brown	Y	Jan42023	11:35:26	Wolf Plan	Reduce the wolf population! There is no way that the population should have been allowed to get this big and hunters demand to be allowed to hunt wolves, and thereby protecting the big game species that THEY PAY to harvest. Thanks. Chad Brown [redacted] Oconomowoc WI 53066

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Pat Haimerl	Unknown	Jan42023	11:50:46	Wolves destiny	My comment is to keep the pack and let it grow... The wolf shows us it belongs to something greater than itself. Please share with the advisory board. Thank you Pat
Jason Starke	Y	Jan42023	12:15:12	Wolf comments	Hello DNR representative, My comments are written as a tax payer of our State and not as a representative of our State. I do not feel that wolves should be allowed in the wild as they present a danger to children that play in or near a wooded area. -At the very least the person that witnesses a wolf stocking a child should be able to shoot it on site without fear of the DNR. -We should have at least two separate seasons that should be limited to what the Federal Government recommends for the total estimated population to be a viable hunt. - Again these are my comments as a tax payer. Thanks
Jane Lochowicz	Unknown	Jan42023	16:34:09	FW: DNR Website Information Request: Endangered Species and Natural Communities	Hi: This is in reference to the wolf hunts in our state. My opinion is the State of Wisconsin has spent my hard earned taxes on getting the wolves back into the state as they killed into extinction in the last century. Now you want hunters to again hunt them to extinction. Why? You can't eat their meat like deer or turkeys nor do they use their hides for clothing or rugs. So why bother killing them. I am not in favor of killing them for any reason. If there gets to be too many of them, then the DNR can trap them in cages and send to Alaska or ask Canada if they won't take some of them. Wolves are too much like our pet dogs and they don't kill dogs do they? Thank you. Jane Lochowicz
Phil Kendall	Unknown	Jan42023	16:50:13	Horrendous wolf plan...	Your agency is hated for reasons like this! You need a number!! How many wolves are going to be allowed in the state?? If I answered the waterfowl surveys each year without giving numbers how much help is that? How many ducks did you shoot last year? Several. Is that a good answer. Two can play that game. Quit putting politics in the DNR, you are a useless Madison liberal agency and that is no secret. Now get a real [redacted] plan with a number and release it to those of us that pay your wage. Aka the TAXPAYER...You guys are a pathetic joke!! Phil K.
Ken Hanson	Unknown	Jan42023	18:22:04	Wolf Regulations	I am in favor of a severe reduction in the State wide wolf packs..I know the liberal judges and I'm a liberal won't have the courage to conduct controlled hunts to put the population back in line with what was originally planned. The population has EXPlODED! Our Native American brothers have not lived up to their harvest quotas and with no quotas in place the population is out of control.It's time to rethink the wolf carrying capacity numbers and quickly restore that number back to what was originally established.Thank You. Ken Hanson.
Ron Van Straten	Unknown	Jan42023	19:29:07	Comments on draft Wolf Plan	DNR Staff, I have read the draft wolf management plan and have the following comments: #1 The plan needs to have a numeric goal for wolf numbers. Without this metric the plan is useless. #2 I agree completely with the 32 comments and objections brought forth by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Thank you for your time and effort. Ron Van Straten [redacted] [redacted]
Drew Charpentier	Unknown	Jan52023	5:01:44	Wolf Plan	Good morning! I agree with the thousands of deer hunters in northern , the WWF, and CC. Your Wolf Management Plan is full of holes, and is biased towards wolf advocate groups, and once again driven by $$ not management. There needs to be an annual quota of at least 350 animals if the deer population will ever start to rebound in northern Wisconsin!! You cannot have a balance without an annual harvest to control a population increase of any species? I agree with Dean Bortz(every word) from the latest issue of Wisconsin Outdoor News, and the members of the WWF Board refuting your proposed Wolf Plan!!! You need a numeric population goal, and an annual harvest to maintain that goal. The DNR is already behind 2 years in managing the wolf population! Your job is to manage the growing wolf population. You are failing. Like I said before, myself and many of my fellow hunters in northern Wisconsin concerned about our decimated deer population will not wait for the DNR/Feds to make up their minds about a Wolf Management Plan. We are taking matters into our own hands!! By stalling and not having the fortitude to make sound management decisions, the DNR(you), are risking losing millions of dollars generated by Wisconsin deer hunters! And as mentioned by Dean Bortz in WON and the WWF Board, your trying to sweep the dog depredation issue under the rug. Dogs are not being depredated just in large tracks of public land! I have a Wildlife Management degree from UW Stevens Point. I went to school with Jeff Pritzl. In fact we graduated together. Jeff and I were taught by the likes of Christine Thomas, Dean Trainer, and Dr. Payne. Your proposed Wolf Management Plan would get an F from those above. Key principles of a sound Wildlife management plan are population dynamics, population goals and carrying capacity, and population controls and harvest structure. Stop appealing to special interest groups, $$$, and the DNR's agenda, and start doing your job! The future of Wisconsin's deer herd, and our declining deer hunting public is in your hands!!!! Drew Charpentier PS This letter is circulating
John O'Leary	Unknown	Jan52023	8:21:05	Wolves	The DNR needs to reduce the wolf population. They have decimated deer populations in certain areas. In my opinion the only good wolf is a dead wolf
Phillip Parsche	Unknown	Jan52023	17:58:21	New Wolf Plan	Good afternoon, It seems to me that as the result of outside groups or jurisdictions, that the DNR new plan reflects a concern from these groups and pulled in their horns from the original plan. I believe the original plan should serve as a model for future plan development. Minimum and maximum numbers need to be set. The original numbers of and control of a herd of 350 clearly understated the ability of the wolf to propagate freely. Actually, zones of carrying capacity have been reduced. More concrete, less forage (a clear loss of grouse, I.E.). Maximum herd size of 750 at which point the management to 500 is put in effect. Wisconsinites must care for our natural resources. Not some wolf hugger that lives on the 80th floor in New York city. Phil Parsche [redacted]
William Draves	Y	Jan52023	20:51:11	Protect and grow wolf packs	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DNR wolf plan. Wolves are part of our environment, diversity and biology supporting human life. With the crisis in climate change a threat to our way of life, We need to support wildlife diversity as God intended when s/he created us and them. -Do not allow local entities to decide on 'kill' numbers. -Set a statewide goal of 1,0000 and get there. -Create a fund for farmers and others who suffer livestock or pet losses. I've seen several wolves in the wild. They are beautiful and never came close to harming me, or anyone. No one in the state's history has been killed by a wolf. [redacted] Presque Isle, WI 54557
Gerald Francis	Unknown	Jan62023	16:45:08	wolves	I am taking the time to write to ask the DNR to start respecting Wisconsin sportsmen and start maintaining the wolf population that was originally planned in our state, which is 350 animals. The WWF is right on track with their recommendations and that should be acted on instead of kicking the can like the DNR has for the past how many years now. I have been an avid Wisconsin outdoorsman my whole life and have spent many years in the northern part of the state. I am quite frankly disgusted with the number of wolves that I see throughout my vacation time to the woods. I went from seeing one track a year to multiple wolves per camera throughout the year. I, and all Wisconsin outdoorsman, are asking you to start doing your jobs and working at getting the wolves delisted and back in the state's control. Not only are outdoorsman sick of this, but farmers that are losing livestock and in turn their income to survive, are as well. Respectfully Gerald Francis

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John Herrmann	Y	Jan72023	11:51:20	WI DNR Wolf Management Plan	I have reviewed the WI wolf management plan and strongly disagree with most of it. I agree with the 32 objections that have been submitted by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and hope the WI DNR will change the plan. I have lost all faith in the WI DNR and feel like the DNR is controlled by special interest groups. This wolf plan shows that I am correct. John Herrmann Chippewa County
Tim Lobner	Y	Jan72023	13:20:53	Wolf Plan	I disagree with you wolf plan. There should be no plan without a max goal number of wolfs.Any one that spends any time in the outdoors, knows your estimate is way low.You obviously don't listen to people who are most involved. I also disagree with the buffer zone.It is unfair to land owners who live in these zones.I don't feel the tribes should be dictate the policy off reservation. Timothy Lobner Wis Rapids
Kailee Krenz	Unknown	Jan82023	8:16:14	Wolf Management Plan Comment	Hello this is John Clements, a member of the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association. We bear hunt in Douglas County and I wanted to let you know that the wolf population has exploded, at anytime on our cameras you can see 3-4 wolves per picture. Our baits are spread out around 20 miles and every bait has wolves on it no matter the time of day. You are taking away our right to run dogs by having so many wolves that you can not control them, and I am not the only hunter that thinks so. I am not for killing all of the wolves, but we have to have a manageable herd. Wolves have no natural predator, we have to take care of this problem. Sincerely yours, John Clements If you have any questions, please call [redacted]
Kailee Clements	Unknown	Jan82023	8:34:22	Wolf Management Plan Comment	Hello this is Kailee Clements - (maiden name Krenz). I have bear hunted my whole life, when I was young with my father in the Birchwood area and now with my husband and his family in Douglas county. This is a sport that I truly enjoy with my family when I was younger and now get to continue to enjoy with my family that my husband and I are continuing to create. I had no fear in the woods growing up, my dad always told me that humans were the species that ran the woods, and now that is a completely different story. I was 9 years old the first time I had to witness what a pack of wolves can do to a hound in 'their' territory and I will never forget the image I saw in the woods that day, and I will continue to remember it everytime I check a camera and see 3-4 wolves throughout the night and day. I am now 25 years old and there are multiple times per week/weekend that we have to avoid even getting our hounds out in fear of them being overrun by the outrageous number of wolves in Douglas county. If the wolf population does not become managed I fear that bear hunting will be a dying sport and my children will not be able to continue doing what my family has done their whole lives. The wolves in Douglas county alone are very out of control and I am worried about my dogs and a sport that I hold dear to my heart. I do not think that wolves should be taken out as a whole, but I do think that there should be some sort of management action taken care of. Thank you for taking the time out to read my opinion and point of view, Sincerely - Kailee Clements
Bill Herrmann	Y	Jan82023	9:16:56	Wolf Management Plan	I have hunted and fished in Wisconsin for the last 79 years. After reviewing the Wolf Management Plan I strongly disagree with almost all of it. I do agree with the 32 objections that have been submitted by the WWF. I hope the NRB will in no way approve this plan. This plan shows why I have no faith in the current DNR on their handling of any wildlife issues. As a long time former member of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress from Chippewa County it saddens me to see the present state of the DNR. William Herrmann Chippewa County
John Herrmann	Y	Jan82023	12:54:27	Fwd: Wolf Management Plan	I have hunted and fished in Wisconsin for the last 79 years. After reviewing the Wolf Management Plan I strongly disagree with almost all of it. I do agree with the 32 objections that have been submitted by the WWF. I hope the NRB will in no way approve this plan. This plan shows why I have no faith in the current DNR on their handling of any wildlife issues. As a long time former member of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress from Chippewa County it saddens me to see the present state of the DNR. William Herrmann Chippewa County
John Romans	Y	Jan92023	17:31:05	Wisconsin DNR C/O Wolf Management Plan	Wolf management in Wisconsin should not be a difficult endeavor. Politics and people's misguided or sympathetic views run rampant. Most people (hunters and non hunters alike) in this state seem to understand the ecosystem and the need for all of our wildlife to flourish. The problem with the wolf management plan is this; Why do wolves get special treatment at the expense of other wildlife? The northern deer herds in Douglas and Bayfield counties are decimated because of the DNR's unwillingness to control the Wolf Packs. Why are Wolves more important than deer (our number one hunting resource for revenue)? The goal is to have Wolves in Wisconsin. Then manage them with a numerical goal like every other big game animal. 350 is the number most people agree on. I believe the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Conservation Congress has a better proposal to the DNR Wolf Plan. Please accept all 32 objections by the WWF. Take into account the people that live with the wolves, not people in a town or on a lake shore in Wolf range. Then rework the Wolf Plan so all Wisconsin outdoors people can live, hunt and experience the Northern TImber Wolf. First and foremost is the delisting of Wisconsin Wolves. Then manage them like any other big game. Respectfully, John Romans Centuria, Wisconsin
Ann Tagawa	Unknown	Jan92023	19:05:54	Protection of gray Wolves	Dear Decision Makers, I write as a concerned citizen to ask you to please do whatever you can to reduce the number of wolves that are killed in Wisconsin. It is so important to protect them to maintain balance in our ecosystems and to respect their right to live as the magnificent animals they are. Thank you for doing whatever you can to protect our wolves! Sincerely, Ann Tagawa [redacted]
Steven Waskow	Unknown	Jan112023	7:02:40	Wolf Management Plan	To WDNR, I am writing to express my concerns with the recently announced 'Wolf Management Plan'. Why is there no longer a population goal? Why are the Tribes being given partial control of lands surrounding the Reservation in the form of a buffer zone. When wolf management was proposed I don't remember how many years ago, we had population goals set as a number of wolves in Wisconsin. How are they going to be managed now? How many square miles are in the 6- mile buffer zones? what are they going to be? who will determine what is allowed on them? The state or the Tribes. Have we in essence just made to reservations larger. I feel like we've caved in completely to antihunting and tribal interests without considering hunters, landowners, or business owners in Northern Wisconsin. Steven Waskow [redacted]
Kevin Hogie	Unknown	Jan112023	9:10:56	Wolf plan objections	To whom it may concern, We have property in NW Wisconsin. The wolves in our area are out of control. The wolves need realistic management goals, back to 350? Thank you, Kevin Hogie [redacted]
Amber Kern	Unknown	Jan112023	19:56:07	Wolf population	Once again groups that have no idea about the wolf populations we face in our area are trying to stop wolf hunts that control their populations. As someone who has had multiple encounters with these wolves in my own yard, once while holding my sleeping toddler on my lap while mowing, where I had 3 extremely large wolves circling me and jumping at each other in the air to bite at each other when they passed in the circle, I feel I have a right to have a voice in this issue. The others do not! The wolves around here are getting more brave and more aggressive. Multiple people have felt threatened by them, including myself who has had more than one run in with them approaching me in my yard. The numbers need to be capped statewide using the matrix number of 350. And the six mile buffer zone around tribal land is also wrong. Hunting is a big deal in Wisconsin and brings in a lot of revenue for the state. The wolf populations are a huge threat to the deer populations and a threat to successful hunting. Many hunters have stopped coming here to hunt because they only see wolf tracks and no deer. Hunting is not a hobby. It feeds my family for many meals. We rely on venison to help feed this family. People who don't hunt and don't have wolves in their back yards have not earned a right to speak on these issues. We are not wolf haters. We only ask for population control and even relocating them to the other areas that are not having issues. I hope you will hear the concerns of those this actual impacts. Thank you, The kern family Larry, Amber, Brandon, Nicholas, William, and Savannah

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Cole J Correia	Unknown	Jan122023	11:47:25	FW: Wisconsin Wolf Hunting	Hello DNR and WOlf Advocates, I'm writing this email to speak my voice on wolf hunting in Wisconsin, I understand the need to keep the population at a stable point, but in recent years hunters have been abusing this and killing double the limit of wolves. A lot of overkilling stems from the misconception that wolves are maneaters, they'd rather be left alone than attack a human, sometimes they may kill cattle but they are wild animals that need to eat like the rest of us, and plus farmers get compensation for the murder of cattle anyway. Wolves help the ecosystem stay balanced and healthy by hunting herbivores that if left unchecked would destroy the plants of their given ecosystem, this very thing happened in Yellowstone, they had to bring foreign wolves in just to fix it. As someone who understands and appreciates the positive impact wolves have on the ecosystem, I kindly request to put more thought into making wolf hunting season a less common event. Sincerely, Cole
Barb Ament	Y	Jan122023	14:21:49	DNR Wildlife Switchboard - Wolves	DNR Wildlife Switchboard My family and I have been longtime Northern Wisconsin residents. We are not opposed to wolves, but they must be managed to a minimum number of 350 or less, as they are totally out of control now. Please do not allow wolves to populate in low quality wolf habitat as this will create many conflicts and enforce the delisting of wolves. Kirby Ament [redacted] Somerset, WI 54025 [redacted]
Todd Knutson	Unknown	Jan122023	15:46:10	DNR Wolf Management Plan	To Whom It May Concern, I wanted to share my comments regarding the newly released DNR Wolf Plan. I currently own 440 acres of recreational land in Douglas County. This property has been in our family for three generations, which has primarily been used for deer hunting. Over the years, the deer population has been slowly dwindling due to the excessive numbers of predators. The one predator, which has evated much if any management is the wolf. My interest in reducing the number of wolves living in NW Wisconsin is very high not only for my own personal reasons but, for the other property owners and businesses located in Douglas County. In regard to the proposed Wolf Management Plan, here are my thoughts: * Please establish a matrix number to cap the wolf population. We are currently at the point of no return, where management won't be able to keep the population in check. Even though the number of wolves harvested in the 2021 hunt went over the harvest quota, there were no wolves killed within miles of our property. In fact, the current number of encounters, pictures, deer kills, etc., are higher now than before the 2021 hunt. * I'm totally against the proposed six-mile buffer zone around Tribal Nations. I can't imagine what property values would do to the folks that own property next to a reservation with this language in place. Plus, you would be restricting the hunting rights of property owners. At the end of the day, I just want to see an annual wolf season take place! Obviously, nobody involved is going to come out of this as a winner. Yes, wolves belong on the landscape but, like every other animal needs management too! One other suggestion would be for the DNR to be more proactive with legal proceedings which help hunters and trappers alike. I realize anti-huntingers contribute a lot of funding toward political campaigns and attorneys to fight delisting the wolf. Hunters and Trappers pay a lot of money as well toward wildlife management and help to fund the DNR. Thank you for your time, Todd Knutson
Linda Ruechel	Unknown	Jan152023	15:11:44	Wolf Plan	Issues with the proposed wolf plan. 1- Provide a timeline for the numeric wolf population goal in the final plan. 2- Maintain 350 wolf population goal with a timeline for achieving this goal by managing the current population. 3- Include lone and dispersing wolves in the population estimates similar to the estimates of 12%-15% in Idaho and Montana. 4- Remove or reduce the buffer zones around Indian reservations which restrict or prohibit non-tribal members from hunting or trapping on our own land, which includes farmers who are impacted by wolves. 5- Counties not affected by wolves use USDA Wildife Services to control wolf damage instead of allowing hunters and trappers to remove these animals. 6- The plan doesn't sufficiently address depredations of non-agriculture domestic animals, such as dogs. All legal methods of harvesting should be included in the plan. 7- The plan definitely holds biases against hunting with dogs implying that any hunting conflicts are the fault of the hunter. Hunting with hounds has the same statutory and state constitutional protections as agriculture and should have equal active measures to prevent depredations through controlled management of wolves. 8- The draft lacks active conflict management in heavy depredation of dogs and non-agriculture animals. 9- Address the psychological impacts on humans due to wolf conflicts 10- Base the zone restructure on science-based suitable habitat. Not all areas are appropriate for wolves. 11- Wolves should be managed to reside in high-quality wolf habitat and not be managed to the maximum biological carrying capacity. 12- Western states have been unable to reduce wolf numbers consistently despite high levels of human interest. 13- Wolves are prolific, disperse long distances, readily recolonize new areas wherever humans will allow them and are difficult to control. 14- Federal delisting is required for conflict control and population management. We need the DNR to have a strong and visible presence with active involvement in all federal delisting efforts that impact Wisconsin, and in support of all other states actively working toward delisting and managing wolves in their states.
Joni Hogie	Y	Jan162023	18:33:14	Wolf Management Plan Objection	Wisconsin DNR, I would like to express my objections to the Plan you have proposed for Wolf Management: As residents of Douglas County, we are constantly inundated with wolves. I find it unbalanced that people who live/work several hours away ('Plan Writers and Key Contributors'), and are all funded by the government, are the people creating this plan. Not one person on your planning commission is a resident of our county, where wolves are a daily threat, yet you want us to adhere to your 'scientific' methods of managing wolves. How many of your writers/contributors have ever spent any amount of time in the woods of Douglas County? We've often offered our proof (trail camera photos, photos of tracks, face-to-face encounters, etc. see below photo) of the incredible amount of wolves in our area, but the DNR folks we've contacted were not interested because they're using a scientific algorithm! What's more accurate than actual sightings and photographs? Have any of your committee members ever had to stand outdoors hovering close to your pets while they relieve themselves because you can hear the wolves howling nearby? Have any of you ever had to worry about your children/grandchildren playing outside because your trail cameras took photos of wolves the night before?! How about we move wolf packs into the cities where your members and the folks in the wolf expansionist groups live? After all, those areas were habitats for wildlife once upon a time. By your own document's wording (page 5), 'research continues to show how adaptable wolves are and the variety of factors which play into the habitats they are willing and able to use'. If you want to increase the amount of wolves in Wisconsin, then spread them out equally so that everyone can experience having wolves as neighbors. This is from a trail camera on Town Road TT in Dairyland, WI. Less than 3 months ago. There are 9 wolves at this deer kill. We have several other photos too. We are not anti wolf. We consider ourselves stewards of the land and love/appreciate all wildlife. Our land is our life. All creatures (including humans) deserve to live and cohabitate in the wilderness together. The 1999 plan established the quantity at 350 wolves. Please keep to your original quota. Since the start of the pandemic, there has been an influx of people moving into our area. That alone should be justification that the habitat for wolves has been reduced since the original plan (so perhaps the number should be less than 350?). There is not as much room any more. Adding more wolves to your count would be perilous to the wolves as well as dangerous to the residents and their pets/livestock. Stop reinventing the wheel. The western states have used successful research and methodologies (i.e. iPOM - see https://thewesternnews.com/news/2022/aug/12/wolf-report-shows-stable-population-numbers-throug/<https://secure-web.cisco.com/1I9C163fC1dV-T4UmEYEb7lHH2xxJ8pelQLhdw-xh1rGhuiKmE_voU8L7kgpwFQdREto85Gj0BNwY9PG7jS-SQaQGXuSfzAE2gupGmsjpLDtbtOFSf8HBp-kVrGszZGGcQeXFCMriEYF6Ttra9SjLCE1upB5oZzMDsZCe6djHVWV6OeVoOn0h9LnUW39u8k99aMNaPTYSSqu23af8h5xU7QHpCxHUyLCcHq8Oc56dZgMQkrERBn3c-kqu3DiHs350uTiwEZMXzXGO2Qh-K3DYuwwtDYSSuURND8Hrpacz-

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					ZBa_Sg8UpGO5hkwjAeaN0CFRa6Yj1zys7tLCpH_tyNkkQ/https%3A%2F%2Fthewesternnews.com%2Fnews%2F2022%2Faug%2F12%2Fwolf-report-shows-stable-population-numbers-throug%2F>) that could easily be utilized in Wisconsin. Their methodologies incorporated scientific devices as well as input from hunters/residents. Employing tried and true approaches and procedures would be productive and cost effective (saving tax payer's dollars). I also ask that the DNR be more proactive in the push to get wolves delisted. We do not see our Wisconsin DNR making much of any effort in influencing the federal delisting. People in far away states tend to listen to those making the most noise, not necessarily those who are directly impacted by the conflicts with the wolf population. The number of wolves in our Douglas County are out of control, unbalanced, unfair, and dangerous to wildlife, habitat, and humans. Please adjust your Plan accordingly. In appreciation, Joni Dairyland, WI wolves are and the variety of factors which play into the habitats they are willing and able to use.
Peter Smith	Unknown	Jan182023	14:57:18	Fw: Protect wolves in Wisconsin!	Wisconsin Wolves Change Rivers! Mr. Peter Smith Chief Executive Officer CAVE MAN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING Bringing rational decision making back to Government E Mail: [redacted]
Anna Oberoi	Unknown	Jan182023	14:57:53	Protect Wolves!	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing and I hope you do too!
Nancy Fleming	Unknown	Jan182023	15:12:16	Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan	I am writing in reference to the proposed Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. This plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. These Alpha predators are an extremely important part of the Wisconsin ecosystem and deserve our protection. The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics of wolf packs must be considered. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. With Kind Regards, ~Nancy Fleming
Marilyn Price	Unknown	Jan182023	15:19:15	Your Draft Wolf Management Plan	To whom it may concern, I receive emails from Center for Biological Diversity and received one today on your Draft Wolf Management Plan. My concern in general is the rapid decline in biological diversity in this country and around the world. I am most grateful for the work done groups such as Center for Biological Diversity and hope you read and follow the advice they are giving you on your Draft Wolf Management Plan. Thank you for considering my request. Marilyn Price
R Reichert	Y	Jan182023	15:19:42		PLEASE protect wolves and all animals, please help protect the environment! R Reichert Wisconsin
G Gardner	Unknown	Jan182023	15:22:26	Protect Wisconsin Wildlife !!!	I do support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing! Please save the wolves in Wisconsin !! PLEASE PROTECT ALL your Wisconsin Wildlife !!!! G. Gardner
kevin cook	Unknown	Jan182023	15:36:29	Wolves	Protect them!!
C Serotini	Unknown	Jan182023	15:39:43	Wildlife	Please stop the killing of animals that are living in their environment. It's senseless, cruel, greedy. All beings on earth belong, just not killers!
Christina DeRespiris	Unknown	Jan182023	15:40:21	Wolf Management Plan	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What I don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ●⍰ There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ●⍰ There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ●⍰ In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ●⍰ 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology " From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.⍰ (Treves & Santiago-Ã⍰vila, 2023). Thank you, Christina DeRespiris [redacted]
Fred Elliott	Unknown	Jan182023	15:49:32	Protection of wolves	Please protect the wolves. Thank you Fred Elliott
Paul Martin Griepentrog	Y	Jan182023	15:52:55	Wolf management plan	Paul Martin Griepentrog Mailing address [redacted] Park Falls, WI 54552 [redacted] Response to WDNR Wolf Management Plan; As one uniquely positioned to comment as my farm lies within the area proposed to be annexed for reduced wolf harvest, I have several direct and indirect encounters with wolves and USDA WS. I have lived here for over 20 years and hold a masters certificate in wild life biology and animal damage control from the University of Purdue. The first three wolves I encountered where infected with sarcoptic mange, an indication of overpopulation. The fourth was 20 feet from my back door. I will not venture into any wooded area without a firearm for protection. I have had sheep deprivation confirmed by USDA APHIS in the past, but no longer have them due to infection of brain worms from deer. The claim of USDA WS being available 24/7 is false, I contacted the Rhinelander office in April with no response until I called a week later. Current WS conduct is to ignore injury. Will the abatement requirements for wolves be similar to deer? Where I was required to provide labor to erect and maintain abatement protocols. Does this not constitute extorting performance under color of law without just compensation? Isn't the claim of benefit from wolves reducing CWD, browsing new forest growth by deer, and deer car incidents, rooted in an overpopulation of deer? Why is there no testing data for diseases known to be transferred by wolves to livestock ex. Neosporosis, humans ex. Oocysts that linger in the soil and are fatal, or the recent discovery of parasite in wolves that increases their aggression? If we don't look is it not there? Does the maps and data provided indicating livestock deprivation as a result of prior wolf management indicate willful intent to do harm or depraved indifference on the part of the WI DNR, or both? Would the annexation of my lands into a reduced harvest quota be violative of rights granted me by assent to Federal Land Patent 2171 & 2101 document number 347541 Price Co.? Does not silence equate as fraud in it's elemental form of deceit, where there is a fiduciary duty to speak? See Black's Law 6th Edition
Srhein	Unknown	Jan182023	15:59:58	Protect Wolves in Wisconsin	Wolves are at the top of the food chain in the wild, and the loss of wolves disrupts nature's plan. We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. This is HORRIBLE! ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such

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Judy Oates	Unknown	Jan182023	16:00:52	Please Protect Wplves	Wolves are an important part of our ecosystem. Please provide protection for them.
R Wenthold	Unknown	Jan182023	16:10:56	Wolves in WI	Please stop the hunting as these animals are essential to the environment and do not require being culled.
Diane M Kastel	Y	Jan182023	16:21:16	What we do NOT like:	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's. wolf. management plan. Although we believe the current, plan needs, significant, updating , we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the. previous. plan, including: ● Wolves, in WI, will no longer be managed by reference to the. old. numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is, much, greater recognition of the, ecological, role of wolves ● The inclusion of a, social, survey, which notes, increased, positive views of wolves, knowledge of their, ecological, roles, and, increased, opposition to the motives, and, methods, for killing wolves ● The adoption of, proposed, buffer zones around, tribal, reservations (i.e., previously, no buffer zones existed) What we do NOT like: ● In general, all, omissions of, scientific, literature, the, arbitrary, prioritization of, policy, objectives, the rhetoric of the plan, and, the dismissal of, public, values, and, concerns, for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific, and, instrumental, view of wolves that promotes values contrary to, broad, public perspectives on wolves! ● 'SOM', wolf, estimation methodology “ From a, recent, critique: The, new, methods sacrifice precision, but, are believed to retain, adequate, accuracy and, sensitivity, to, changing, conditions for, reliable, decision-making! We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and, sensitivity of the, new, 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the, Wisconsin, method would, systematically, overestimate, wolf, abundance by large (but, currently, incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to, other, states, not only changed to, unverified, methods, but, also, implemented, widespread, wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of, wolf, abundance may have, far-reaching, consequences for, population, viability, and, confidence in, state, wildlife managers! We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar, findings for, other, states' occupancy models being insensitive to, human, causes of mortality that have, recently, increased! Overall, Wisconsin's, proposed, method for estimating, wolf, abundance shows, significant, departures from, best, practices in, scientific, measurement. Verification will require, independent, replication, and, unbiased, tests at, multiple, scales in, multiple, habitats under, different, human-induced mortality rates, and, peer, review before the, new, methods are considered reliable. (Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023) ● The, current, draft does NOT reflect the, best,, available science, and, is missing a, substantial, amount of, scientific, literature on: ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, and, wellbeing ● effectiveness of, non-lethal, interventions, especially, relative to, lethal, ones ● the impact of, widespread, killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological, relationships, and, evolution! ● The, above, scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on, and, promotion of, sustainable, recreational killing, and, consumptive, users as a, main, management strategy, results in a, biased, plan that runs contrary to, scientific, evidence despite much of this, omitted, scientific evidence being, more, recent, numerous, and, of, stronger, inference! ● The plan MUST, strictly, curtail, any, lethal management of wolves except in extremely, rare circumstances of, immediate, defense of life! ● A, substantial, body of research documenting, human-caused, mortality in, North American, wolves, including, Wisconsin, wolves, has found that policies allowing, liberalized, killing of wolves result in a, direct, increase in the hazard, and, incidence, of, illegal, killings! ● Hounding, or, hound, training, which are akin to allowing, legalized, dogfighting, MUST be illegal, or, severely, restricted as this practice is, extremely, cruel to wolves, and, hounds, alike, and, is NOT supported by the majority of hunters, or, the, broad, public! ● The plan MUST prioritize, wolf, protections, and, concentrate, solely, on, non-lethal, management of wolves in response to, livestock, conflicts to ensure, ethical, coexistence! ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a, wolf, hunting season, the Department can, still, restrict the implementation of, lethal, methods by setting, minimal, quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing, and, methods! ● Several studies have proven a, proactive, non-lethal approach leads to, better, conflict mitigation! ● Lethal management fails to provide a, long-term, solution to, wolf, predation and, has the, least, consistent success rates when compared to, non-lethal, practices! In addition, there is, significant, evidence showing that, lethal, wolf management is, less, functionally, effective at mitigating, subsequent, livestock losses than, non-lethal, deterrents! ● The plan MUST require the implementation of, abatement, measures as well as the use of, non-lethal, conflict minimization techniques by, domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for, confirmed, predation! ● The plan, also, runs contrary to, public, values towards wolves (and, omits mention of, such, majority values from the plan), despite, Department, surveys evidencing that the, broad, public cares about wolves as individuals (and, NOT just for the viability of the population)! Given the, recent, liberalization of killing wolves

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Gisele Albertine	N	Jan182023	16:22:53	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	To Whom it May Concern, The Draft Wolf Management Plan is slightly improved but needs much greater changes because it still does not reflect the best available science, ethics, and broad public values that should guide wolf police and coexistence. The current draft is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: - wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution - The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. - The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. - A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. - Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. - The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. - Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. - Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. - Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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					habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.□ (Treves & Santiago-Ã□vila, 2023). Please update the draft to include these essential aspects of wolf management. Thank you. Sincerely, Gisele Albertine [redacted] Arcata, Ca 95521
Lori Hoffman	Unknown	Jan182023	16:26:58	Wolves	We need wolf protection laws, is everyone going to annihilate all of Gods animals for someones pocket!!!! Lori Hoffman
Lau G C	Unknown	Jan182023	16:36:10	Request	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring NON-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!
Naomi Avissar	N	Jan182023	16:46:25	Comment on draft wolf plan	Dear WDNR, I appreciate your staff's efforts in updating the state's wolf management plan. Please note that while the plan is improved, it needs further protections. I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. Thank you, Naomi Avissar Cary, NC
Nancy Burger	N	Jan182023	17:19:34	Please Protect wolves in Wisconsin!	I am i in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing. Please we have to stop this cruelty Nancy Burger Salem New Hampshire
Wolfgang Burger	N	Jan182023	17:21:51	Re Please Protect wolves in Wisconsin!	DNR, I am i in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing. Please we have to stop this cruelty Wolfgang Burger Haverhill Massachusetts please
PAUL SMITH	Unknown	Jan182023	17:24:08	Wolf protection	Please move urgently and enact credible, effective, humane protection for wolves.
Phillip S. Mitchell	N	Jan182023	17:36:34	Please Protect wolves in Wisconsin	Hello - What we tend to call wolf packs are actually wolf families. They deserve humane treatment. Thank you. Sincerely, Phillip Mitchell, Oro Valley, AZ
S Mckee	Unknown	Jan182023	18:06:44	Draft Wolf Management Plan	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing! What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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Robert Douglas Frank	N	Jan182023	18:53:27	Wolves	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.□ (Treves & Santiago-Ã□vila, 2023) Thank you, Robert D. Frank [redacted] CA 95610

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Judy Masbaum	Unknown	Jan182023	18:58:44	Wolf Management Plan Comments	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Carrie Rosenblatt	N	Jan182023	19:11:13	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Draft 2022 Wolf Management Plan	Dear Sirs/Madams, Regarding the draft Wolf Management Plan: the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, however, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence. I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring only non-lethal conflict interventions and totally banning recreational killing of these sentient, intelligent animals who are important for the ecosystem! What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results

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(Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023) Did you know that wolf pups are being dynamited in their dens in Northern Rockies states that border Yellowstone? There are no safeguards to keep gray wolves safe from vicious trophy hunters who are killing off innocent and vulnerable wolves in droves -- and using the most inhumane of hunting practices. So be the example in Wisconsin of compassion and kindness toward wolves and all animals. Thank you. Carrie Rosenblatt Bronx NY
cathie ernst	Unknown	Jan182023	19:16:45	Save wolves	* The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): * ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing * ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones * ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution * ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. * ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. * ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. * ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. * ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. * ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. * ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. * ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the

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Janet Heinle	N	Jan182023	19:24:08	Wolves	Please LET THEM BE! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO CONSTANTLY HARM AND KILL THEM. THEY ARE PART OF A VERY FRAGILE ECO SYSTEM! LET THE [redacted] ANIMALS LIVE FREE! JANET HEINLE SANTA MONICA, CA 90403
Aitor Suarez	Unknown	Jan182023	19:54:21	Plan input	I am not a Wisconsin resident but I would still like to say I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. Thank you for your time, Aitor Suarez
Tori Herbst	Unknown	Jan182023	20:28:16	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing	Hello WDNR Team, I'm writing to request you increase protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although the current plan needs significant updating (see next section below), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What I don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to

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Bryon Sundberg	N	Jan182023	20:30:47	2022 Wolf Management Plan	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. I strongly urge you to please use this type of wolf management plan. Thank you. Bryon Sundberg Durham, NC
Jeff Omans	N	Jan182023	21:38:40	Draft 2022 Wolf Management Plan re: Wisconsin Wolves	Dear Sir/ Madam, I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing! Although the Draft 2022 Wolf Management Plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence. I appreciate the efforts of WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. I believe the current plan needs significant updating. The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. Sincerely, Jeff Omans USA Resident
Terri Knauber	Unknown	Jan182023	22:01:21	Protect wolves	Protect wolves
Carol E Fletcher	Unknown	Jan182023	22:02:24	wolf management plan	Dear Sirs and/or Madams, I would like to congratulate you for proposing changes to the current wolf management program. Your recognition that wolves need to be managed recognizing the role they play in the ecosystem as a whole, rather than by an arbitrary target number, is an important step forward. I also thank you for partially recognizing the changing views of society as a whole toward wolves (they are not just the big bad creatures of fairytales) and respecting tribal values by creating buffer zones around tribal land. That being said, there are still a significant number of improvements needed in the plan. Because you do not cite any of the numerous credible studies regarding wolves that already exist, the plan is able to ignore best practices as currently known. For example: 1.) wolves are highly social animals with family structures important to their well being and management. 2.) The effectiveness of non-lethal interventions is ignored. 3.) Hunting with hounds is a barbaric practice that is no longer supported by most of modern society. 4.) The plan downplays the lack of support for hunting wolves by the majority of the general public. 5.) The plan is particularly insulting to indigenous people by ignoring their feelings and beliefs about wolves including that they should never be killed. 6.) Instead of making abatement measures a priority, they are ignored by the plan. In sum the plan, as currently proposed, continues the use of outdated practices rather than basing the proposal upon current understanding of science and public attitudes. As a result it badly short changes the general public, indigenous peoples, and most importantly, wolves. I thank you in advance for thoughtfully considering my comments. Carol E Fletcher
vicky tang	Unknown	Jan182023	23:41:38	Protect Wolves in Wisconsin	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.
	Unknown	Jan192023	0:50:35	Wolf Management Plan Comments	Dear Sir/Madam, Whilst the current plan needs significant updating, will I will comment on later in this message, I do recognise the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. ●⍰

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed). Now for my comments on the required improvement: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behaviour, wellbeing,social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy,results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should curtail strictly any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defence of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalised killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalised dog fighting,should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritise wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimisation techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalisation of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ●⍰ Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimising public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritisation of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and two especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ●⍰ There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health(including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ●⍰ There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethalmeasures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in theplan. ●⍰ In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritisation of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ●⍰ 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology “ From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.⍰ (Treves & Santiago-Ã⍰vila, 2023) Below is the list of studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan. Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1“25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660“667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. D., Treves, A., Walsh, J. C., Paquet, P. C., & Darimont, C. T. (2018). 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Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					& Smith, D. W. (2020). How climate impacts the composition of wolf-killed elk in northern Yellowstone National Park. Journal of Animal Ecology, 89(6), 1511“1519. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.13200 Wallach, A. D., Izhaki, I., Toms, J. D., Ripple, W. J., & Shanas, U. (2015). What is an apex predator? Oikos, n/a-n/a. https://doi.org/10.1111/oik.01977 Wallach, A., Ritchie, E., Read, J., & O'Neill, A. (2009). More than mere numbers: The impact of lethal control on the social stability of a top-order predator. PLoS One, 4(9). Yours faithfully, Adam smith
Angel (Maurene) Conway	Unknown	Jan192023	2:06:38	state's wolf management plan	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ●⍰ Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ●⍰ There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ●⍰ There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. 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Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.⍰ (Treves & Santiago-Ã⍰vila, 2023) Angel Conway Ph. [redacted]
Maryetta Brown	Unknown	Jan192023	5:08:55	Protect the Wolves in Wisconsin	Please protect the wolves and stop the killing in Wisconsin.
Gerard Kuehn	N	Jan192023	6:34:58	wolves	please do all you can to help the wolves survive. they are not a threat. humans are a threat to them. they are wonderful animals. mate for life, unlike humans. they are very intelligent. look at them on you tube to see stories about how wonderful they are.to manage them means to murder them without any reason. animals are kind and loving. if 2 different species can show

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					love and kindness to each other as they do, why is that humans can't do likewise? i pray for the wolves safety each night and support them in anyway i can peace in your hearts for helping them Gerard Kuehn Walled Lake, MI.
Korg Onze	Unknown	Jan192023	7:43:10	Protect wolves in Wisconsin!	Hi Support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing! Thank you Korg Onze
Luis Greco	Unknown	Jan192023	9:03:08	Wolf protection	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. 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Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.⍰ (Treves & Santiago-Ã⍰vila, 2023) Thank you, JosÃ© Luis Greco
jenne sindoni	Unknown	Jan192023	9:13:52	massacre!!	we cannot just KILL everything in our way?!
Adriana Nunez	Unknown	Jan192023	9:14:22	Protect wolves in Wisconsin!	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)

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Bob Piazza	Unknown	Jan192023	9:27:23	Wolf management plan	I am writing you today to request that you have a conservation minded wolf plan in place. Wolves need protections more than ever since man is basically ruining the air and environment and endangered species. Please think conservation and protect the Wolves in Wisconsin. Look what happened last fall when almost half the herd was wiped out in 48 hrs.....Please protect them. Thank you. Bob Piazza
Sherri Hodges	Unknown	Jan192023	10:49:26	Protect Wolves	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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Donna Selquist	Y	Jan192023	12:38:26	Draft Wolf Management Plan	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
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Valerie Ogden	Unknown	Jan192023	12:46:38	Wolf Protection	As past president of the board of the Pennsylvania Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals, I wholeheartedly support increasing protections for wolves that require non-lethal conflict interventions and also prevent their recreational killing. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this serious issue. Valerie Ogden aka Phillips [photo]
JOHN SMITH	Unknown	Jan192023	14:26:29	Please do more protect the lives of wolves in Wisconsin. -Seth Coffey	Dear Sir/Madame, The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidenc especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ●⍰ There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ●⍰ There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. 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Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods can be used. 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Jennifer Valentine	Unknown	Jan192023	15:33:09	Wolf Management Plan Comments	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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(Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023) thank you, jennifer valentine
Jaedra Luke	N	Jan192023	15:35:15	Draft Wolf Management Plan	The current draft plan needs a lot of work. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management

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Annie McCann	Unknown	Jan192023	16:17:53	Wolves	I'm sure others will give the scientific evidence. I am pleading to consider the impacts of disseminating key species of wildlife just to satisfy the blood thirsty appetite of deranged hunters. Thank you.
Laura Nunn	Unknown	Jan192023	16:21:49	re protecting wolves in Wisconsin	Dear WDNR, Please note the following points regarding wolves in Wisconsin: It does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Please protect our American wolves!! They are an important part of our ecosystem and they deserve to be here!! Best, Laura Nunn <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320713003418?via%3Dihub><https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-70837-x> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-70837-x> Liberalizing the killing of endangered wolves was associated with more d... Scientific Reports - Liberalizing the killing of endangered wolves was associated with more disappearances of co...
Dr. Kellen Dunn	Unknown	Jan192023	16:38:26	Wolf Management Plans in Wisconsin - PROTECT ESSENTIAL WOLVES!	Dear Officials, As a Wisconsin resident, I strongly urge you to PROTECT our precious, iconic and ESSENTIAL wildlife especially WOLVES at all costs. It is time to co-exist with wildlife and always use non-legal methods. Nature always balances itself and there is no need for human intervention. Humans generally mess things up and create imbalances in the ecosystem long term. We manage⍰ wildlife by leaving them alone (free from human harm or intervention) and protect their habitat so that they have enough room to live. It is time to prioritize wildlife, NOT greedy ranchers or vile trophy hunters. I am in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing. What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Brenda & Andy	Y	Jan192023	20:42:00	Wolf Management	I am a Wisconsin resident and have been hunting in Wisconsin for 50 years. I have attended many spring fish and game hearings and have written the DNR a number of times regarding deer hunting and CWD. I received one reply from the DNR that stated that deer were the property of the DNR to sell doe tags which I found out later that deer are the property of Wisconsin residents to be managed by the DNR. (a subtle difference but very important) I am writing today to express concern about the DNR's wolf management and hunting in our great state. I want to share three concerns with Wisconsin wolf management: Number one: how can a wolf Management plan be developed and presented to us with no population goal? Without a population goal, how can a harvest quota be set by the DNR? Number two: if there is a healthy wolf population in Wisconsin, the DNR gives an over-winter wolf count of 800 to 1200 wolves. How and why is it not possible to give Wisconsin residents a realistic and sensible wolf population goal for Wisconsin? I believe the wolf is similar to bears as predators. The Wisconsin DNR sets population and harvest goals for bears. Why are wolves being managed differently? Please manage Wisconsin wolves like you do Wisconsin bears! Number three: I think Wisconsin sportsmen and women should be offered the opportunity to harvest the wolf based on scientific management. Wisconsin sportsmen and women pay the majority of the DNR's budget and should be a main factor on how wolves are managed. It appears that there is a political opinion being voiced and listened to that wants the wolf population to continue to grow. (To what extent?) Is the DNR using sportsmen and women's money to pay damage claims and how high can the dollar amount grow to? When does this end? Wolves are a valuable predator and resource for all Wisconsin residents but the DNR should manage wolves just like they do bears, a valuable resource. Let's hope the DNR takes the lead in wolf management. Sincerely, Andy Armour Germantown
Tameka M	N	Jan202023	7:20:31	Wolf Management Plan Comments	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●□ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●□ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●□ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Shabaka Jones	Unknown	Jan202023	9:55:48	Save wolves in Wisconsin	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations Please focus on the issues that move wildlife forward. There are points of this plan that are detrimental to wolves, especially ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses Please protect and serve all living creatures in your state
Nedim C Buyukmihci	N	Jan202023	10:26:21	Wolf Management Plan Comments	20 January 2023 Wolf Management Plan Comments 101 S. Webster Street PO Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707-7921 Re: Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022 I am a veterinarian and Emeritus Professor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, with several decades of experience. What I write here is my professional opinion. I am offering my perspective on the issue of gray wolf "management". The 2022-11-09 draft ("Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan 2022") appears to be a reasonably thorough review of the various issues. My concern arises from words like "management" and "harvest". The former implies knowledge that may be illusory in nature, the latter treats the wolves as if they are some sort of agricultural product, as if they have been planted as "crops" like corn or wheat to be gathered when ready. Rather than use euphemisms that soften or obfuscate the issue, the Plan should be open and honest: kill is the correct word in this case. I am aware that some of my references are already in your "Literature Cited" section and some of what I state may be redundant in that regard. In addition, in order to illustrate and amplify the general biological principles I mention, I refer to published work involving non-canid species. People may claim that wolves are responsible for killing large numbers of 'livestock' such as cattle or sheep. Further, it may be claimed that wolves 'compete' with human hunters for animals such as antelope, elk or moose, and cause a reduction in the populations of these animals, the belief being that wolf control will lead to increased numbers of these (and other) animals for hunting. There are no data that conclusively support this assumption. With 'livestock', it has been shown that killing wolves results in more wolf-related killing of 'livestock' in the years that follow (Wielgus et al 2015). With moose, there is a complex relationship between wolves and moose populations, with availability of food for moose, not the presence of wolves, an important factor in determining population stability (Peterson et al 1984). In the case of antelope and deer, a vibrant wolf population increases their numbers because it reduces the population of coyotes whose predation of recently born offspring is responsible for reducing herd sizes (Berger & Conner 2008; Berger et al 2008). As with all situations with wildlife, our interference, in this case the killing off of large predators such as wolves, results in unintended and negative results with respect to other animals and biodiversity (Berger & Conner 2008). One such example involves Scotland, where people killed off the wolves resulting in red deer 'overpopulation'. Because this unnatural increase in deer numbers began causing 'problems', the Scots proposed to reintroduce the wolves as a solution (Anon 2009). If population 'control' is deemed necessary, only non-lethal methods of control should be used. These have been shown to be effective (Seal 1991; Tavss 2005). Nevertheless, given our appalling history of creating problems by "wildlife management", the notion of control should be carefully re-considered, particularly if either large-scale killing or other interference is to be implemented. It is axiomatic that in nature, there is no such thing as "overpopulation". Numbers of a particular species wax and wane naturally, coinciding and complementing similar cycles with other species and are even "controlled" by complex predator-prey relationships (Berger & Conner 2008; Hudson et al 1992; Peterson et al 1984). We are usually extremely short-sighted in our perceptions and mistakenly think that lethal "control" of these populations is the only answer. In our zeal to manipulate these populations in general, including the introduction of "desirable" species, we usually cause unintended and often disastrous consequences (Anon 2009; Farrer et al 2011; Gumbrell 1986; Hutchins et al 1982; Invasive Species Specialist Group 2007; Jessup et al 1986; Stevenson 1983; West & Rudd 1983). Often the species in question increases in numbers due to the reproductive pressure caused by the unnatural scale of killing or other species are negatively impacted by the situation. We need to also consider that the wolves have just as much natural "right" to occupy the land in question. Given that we are responsible for the decimation and near extinction of wolves, we owe them a particular debt. An animal's (species') perceived value to us, or our fear of it, should not be what determines if the species should be protected fully; in this respect, using the word "protection" is meaningless if killing " eg "harvest" " is allowed. Moreover, we often greatly exaggerate the threat some wildlife species may represent to us (Creel & Rotella 2010; Herrero et al 2011; Ryll 2006). It is not within our wisdom to know what is truly "good" or "bad" when it comes to wildlife. We must accept that all animals belong on this earth and that it is our responsibility to ensure their survival when we are the ones threatening it. Those making decisions about wolf "management" should carefully consider underlying motives. Relevant to this is the following perspective from a group of wildlife managers critical of current practices: "Wildlife science per se can rarely demonstrate that any decision leading to a management objective, such as decreasing a deer population, or to a management action, such as hunting animals, is a biological or ecological necessity. ... Similarly, the decision to harvest a portion of a wildlife population is a reflection of a value position, a conclusion based partly on scientific evidence and efficacy of known alternatives and partly on particular beliefs about the appropriateness of certain human uses of wild animals... "If a professional wildlife manager suggests that a decision is based solely on scientifically-derived biological considerations, the manager either misunderstands the nature of science (by confusing scientific judgements with ethical judgements) (Underwood and Porter 1991) or is deliberately trying to disguise or complement a value judgement under the veil of the legitimacy of science." (Decker et al 1991) It is my hope that you will provide unreserved protection for the wolves of Wisconsin. "Management" should be limited to public education and

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					compensation when it is unequivocal that wolves have impacted negatively on a person's livelihood. The land comprising Wisconsin is habitat that "belongs" to the wolves as much as to anyone else. We share “ not own “ this earth with other wildlife, including wolves. Our own sense of compassion, fairness and intellect demand that we learn to live with these individuals. Nedim C Buyukmihci, V.M.D. Emeritus Professor of Veterinary Medicine School of Veterinary Medicine University of California-Davis E-mail: [redacted] Cited information: Anonymous 2009-07-21 "Wolf reintroduction proposed in Scottish Highland test case" ScienceDaily https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/07/090720134527.htm<https://secure-web.cisco.com/1AUh8Pxl34c45h549nXpsqWiz7m7X52YfrSEjKGlYQJgO9fC3c0o3zWo0OM5CgUKjehXeQsK6RZeKgSDsit4mgVFyIQ4fWR5s8IjGbPC501P4911xXZhC1g3WQEi2s7fSs2vDFSS9DbhVZE6H3QYaapIJ-XVur4DhepMpns2SVNTUXGApdtCSsVKXFGxBQUXNpr53KNlXMk_76Kjka2zmiJd2aghgVap36rXy8vGemy7uLYa83O7ulRkFs1myI1b3OX6dhTXI1MQj-npgMoIrLt-RGV5eHRYMaLTMAQKb5hO1iz97hHamAlybJhdznz9Ej1as0yjPz-69QmxXmHY9fw/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sciencedaily.com%2Freleases%2F2009%2F07%2F090720134527.htm> Accessed 2019-09-25 Berger, Kim Murray; Gese, Eric M. and Berger, Joel 2008-03-01 "Indirect effects and traditional trophic cascades: A test involving wolves, coyotes, and pronghorn" Ecology 89(3):818-828 https://dx.doi.org/10.1890/07-0193.1 Berger, Kim Murray and Conner, Mary M. 2008-04-01 "Recolonizing wolves and mesopredator suppression of coyotes: Impacts on pronghorn population dynamics" Ecological Applications 18(3):599-612 https://dx.doi.org/10.1890/07-0308.1 Creel, Scott and Rotella, Jay J. 2010-09-29 "Meta-analysis of relationships between human offtake, total mortality and population dynamics of gray wolves (Canis lupus)" PLoS One 5(9):e12918 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2947495/ Decker, Daniel J.; Shanks, Roland E.; Nielsen, Larry A. and Parson, Gary R. 1991-12-01 "Ethical and scientific judgements in management: Beware of blurred distinctions" Wildlife Society Bulletin 19(4):523-527 https://www.jstor.org/stable/3782167 Farrer, Rhys A.; Weinert, Lucy A.; Bielby, Jon; Garner, Trenton W.J.; Balloux, Francois; Clare, Frances; Bosch, Jaime; Cunningham, Andrew A.; Weldon, Che; du Preez, Louis H.; Anderson, Lucy; Pond, Sergei L. Kosakovsky; Shahar-Golan, Revital; Henk, Daniel A. and Fisher, Matthew C. 2011-11-15 "Multiple emergences of genetically diverse amphibian-infecting chytrids include a globalized hypervirulent recombinant lineage" Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 108(46):18732-18736 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3219125/ Gumbrell, R.C. 1986-03-01 "The Association, rabbit control and myxomatosis" New Zealand Veterinary Journal 34(3):21 https://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00480169.1986.35264 Herrero, Stephen; Higgins, Andrew; Cardoza, James E.; Hajduk, Laura I. and Smith, Tom S. 2011-04-01 "Fatal attacks by American black bear on people: 1900“2009" The Journal of Wildlife Management 75(3):596-603 https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.72 Hudson, Peter J.; Dobson Andrew P. and Newborn, David 1992-10-10 "Do parasites make prey vulnerable to predation? 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Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
gary thoms	Unknown	Jan202023	10:45:26	Wolfs	I would like you to protect all wildlife to the Max. The endangered species is a no brainer.
Debbie Wall	N	Jan202023	19:40:46	Re: Wolf management plan	Since we've put a man on the moon, the human population has more than doubled while that of the wild animal nations has more than halved. The survivors deserve protection and to live and raise their families in peace. This includes wolves. Any management should be based on science and not emotion or long held prejudice. Lethal control should never be the default. We need to adopt peaceful coexistence and compassionate conservation strategies. Thank-you, Debbie Wall & The Gang of Fur Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada
Tracey Bonner	N	Jan212023	9:06:17	Gray Wolves Wisconsin	Good morning, I have traveled to your great State and although I did not have the pleasure of spotting one of your Gray Wolves in the wild , I would have like to have been blessed with a viewing.. Gray Wolves belong here and are a part of our United States heritage where they should have a place free from the harassment and killings that human beings inflict upon them. Gray Wolves are not these evil monsters that some residents, who are either ignorant or uninformed, are portraying them as. Gray Wolves are magnificently intelligent, family oriented animals who mate for life. There is absolutely no reason to eradicate these magnificent animals. There are many non-lethal ways to deter Gray Wolves, such as fencing, predator control deterrent lights and livestock protection dogs, just to name a few. Thank for allowing me to speak on behalf of our Gray Wolves. Tracey from Texas
Su Libby	Y	Jan212023	9:09:48	Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan	25 years of fighting for a well reasoned logical plan for managing Wolves in Wisconsin has left us bewildered. From the very beginning, starting with the politically motivated lowering of Biological carrying capacity opinion (professional Wildlife Biologists who were consulted by the WDNR in the early 2000's gave informed estimates of 850 animals) , the number of wolves allowed to stay alive was lowered by a bunch of know nothing politicians to the Holy Mantra of 350 animals, based on nothing but propaganda and repetition ,repetition and repetition by George Meyer and his cronies at the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and the Wisconsin Bear Hunter's Association. Professional Wildlife Biologists were ignored. Tribal voices were ignored, and Most National and State Environmental and Humane Organizations were quickly eliminated from the equation. We sat in in many of those meetings from 2000 through 2017 and later became several of many Wisconsin residents HORRIFIED at the planned rapid extermination of Wolves euphemistically referred to as a HUNT where several of the hunting zones reached and then exceeded their legal quotas in a blazingly short amount of time. Turns out all many of the " Hunter's" who complained about how elusive wolves were and how difficult they were to find, most likely knew where they were all along with the help of some retired DNR Warden's such as the one from Bayfield. Again, we implore any level headed and professional DNR Staffers to not allow themselves to be influenced by this Lobby of extreme trophy Hunter's. Base the new wolf policy on input from all the Stakeholders. Tribes, Environmental Organizations, Citizens, Politicians. ..and Hunter's. Sincerely Su Libby Jo Bailey Great Old Broads for Wilderness [redacted] Bayfield, WI
Sandra Couch	Unknown	Jan212023	12:19:00	PROTECT WOLVES	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal

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					of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology " From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable. Sandra Couch
Shawn Sullivan	Unknown	Jan222023	21:48:26	Rebuttal to your wolf management plan	The following comments are offered in rebuttal to your wolf management plan, which I have read and strongly disagree with: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. Shawn Sullivan A concerned citizen STOP KILLING WOLVES BY TRAPS ANY OTHER MEANS, AND STOP HUNTING WOLVES
Christine Hein	Unknown	Jan232023	21:16:50	Wolf Management Plan comments	Hello to whom it may concern, I read the plan for wolves and had a few comments to share. 1. I don't agree with hunting or trapping of wolves for any circumstances. Wolves should be protected from any hunting or trapping. The wolf population needs to increase not decrease at the whim of state officials. 2. I don't think ranchers or farmers should be able to shoot a wolf if found on their property or kill a wolf it its takes their livestock. Wolves hunt so they can eat and live just like any other animal in the wild (coyote, bear, eagle, bobcat, etc). And when a wolf hunts they do not know the difference between an owned animal like livestock versus wildlife like deer or rabbits. If a rancher loses livestock to wolves, they should use deterrents such as fencing, guard dogs and motion lights. And if livestock is taken, the rancher should consider that the price of doing business in wolf country. Wolves are the endangered ones, not livestock that numbers in the thousands which are being raised for their meat anyway. The wolf management plan should have no lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of human life. Sincerely, Christine Hein
Tykie Wescott	Y	Jan252023	9:09:38	Wolf Plan Management	January 25, 2023 Wolf Plan Comments. Why should there be a buffer zone around the reservations? Outside of the reservation bounderies is mostly private land and you are saying we can't legally hunt on our own property? I think the DNR is doing a terrible job. You are tone deaf to the wishes of northern Wisconsin. Look at the votes in counties up here concerning wolf populations. If wolves were in southern Wisconsin at the population there is in northern Wisconsin, the attitude towards wolves would change. You are not helping balance the number of deer vs. the number of wolves. It has had a huge impact on the economy up here during deer season. 1) Why are you going back on the plan you sold to Wisconsinites, that the wolf population goal was 350? 2) Why don't you listen to the people where the wolves are prevelant in the northern part of Wisconsin? Most of your wolf advocates live where there are no

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					wolves, they have no idea of the problems wolves have caused. 3) Farmers are losing money due to wolves killing or harrassing their livestock in northern Wisconsin. 4) Our deer population has plummeted significantly in the last twenty years, the same time the wolf populaton has increased. 5) Northern Wisconsin was the destination for many deer hunters. Now the hunters are as scarce as the deer. 6) It's all about southern Wisconsin because you think that's where the political votes are. Don Wescott Springstead, WI (northern)
Erich Schmidtke	Unknown	Jan252023	16:34:03	Wolf Management Plan	I feel that wolf numbers should be WAY higher than what you've proposed in the past. We have so many deer and turkeys and Canada geese which tend to have no predators. More wolves could fill that need . As an orchard and wood lot owner I have to take extraordinary measures to protect both established and new trees from predation by deer. Basically whatever I don't protect gets browsed. Thank you, Erich Schmidtke
Karen Gunderson	Y	Jan252023	16:59:10	DNR Wolf Management	I encourage the DNR to pursue their new proposed wolf management plan, which relies on monitoring the wolf population in the 6 zones and determining only then whether to reduce the wolf population. I live in the city of Madison, so don't have interactions with wolves. However, I think they contribute significantly to a balanced ecosystem and are important in many ways, other than as targets for hunters. I would like to see humans co-exist with the wolves as much as possible. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in coming up with a new management plan and allowing public input on that plan. Karen Gunderson Madison WI
Marilyn Evenson	N	Jan252023	19:18:19	Draft 2022 Wolf Management Plan comments	Last November the WDNR released their Draft 2022 Wolf Management Plan. Altho the plan contains improvement, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics, & broad public values that should guide wolf policy & coexistence. Science should include: 1. Wolf ethology, sentience, & wellbeing 2. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions. 3. The impact of widespread killing. Hounding or hound training should be illegal as it is extremely cruel to both wolves & dogs.The plan should curtail any lethal management of wolves except in rare occasions. I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, & banning recreational killing. The wolves are a very important part of the ecosystem & biodiversity. Man nearly eradicated them decades ago. That should never happen again. Most people do not approve of hunting wolves or anything else that disturbs Nature. Thank you for accepting my comments. Marilyn Evenson [redacted] Norwalk, OH 44857[redacted]
Linea Anthony	Y	Jan262023	0:31:41	A sane program to protect our environment's natural predators.	We must have sane, ecologically based programs that deal with the necessity of natural predators in our environment. We cannot allow the small group of selfish, self-serving greed driven hunters, with a wanton disregard for their existence rule the majority of the true, nature loving populace. Linea Anthony Racine
Deb Beduhn	Unknown	Jan262023	9:40:40	Wolf comment	I would like to comment and make my views known on the wolf management plan. I agree that the DNR should not establish a statewide population goal. I agree that it should monitor local populations within the hunting zones. I believe that the current population of 970 is too low and there should be no cap. Regarding the hunting of wolves, should the population become too large (and I don't know what number that would be), I propose that only native, indigenous members of our tribes be allowed to hunt the wolves. There is no reason for anyone else to hunt wolves in Wisconsin. From the last hunt it was very apparent that the hunters who participated and over-hunted the population were merely those with the killer instinct. Killing for sport. The tribe members who would do the hunting would treat the animal with respect and use the animal fully for food and other uses. It was only recently that the wolf was endangered in Wisconsin. We don't want to go back there again. Respectfully, Deborah Beduhn
jan Christensen	Unknown	Jan262023	9:43:48	Wolf Management Plan Comments	When walking into church I see, hanging from a wire, an ornament of a dove. In Wisconsin we kill mourning doves. When Wisconsin hunters harvested 80% over the allotted Wolf kill, it was big news on the Internet. The image of a Wisconsinite was that of a crazed, long haired man lashing out at his pack of dogs as they went on a killing spree. Is it any wonder that modern technology companies avoid our state? Adopt a senior pet. ;-)
Larry Zucollo	Unknown	Jan262023	10:33:32	my opinion	I would like the original goal of 350 wolves upheld and a yearly season to be held to maintain this goal.
Bob Paddock	Y	Jan262023	12:35:00	Voicemail	Hello, good afternoon. This is Bob Paddock in Augusta, WI. My telephone number is [redacted] I have a comment concerning the wolf management areas. I was really, really happy to see that the DNR made the deer management area for the southeast part of Eau Claire County. To coincide with what it was many years ago. That is to coincide with Hwy. 27 to 12 and keep on 2712 to the county line in the South. The new While our wolf plan does not have that same boundary, it goes down R to Hwy. 10 and then go to the cross that eliminates a little triangle in there. It's not very much, but definitely is more farm and agriculture than it is where the line is now drawn. It also makes sense to keep the prey species for wolf, IE whitetail deer. And Wolf the same So I would really encourage you guys to make that boundary the same and that being down 27212 and 27 together and then take 27, continue on 27 all the way to the southeast corner of Old Claire County, that being the boundary line for Management Unit 5. Thanks so much for your time. Bye bye.
Chryss Veirauch	Y	Jan262023	15:36:58	Wolf Forum	Greetings: The one recommendation I have after reading through the 2022 Wolf Management Plan, would be to take hunting with dogs out of the hunting/trapping method of wolf hunting. After the fiasco the Dept. of Natural Resource had with the latest hunt and all the horrible bad state and national press they got from hunters and non-hunters alike, one would think hunting wolves with dogs would not even come close to being considered. Animal rights advocates are already jumping on the bandwagon about the 2022 Wolf Management Plan because there are parts of the plan that include using dogs to hunt wolves. There will be an onslaught of reporters, anti-hunters, pro-wolf people are going to be parked all over the state of WI if dogs are allowed to be used. Let the trappers and rifle people do the hunting and save yourselves a lot of really bad press and headaches by pulling the use of dogs out of the mix. It only makes sense. Chryss Veirauch -- Christine Veirauch Beecher-Dunbar-Pembine K-12 School Counselor [redacted] Pembine, WI 54156 [redacted]
Mia Armstrong	Unknown	Jan262023	22:54:26	Public Comment--Please Protect Wolves	Dear Wisconsin Department Of Natural Resources, Please include protections for wolves in Wisconsin by ensuring that wolves receive full consideration as a species that should be allowed to exist as they have for thousands of years. Please sign into law that you will use non-lethal means to enable the wolves to co-exist with other residents of Wisconsin. Wolves are an imperative part of the entire ecosystem, and if the wolf population suffers, so does everything else in the state, from other animals, to trees and plants, even to the rivers and the landscape. As an apex species, wolves provide far more benefits to our environment when we allow them to live than when we kill them. They form close family ties, as do humans, and we need to make sure we do not continually traumatize them when we hunt them and kill their family members and friends. In addition, wolves need to have enough diversity in their gene pool to continue their species, so again, it is important that we do not continue to kill them as a means of management. Please also ban recreational killing of these awesome animals!

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					Long before humans inhabited the area we call Wisconsin,□ wolves thrived here and helped create the beauty and bounty of America. Wolves deserve our protection. Please do not allow their slaughter. Thank you for listening to my comments! Mia Laurence
claudio serranegra	Unknown	Jan272023	9:04:11	Protect wolves in Wisconsin	I am in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal interventions in conflicts and banning recreational killing.
Felicia Kelley	Unknown	Jan272023	20:04:19	WOLVES	STOP KILLING WOLVES THEY'RE GOOD FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT ¼ï¸□ GOD PUT THEM HERE FOR A REASON ¼ï¸□ SAVE THE WOLVES¼ï¸□¼ï¸□¼ï¸□ Felicia M. Kelley
Scott Block	Unknown	Jan302023	10:19:08	wolf managment	To Whom it may Concern, When coming up with a wolf management plan, I believe that science and facts should be the driving factors behind the decision and NOT personal opinions and/or the personal opinion from organizations and lobbyists. Hunters and farmers have strong uneducated or informed opinions and taking the word or comment from any group or organization affiliated with these said categorize is not the way to make laws and decide the fate of any wildlife. Thank you
David M Boden	Y	Feb12023	10:42:42	FW: DNR Website Information Request: Wildlife Information	To those directly involved with the Wisconsin DNR wolf management program/proposal. I grew up in the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan and graduated from Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan. I currently live in Appleton, Wisconsin and graduated with masters from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. I am writing to express my views on the most recent Wisconsin DNR gray wolf management plan, released 11/9/22. First off, for the DNR not to offer community listening sessions regarding the plan is to not be transparent and to not serve public interest. Thanks goes out the the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (WWF) for taking the lead in sponsoring public listening sessions regarding the newly released DNR wolf plan. While at Northern Michigan in the mid 1970's, I was interested and supported Professor Dr. Robinson's efforts to reintroduce gray wolves to the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan. These efforts did not involved the management of wolf numbers as the future population was never perceived to becoming too large, creating public issues. Clearly, this is now the case as wolf numbers are far, far greater than the original 350 population goal in Wisconsin. This considered, I agree with the WWF and the Wisconsin Bowhunters Association (WBA) regarding their recent communications to you regarding the proposed Wisconsin Wolf Plan. Specifically, and most importantly I support the 350 wolf population goal in Wisconsin. I urge you to set and maintain this goal moving forward. To abandon a population goal within the wolf plan is to abandon a clear actionable management objective. The Wisconsin and Upper Michigan gray wolf population deserves to be managed in their best interest and in the best interest of all stake holders who live and work in wolf habitat regions of Wisconsin. Clearly, our Wisconsin DNR has effectively managed our Black Bear populations. It's time to use this management model to manage our Gray Wolf population. Thanks for listening. With respect, David M. Boden Contact Information: Name: David M Boden Boden Phone: [redacted]
marcy	Unknown	Feb22023	11:12:34	wolf managment	people move out to the country they know tnat there is wildlife out there they should be prepared for that alson why are you giving wolf damage payments to people that use dogs for hunting they know that the wildlife is going to fight back for their lives or protect their young dont always blame the wolf they kill to eat or feed their family if they have 10 acres of land to be on and you build housus on it that brings it down so dont always blame wildlife alot of people just dont like wolves and want to seen them gone
Bryon Sundberg	N	Feb22023	11:48:50	Wolf Protections	I support protections for wolves. And I oppose any plan that includes recreational killing and other lethal options. Scientific facts show that lethal options are not necessary. I strongly urge you to follow the science and adopt a plan that only includes non-killing and non-lethal options. Thank you. Bryon Sundberg Durham, NC
Sue McNally	Unknown	Feb22023	11:57:12	Wolves	I am in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing. Thank you.
Tim Fox	Unknown	Feb22023	12:03:22	Wolf plan	Please limit wolf population to the original target, 300 and some. This will reduce; deer, elk, dog and livestock predation. Most importantly reduce human and wolf conflicts and threats to local and recreating people. Also disagree with compensating hunters for dog losses. Thank you Tim Fox
Craig Carlson	Unknown	Feb22023	13:21:05	WISCONSIN WOLVES	WOLVES ARE PREDATORS THAT FIT INTO THE CYCLE OF LIFE IN OUR WILDERNESS, & FOREST ENVIRONMENTS! THEY ACTUALLY HELP TO KEEP NATURE'S BALANCE OF LIFE WORKING SO NO PESTS OR SMALL PREDATORS, GET OUT OF HAND THRU RISING POPULATIONS IN THE RURAL AREAS!!! CRAIG L CARLSON
Christina DeRespiris	Unknown	Feb22023	13:24:59	Wisconsin Wolf Management Program	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●□ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●□ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●□ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●□ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●□ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●□ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●□ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●□ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●□ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●□ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally

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					offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology " From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable. (Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023) Thank you. Christina DeRespiris [redacted]
Donna Selquist	Y	Feb22023	14:13:10	Wolves in WI	Wolves are aq natural and necessary part of a healthy WI environment. They keep prey animal numbers in check, and rarely target healthy strong individuals. Any incidental loss of livestock or family pets due to unusual circumstances can be, and is, compensable upon proof from public funds. Given the chance to regulate their own numbers and choose their own territories, wolves will do so. Just leave them alone to live their lives in the way that Nature intended. It should be permissible to kill a wolf only when its behavior threatens a human or other protected animal's life, and even then only after other non-lethal measures have been tried. Thank you. Donna Selquist Florence 54121
	Unknown	Feb22023	14:14:06	PLEASE ACT IN COMPASSION TOWARD THE PROTECTION OF WOLVES IN THE ECOSYSTEM..!!	Wolves are some of the most sensitive, intelligent family oriented beings on the planet! They need our protection.. not to be hunted and killed. They positively effect the ecosystems of which they are a part. They are a NECESSARY part of a healthy ecosystem. Please find compassion in your hearts and make a decision that serves all life, by protecting wolves! Thank you for your kind understanding. Blessings of Love.
Linore Blackstone	Unknown	Feb22023	14:33:02	Wolf "management" plan	Dear DNR, my comments about the management address the agencies' practice of target management with administrative rules not made public, manipulated science, outdated science, failure to respect the integrity of the wolves, lack of respect, disregard, or outright hostility. Millions of people have lost respect for and trust in the federal and state wildlife agencies because protecting wildlife is not the priority for these agencies. Consider the consequences. Consider that humans have assumed the attitude that we can be and are everywhere because we believe that everywhere is ours; thus, the ongoing collapse of wild lands and wildlife. Linore Blackstone
Alison James	N	Feb22023	14:59:25	Comment on the wolf "Management Plan"	My comment: At the start of the document you list the supporters of this plan. Every entity listed has something to gain by backing this plan. Either by hunting or a lazy way of stopping predation. In fact, some of those listed are infamous in their desire to hunt and kill. Your plan is not really a "management plan" but rather a devastation plan. Do not be proud of the document, there is nothing there but death. Disappointing. Alison James Sandy Hook, CT
jean publiee	Unknown	Feb22023	15:03:08	Fwd: Speak out for wolves in Wisconsin!	i want wolves protected from the insane people with guns who want to murdedr and kill as their job in life. i find that anmals are part of our ecology and their lives help oiur lives. we respect and want protection for wolves, bears and all animals.none are "game". none are "game". this comment is for the public record. please receipt., jean publiee [redacted]
Rena Franchi	N	Feb22023	15:03:41	Wolf Management Plan	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, I loudly and strongly speak in favor of wolf protections. We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North

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					American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidenc e of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Irena Franchi [redacted] Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160-3240 Ilene Arce [redacted] Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160
Jennifer Spirakis Dziurka	Unknown	Feb22023	16:35:35	banning recreational killing of wolves	We are in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing. Thank you. Jennifer & Tom Spirakis If we could live happy, healthy lives without harming others, why wouldn't we? Go Vegan
	Unknown	Feb22023	17:39:30	Wolf mgmt plan	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology “ From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable. (Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023) S McKee
Stacey Kaplan Birkby	N	Feb22023	18:29:39	WOLVES	I am in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. Sincerely, Stacey Birkby [redacted] Las Vegas, NV 89118

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Greg Goodmacher	Unknown	Feb22023	19:04:09	Protecting Wolves	Dear Wisconsin Government Official, Please save the Wisconsin wolves. They keep the environment in balance, and they are iconic American creatures. Hunting and killing them is wrong. A few years ago, I visited Wisconsin, and while on an eco-tour, I spotted one wolf. It was an unforgettable experience that I told many people about. You should promote nature and ecotourism involving wolves. Sincerely, Greg
Claudia Reed	Unknown	Feb22023	20:09:31	Proposed wolf management plan	Wolves should be protected. They have a positive impact on the health of our ecosystems. In your newest Wolf Management Plan, please be sure to ban recreational killing, and to require non-lethal conflict interventions. Thank you, Claudia Reed
Jeff	Unknown	Feb22023	22:45:08	Help needed	Save wolves instead of slaughtering them. Jeff God is Great.
Steve Nimz	Unknown	Feb32023	5:21:52	Wolf Plan	I have 200 acres of hunting land in Harshaw WI (54529). My brother in law has an adjoining 200 acres. I regularly see one or more wolves on my trail camera (not coyotes- one of the wolves has a collar but that one has not been seen for a while). Deer have been run off or killed by these wolves and hunting success has decreased dramatically. I am in favor of a wolf management plan which limits the proliferation of these animals (the 350 annual wolf harvest. Sincerly , Steve Nimz
Curtis and Jane Hoffman	N	Feb32023	9:50:21	Please do not let humans kill off the wolves	* We are in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing. * * We have seen the beauty and wonder of wolves in Yellowstone Park and read about the ways that they are helping the ecosystem. Wolves are not the only animals that prey on livestock, and the government is repaying ranchers for any losses. When I was younger, they killed off all of the wolves in Texas. What a horrible thing that was, and now we just have more coyotes and bobcats that are killing household pets in our cities and can pose a threat to small children. The good lord created the wolf to balance nature. Please do not let man just kill them off. They add so much to our world. Thank you. Curtis and Jane Hoffman Dallas TX
Diane Darcy	Unknown	Feb32023	11:22:01	Wolf protection	I'm urging you to support legislation which will support wolf protections. Cordially, Diane D'arcy
Tim White	N	Feb32023	12:57:04	Protect the wolves in Wisconsin	The current draft on wolf management, does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. In light of this, I urge you not to adopt this plan. Christine White [redacted] Tucson, AZ 85739
Jane August	Unknown	Feb32023	13:02:46	Wolves	Do not kill the wolves
Shabaka Jones	Unknown	Feb32023	13:56:42	Protect the wolves	Please place laws and regulations in place that protect wolves and allow them to thrive. Wildlife benefits the earth and were created with a GREAT purpose!
Susan Welsford	N	Feb42023	13:40:33	Wolves	Please take any actions necessary to protect wolves and to stop legislation for wolf hunts in Wisconsin. I am desperately seeking protection for this severely threatened species and its return to the Endangered Species List. Loss of these two things will push the species to extinction. Wisconsin FWS and DNR is well aware of the importance of this predator in nature's biological ecosystem from the Isle Royale events in Michigan. The wolf recovery system is deeply flawed, i.e. erroneous and poorly calculated population estimates, influence and dishonesty of farmers, greed of the hunting/trapping and firearms industries, climate change events not planned for, disease of the species or a species they are dependent on, urban sprawl, and the abject failure of the state DNR/FWS and political systems. In 1989, there were only three gray wolves left in Michigan's U.P. Hunting and trapping nearly drove the species to extinction before, and wolves are on the brink of extinction again. We must allow them the required protections and acreage to live to expand their genetic pool. Without a valid and robust wolf protection plan, this vital species will be destined for extinction. Susan Welsford Norton Shores, MI 8th
Nancy Garret	N	Feb42023	15:12:01	Protecting wolves in Wisconsin	Hello, I live in California where wolves are treated as an integral part of nature that deserves consideration and respect. I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. A draft wolf management plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts. I'm counting on you to do the right thing for these animals to ensure ethical coexistence in Wisconsin. Thank you. Nancy Garret
Adriana Nunez	Unknown	Feb42023	15:29:56	Please save Wolves!	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) Thank you
Debbie Wall	N	Feb42023	18:09:54	Re: Wolf "management" plan	Our poor, poor planet is much too close to her tipping point for us to be enacting policies that will only serve to push her over the edge. We must preserve whatever precious little pristine wilderness remaining and re-wild much of that stolen from the animal nations. Since we've put a man on the moon, the human population has more than doubled while that of the wild animal nations has more than halved. The survivors, including wolves, need protection and deserve to live and raise their families in peace. We need to adopt peaceful co-existence and compassionate conservation strategies. Debbie Wall & The Gang of Fur Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada
virgene link	Unknown	Feb52023	0:41:14	Wolf Management Plan	To Whom It Concerns: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well being. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions and impact on well-being, physiology, behavior and social dynamics must be recognized. Use of baiting, hounds and killing in the den are unsporting. Please increase protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. Earth is their only home too and they have an important role to play in the ecosystem. Thank you, Virgene Link-New
Jane Grove	Unknown	Feb52023	21:24:09	Wolf Management Plan	Hello, I am asking you to please do not allow hunting oh your precious wolves. You are lucky to have them in your state. There was no need for your callous open season⍰ on them recently. Your plan should allow compensation to any ranchers who lose sheep or cattle. Please protect your wolves. Don't kill them! Respectfully, Jane

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Bryhn, Rhonda J	Unknown	Feb62023	8:34:50	input	Hello DNR, Please take this opinion into account when you consider how to manage WI's wolves: Wolves are a keystone species. They are intelligent, social and beautiful. Hunting and trapping of them should not be allowed. Instead, allow them to flourish, and provide education to the public that dispels the myths that cause them to be misunderstood. They deserve (like all creatures) to exist without exploitation and cruelty. Thank you, Rhonda
Carl Kringle	Y	Feb62023	9:01:36	Wolf management	Dear Sirs I have bought a hunting license for 71 years and voted in the spring hearings many of those years. I feel that it is a slap in the face when you don't follow the overwhelming majority of people that want a quota of 350 on wolf management. We are the people that are paying your wages, I think you should follow our wishes, not the wishes of the minority! Sincerely Carl Kringle Rice Lake WI
Samuel Kasprzak	Y	Feb62023	10:12:47	2023 Wolf Management Plan	This is a letter concerning the Wisconsin 2023 Wolf Management Plan. I have read the draft plan and done additional research concerning the history of Wisconsin's storied history with wolf and wildlife management. What I've found is very concerning. Now, before I go any further, I have to state that while I am a citizen of Wisconsin, I am not a scientist or a biologist and I am not a recognized authority on the subject of conservation. However, what I have to say is based firmly on sound science, recognized experts and a grounded sense of morals. What I'm going to say will be controversial, and I ask that whoever reads this follows through to the end. What I've written is constructive criticism, and at the end of this letter I propose real solutions and sensible advice. All I ask is that whoever this concerns will read this with an open mind. Wisconsin has had a storied history with wolves, much of it antagonistic. However, it is not unique, as every state in the U.S. has stories of wolves, or more specifically, the war we wage against them. I bring this up to make this point; it is impossible to make intelligent decisions if we don't learn from the mistakes of this past. And to learn, we must own up to our mistakes and do better. This is a chance to redeem ourselves. To set the record straight, wolves aren't even close to being a recovered species. This declaration is fraudulent, ignorant and completely ungrounded from reality. Further, any legislation based on this "recovered" declaration are themselves fraudulent and ignorant of the reality of the situation. Wolves are at a crossroad at this time, and with proper action, wolves could return and restore the ecosystem of their former range, or they could wither and die, bringing the North American ecosystem with them. So, let's get right to the heart of the issue. Wolf Management. This is a joke. You can't possibly "manage" something you can't fully understand. And this isn't just about wolves, but for wildlife in general. The natural world is made of hundreds of billions upon billions of living organisms interacting with each other at microscopic and macroscopic levels. And all these organisms from bacteria to badgers have personalities, characteristics that are completely unique to the individual. The complexity is staggering, making logical "management" impossible. To think anyone could decipher the vastness of the ecosystem into clear and precise calculations and formulas is destructively prideful and laughable. So, what then? Is sensible management possible, and if so, what does it look like? First, I'll show you what it doesn't look like. Wolf Harvesting and quotas are the first clear examples of destructive and inhumane management. The basic concept of wolf "quotas" is that somebody calculates this magic number of "sustainable" wolves in each area, then approves the killing of wolves that exceed the magic number. This is an atrocity at its best. The whole notion of animal "quotas" has to be eliminated if sensible action is seriously being considered. Another example of irresponsible management looks like the infamous "coyote killing contests" held in Wisconsin in the past. The very fact that coyotes can be hunted anytime of the year in virtually any quantity is despicable. So, what does proper "management" of Wisconsin's wildlife look like? It means wolf and other predator "quotas" should be eliminated altogether. A practice of "cause-and-effect" must be adopted, meaning that the Department of Natural Resources will handle individual animals that may be nuisances or pose a direct threat to human health. Next is the very notion of "management" itself. To best conserve the ecosystem, we must stop trying to control it. Wolves, as well as nature itself, don't need human intervention, quite the opposite in fact. Nature provides for itself, it balances population carrying capacities, diet, location, etc. For instance, deer in Waupaca County have been discovered with Chronic Wasting Disease, a well-known symptom of deer overpopulation due to a lack of natural predators. Additionally, deer collisions have become the third leading cause of vehicle impacts in Wisconsin, again from overpopulation. Concluding this letter, the question becomes, is it too much to ask in this supposed age of scientific enlightenment to simply leave wolves and other predators alone? Is a simple truth too much to accept in this often over-complicated world we've created? It's time to take a step back. It's time to take our hands off the controls, stop trying to play God, and let nature do what it's designed to do: bring balance. Sincerely, Samuel Kasprzak
Dale Verhage	Unknown	Feb62023	14:32:13	Wolf plan	I believe the wolf plan needs a quota number and I think it should stay at 350. Dale Verhage
Janell Copello	Unknown	Feb62023	20:11:17	real wolf protections in the proposed Wolf Management Plan	Attn: Department of Natural Resources, We can all expect to see wild animals, including coyotes, in our open spaces, parks and cities. It is now common and normal to see them during either the day or night. Coyotes are vocal when greeting family members and when reinforcing territory. Like most other wildlife, they don't vocalize when hunting so as not to attract competition. Coyotes are omnivorous, eating mostly rodents and rabbits, but also fruit, insects, vegetation, and carrion. Urban studies in both Chicago and Los Angeles show that less than 1% of a coyotes' diet is domestic cat. However, a coyote doesn't know the difference between a cat and a rabbit, so it's best to supervise pets at all times. To be 100% sure that no harm comes to our small domestic animals”from all manner of dangers, including cars, poisons, entrapment and coyotes/dogs/bobcats/owls”we need to supervise them carefully. That said, coyotes near human development are most likely encountered between dusk and early morning. Juvenile coyotes disperse in the fall (seeking mates and territory), so spotting them at any time of the day is not unusual. However, just because we don't see them often doesn't mean that they aren't around. What a coyote does best is stay out of our way. Here is the bad news: One coyote is killed every minute of every day in the U.S. What's their crime? Being seen. I think that most of us in any nature-appreciating part of the country would agree that to kill a beautiful animal because they dare to be seen is the real crime. Check out why relocating coyotes is not a viable solution (and, in fact, is illegal in many states): http://www.discoverwildcare.org/wildlife-resources/trapping-and-relocating-wildlife/<http://secure-web.cisco.com/125o-j3l01J3go0fKJbrTOhwcjU_NcrtbSt7iyICufMwtrKgMnoE6OpiZzD9PREIJQZzd7M6FjAXTjTLutMNLCRuWaotD0dGHQ_69_LMyrfVxrpNNZbu-oNp3aVomS-vwVODrABxrQtvY4RMRiHoPwog--pEagQe0zRVzxYZIwZ45Fed99FpsYYbQ92pK2EsaCUtPNVwMKnrkCGRYWqIbWQ46jVFRN-gK-Vz75ScsEbdBYN1SYl3ffD7MUG60-DwRAFc_P472BAJrUtbfgRR4oMLwkeTk6MBqV9y_EJHXsT7wT03tF4Ch0Uqlr7BZ-D24jU8SIIYGtTdv0Ax7p0Rm9A/http%3A%2F%2Fwww.discoverwildcare.org%2Fwildlife-resources%2Ftrapping-and-relocating-wildlife%2F>). The reality is that we have wild neighbors and we need to learn how to coexist and reduce negative encounters. And there is good news: You can inform yourself about coyote biology and behavior, seasonal expectations, coyote hazing and deterrents, from Project Coyote. Find the information online at www.projectcoyote.org<http://secure-web.cisco.com/1TvY8P_e1Dptfk6sRxpCBsnBrNGctPsHA3Gl7a7yOllknDPz-bm42MyHzXjhXkrVf0YuLRYu5ak1uzht43bb_VPwumZPEVcrcmAbBmxPKuXjcHLWa_qdqmj2yyuXZvoq9Agqy0kU9ud9EZg-Olbkp0AfzeEg7C8S_YR3lTrPc8Xk2PrYxyw8yH7aQRAWRs3oP0hGM5P4433asAsWUmHqvyEIsk1srPgNKvhxXRo5I4Rz0T8BzabPyaIJJ_BQmZlvVwAZEDZykd5ucpWxoWuUgPvMb5_lrhxSnykkNOFs8Z8vQXjn540Rh2sAJs5MKHddGFS9-XdvsGiEmSTHFtfq4lg/http%3A%2F%2Fwww.projectcoyote.org>, and check out the Resources page: http://www.projectcoyote.org/resources/. There

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					are numerous fact sheets and brochures that you can download and share/post in your neighborhood”including the free BE COYOTE AWARE sign (http://www.projectcoyote.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Be_Coyote_Aware_Flyer_NPS_PC.pdf)”to help raise awareness about how to reduce negative encounters with coyotes. Additional helpful information: San Francisco Animal Care and Control's Living with Coyotes PSA (COYOTES - San Francisco Animal Care and Control<http://secure-web.cisco.com/1na8UgSpwmlSz36ulPgZHStNXIOdaKkiS5FSBq_YKgHaw1tIX3WDl_CjQmPEUGjfkPLtnVNJd5nVFE4A-dQos7IQy-DmzYBj7VQsqlbYfR4ytAEA1Py3pmigKIMv5Dsvka3MRzIYzR7aaBn7JRQE3JoF6oXD8zXbAIz3sQ1_rRffpmhfloogDH1cCFT1ugNpOt4wTzzAlqOivkTSvQNMt0ozTYFRoHBgn9N49BllGUIQJLp1SAWiDssdJyBBmIM5WPFUn3O1LtGo4siXDkYnspnceGRicSkM5jLodx-C6kxlLN_anp1WmuvpaZQJF91BtxXykYNlb1oOJGJUoZmln7Q/http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sfanimalcare.org%2Fliving-with-urban-wildlife%2Fcoyote-sightings%2F>) <http://secure-web.cisco.com/1na8UgSpwmlSz36ulPgZHStNXIOdaKkiS5FSBq_YKgHaw1tIX3WDl_CjQmPEUGjfkPLtnVNJd5nVFE4A-dQos7IQy-DmzYBj7VQsqlbYfR4ytAEA1Py3pmigKIMv5Dsvka3MRzIYzR7aaBn7JRQE3JoF6oXD8zXbAIz3sQ1_rRffpmhfloogDH1cCFT1ugNpOt4wTzzAlqOivkTSvQNMt0ozTYFRoHBgn9N49BllGUIQJLp1SAWiDssdJyBBmIM5WPFUn3O1LtGo4siXDkYnspnceGRicSkM5jLodx-C6kxlLN_anp1WmuvpaZQJF91BtxXykYNlb1oOJGJUoZmln7Q/http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sfanimalcare.org%2Fliving-with-urban-wildlife%2Fcoyote-sightings%2F> COYOTES - San Francisco Animal Care and Control SFACC works with SF Recreation & Parks on signage and barriers to decrease the chances for encounters between do... How to Haze a Coyote - (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0CS4_-sQDE). I hope this information is helpful. Respectfully, Janell Copello â™»ï¸ Please recycle and minimize waste ðŸ¾ Be kind and respect animals â¤ï¸ More love, less hate
Karen Eckert	Unknown	Feb72023	15:11:08	End Hounding with Hounds against wolves	Throwing the dogs to the wolves. A metaphor but unfortunately a fact in Wisconsin Did you know that dog fighting is legal in the state of Wisconsin? Did you know that dogs injured or killed while fighting wolves are paid by the Wisconsin DNR up to $2500? Not only is using dogs to fight wild animals legal in Wisconsin, it is also encouraged by state authorities. But under Wisconsin Legislation 951.08 Instigating fights between animals. (1) No person may intentionally instigate, promote, aid or abet as a principal, agent or employee, or participate in the earnings from, or intentionally maintain or allow any place to be used for or other fight between the same or different kinds of animals (2) No person may own, possess, keep or train any animal with the intent that the animal be engaged in an exhibition of fighting. SO WHY THEN IS HOUNDING WOLVES STILL LEGAL ? In the north woods of Wisconsin there is a disturbing underbelly of Wisconsin's hunting community that is legally allowed to use packs against wild animals. In fact, with the absence of a permit and almost no regulations, Wisconsin has become the preeminent location for those that hound. Each year starting July 1 until mid-October, Wisconsin allows hounders from all over the country to descend upon our public lands, including our national forests, to pit their packs of hounds against wildlife . If the legal animal fighting that occurs during this training period isn't enough, each year dozens of hounds are allegedly killed by gray wolves that are defending their family rendezvous areas from the invading hounds. Human families defend their family if danger is near, so why wouldn't a wolf defend their family? To purposely invade a wolves family dynamic and expect them not to react is simply ignorant. Who are you to decide? When a hound turns up dead, even under the most dubious of circumstances, the Wisconsin DNR is required under law to immediately pay the hounder $2500. If the dog is deemed to have been injured by a wolf and survived, the DNR also pays for any related veterinarian care. Wisconsin is the only state in the country to pay people for losses when deliberately placing their animals in harm's way. Taxpayers need to be informed of this cruel and barbaric act of receiving 2500.00 and veterinary care if their hound is injured, even though this was done intentionally. Almost 3 million dollars of taxpayer money has been given to so-called hunters for this act since 1985. Dogs do not ask for this. Change the legislation and change the barbaric law of hounding with wolves in Wisconsin. -- Karen Eckert
K D	Unknown	Feb72023	16:29:34	Wolves are resistant to CWD	This makes wolves the perfect tool in protecting deer herds from the disease. And in minimizing cattle infection. Has the DNR been funded to advance this research. Do farmers get incentives to leave wolves alone or do they only get incentives for live stock incidents. Are hunters still getting money for deceased dogs killed by predators, or is there a possibility hunters could get rewarded for reporting wolves ALIVE in certain locations of equal monetary value. And be rewarded for the tagging of a wolf instead. Are we rewarding correctly, or the incentives and rewards not really helping the pack.
Thomas Wayne King	Y	Feb72023	18:19:23	Wolf comments by farmers who raise Registered Icelandic Sheep for Wool.	Hello. Wolves are highly beneficial to our forests and wildlife. Wolves must be protected better than WI has done in past. We have raised Registered Icelandic Sheep in northern Douglas County for the past 14 years, and have had NO wolf issues”ever”due to excellent fences, visual deterrents, scent repellants, and our respect shown to them. Wolves have reciprocated by leaving us and our flock alone. We side with the wolves and ask that DNR protect them fully. Thank you. Thomas and Debra King Wearing our sheep. Debbi makes wonderful sweaters and hats from our flock. [image0.jpeg] Thomas Wayne King & Debra Raye King Sunny Cove Registered Icelandic Sheep (SCI) Solon Springs, WI USA
Steve Kothman	Unknown	Feb72023	18:40:37	Wolf problem / No Deer	Attention DNR, Attached you will see a series of photos showing at least 8 wolves (possibly 9) feeding on a fresh deer kill. These photos were taken approximately 3.5 miles straight west of Dairyland Wisconsin. I have hunted this area for the past 30+ years and have never had this poor of deer hunting. There is wolf photos and scat everywhere you go. This area has a serious wolf problem and the system is way out of balance¦VERY FEW deer in this area. I have kids and grandkids that haven't even wanted to hunt the last couple years. My long time hunting group (5 hunters) are not hunting this year. Something has to be done to get the deer hunting closer what it used to be in the past years. I also know of many other deer hunters in the area who have the same sentiment. I'd like to know your position on this matter and what are the future plans to correct this problem. Additionally, I am very passionate that the DNR use a matrix number of 350 cap on the wolf population state wide. Also, there should not be a six mile buffer zone around tribal nations¦I am strongly against the six mile buffer zone!! We have a terrible wolf problem in north western Wisconsin Thank you in advance of your reply, Steve Kothman
Michael Skaw	Unknown	Feb72023	18:53:03	Wolf meeting	There needs to be a regulated wolf season in Wisconsin. The population is going to rise unchecked and grow out of control. Why is Wisconsin paying government trappers to reduce wolves in problem areas vs letting citizens pay to kill them. The money generated from licenses could be used to better population studies. Michael skaw
luke skaw	Unknown	Feb72023	19:32:10		There needs to be a regulated wolf season in Wisconsin. The population is going to rise unchecked and grow out of control. Why is Wisconsin paying government trappers to reduce wolves in problem areas vs letting citizens pay to kill them. The money generated from licenses could be used to better population studies.
Steve	Y	Feb72023	19:35:54	Wolf Management Plan Testimony	I'm Steve Pearson from Danbury, WI. I've lived in wolf country on wooded acreage for the last 44 years and I've watched the wolf population grow as a result of the protections of the Endangered Species Act. I raised two children here and now have 2 grandchildren living nearby. It's a good day when I see evidence of wolves, which I often do when winter camping on the St. Croix River near my home and on occasion on our property. It should be noted that not one human life has been lost to a wild wolf in the lower 48 states in the last 50 years compared the to 44 people killed by dogs in the U.S. in a recent year alone. The new draft plan for the most part does what I had hoped it would. It is science-based and has allowed for considerable public input. It is the result of a collaborative process with the tribes. I appreciate the hard work of all involved. Things I like include: * Removal of the numeric population goal

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					which was arbitrary and not based on the best-available science. * I like that the plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it. * It's good to see that the plan reflects the public opinion survey that was released along with the plan that showed that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves * I like the strong commitment to science and continued research on wolves. Things I'd like to see changed: Hounds chasing wolves for months is inhumane to both species as well as other species they encounter. I'm against using dogs to hunt wolves.The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter and break up well-established packs. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but I recognize that sometimes lethal means must be employed. Farmers should be able to protect their farm animals using lethal means if necessary and should be compensated for their losses. Having said that, I hope we never see a repeat of the wolf slaughter of 2021.
ronald bulman	N	Feb82023	8:31:26	Wolf regulatory plan (Personal Opinion)	I listened on zoom yesterday hearing the various opinions on your agencies wolf regulatory plan. I live in rural upstate New York. Use to be a non serioius deer hunter years ago. I feel as if I have somewhat of a stake in the survival of these wolves because to me they are not a resource but a National Treasure. Somewhat like the Buffalo and Wild Horses that run our praries. I think the name Wolves in itself upsets people. Going back long ago still in my time, I remember the big bad woof, even in comic books. A lot of people have been indoctrinated probably since birth to believe the Wolf is the worst of the worst and to be afraid of. Even in my small town, our history tells us that our area abounded with wolves and the settlers went out on wolf hunts to hill them off. How do you change this opinion but only by education. This is now the 21st. century. Humans would wipe out civilization in itself if there weren't people trying to save it. I do not want Wolves to be hunted. I do not want the use of dogs to hunt them down. I do not want the use of lethal traps of any kind or sort. No to trophy hunting. This is despicable. I do believe in safe zones. I do believe in the ranchers being reimbursed. The wolves have to be regulated to a degree so they don't create havoc on the ranchers. People have this mentality now that the world is theres for them to hike, camp and do whatever they want. No, this is absurb. They have to be educated that we will have to co-exist with the Wolf. They were here first. People have to take responsibility. It's there home not ours. Night hunting has to be stopped. I watch the TV show this Wild Kingdom. I see that if there is a animal problem, I don't see them selling hunting licences to kill, kill, kill. They trap the animal alive and remove it to an area where it no longer will be in contact with people. I think the opinions last night leaned towards non-lethal methods for the Wolf. Thank You Mr. Bulman, Penn Yan, New York
Sandy Swanek	Y	Feb82023	13:01:19	Wolf Management	DNR, Hello, I am and have been a resident of WI.,(Wausau), for most of my almost 64 years and truly appreciate all your efforts on this all important topic. I am not on zoom and couldn't join in on the public comments you offered on Feb. 7, 2023, however, I listened on YouTube to every comment and was moved by the amount of individuals that expressed their knowledge & compassion for these amazing family oriented wolf packs. Personally, I have studied Wolves for a few decades and almost took part in a refuge for them, sadly my situation at the time didn't allow me the time. Please stop the Hunting & hound chasing, it's wrong and as several of the commentators expressed, there has never been an attack on humans by the Wolves. Furthermore, as our population expands by building more subdivisions, we are obviously taking the natural habitats away from all the wildlife. In addition, I am in agreement with others that you have included the opinions of the Tribal community. Let us as a humane generation let the Wolves manage themselves. Hopefully, there's a way to financially help the agriculture community that's also detrimental to WI. to build the fences needed to protect their livestock. Additionally, the education on the Wolves needs a huge improvement to not only the public but n the school system as well. Thank you so very much for allowing the public (myself) to express our concerns that you will base further decisions on this subject. Respectfully, Sandra Swanek
David Skaw	Unknown	Feb82023	21:20:44	Wolf	Let us have a season to hunt problem wolves
Jennifer Argelander	Y	Feb92023	9:29:08	Comments on Wolf Plan	Hi, I want to thank you for a well written and very balanced plan. But here are my concerns. 1. We shouldn't be locked into a number for the base of the wolf population but a range would be nice so we the public know the minimum that the population would be, for example 700-1000 wolves in this state. 2. Good idea to look at it specific area for setting harvesting numbers. 3. Good idea that was presented about having wolves cull the CWD infected deer so keep the number of wolves high or protected until that can be accomplished. 4. Please limit the length of the hunting period--definitely stop before February. No more slaughters. 5. Decrease reporting time to 12 hours to report a kill rather than 24 hours because people wait to report. Must report via cell phones. 6. Need to address the use of dogs. And how they are used. Folks hunting together with 6 dogs each is an unfair advantage. Decrease the number of dogs used or not at all. Any hunt should be between the hunter and the hunted. It was disgraceful to see that over 80% of the kills used dogs in the last hunt. That is just slaughter and not the skill of hunting and those folks should be ashamed for being so lazy and unskilled. Thank you. Jennifer Argelander Madison WI
Connaughty, Tim	Y	Feb92023	10:21:50	Feedback - Wolf Advisory	Dear DNR, I may be past the window for feedback on this topic, but I saw on Madison TV that were you were seeking thoughts/opinions on this. Here is my two cents: Across the many aspects/priorities that our DNR manages and oversees, I do not know of one that is more politicized than the wolf. Because of the politics involved, the status of the wolf has been severely tainted. When the wolf population was deemed stable or recovered, it was then reversed due to politics. BECAUSE OF THIS, it is my opinion that a specific number of wolves must be decided on when thinking about recovery, state management, removal from endangered species, etc. With the current proposal to remove a specific number, it make this topic wide open to welcoming politics and bias into the conversation and decisions " instead of science. It feels to me like removing a specific population number has been put in place to precisely do just that " to allow the political bias to drive the decisions. Please, lets get back to science without politics involved " I know that is not an easy thing to do in this day and age. But we can start but instituting a specific population number for recovery and state management. Thank you, Tim Tim Connaughty Senior Director, Franchise Operations, Marriott International 1827 Harwood Court, Sun Prairie, Wis 53590 (312) 953-3869 (M) [cid:image001.png@01D93C6E.D4C268C0]<https://careers.marriott.com/>
Barbara Dukerschein	Y	Feb112023	10:37:15	Wolf Management Plan Comments...	I live in Chippewa County and I own woodland in Rusk County, where I often visit and hunt deer. As a member of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, and our local CDAC, I am involved in listening to the public, landowners, and hunters regarding their views on the growing number of wolves. Many ask why we don't have a wolf plan and why doesn't it include a managed harvest? I support the position that the current Draft Wolf Management Plan must include a population goal of 350 wolves. By far the biggest concern is that there are too many wolves in parts of Wisconsin. Hunters want fewer wolves as they believe too many deer are killed by wolves. Farmers are concerned for their livestock when too many wolves are in their area. Some rural home owners are afraid their small animals and pets will be killed by wolves. They want to see the DNR return to an established number of wolves. The original number of 350 is the number they refer to most often. I also support the position that the current Draft of the Wolf Management Plan must be written to include more concern for control of wolf numbers where the highest population of wolves are found. The people of the parts of the state, where the wolves are found in high numbers, are paying the price of having too many wolves on the land. We need to manage wolves where too many wolves are found and not be influenced by the parts of the state where there are few or no wolves, but high public sentiment to

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					manage the state's wolf population as a whole unit. Thank you for considering my concerns for the present Draft of the Wolf Management Plan. Don Dukerschein, [redacted] Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
Cassidy Thompson	Unknown	Feb12023	5:59:00	Protect Wolves Comments	To Whom It May Concern, We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed.). However, there are some objections: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, andespecially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) . There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves thatpromotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) References: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320713003418?via%3Dihub https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-70837-x https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/related/acts/169 https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.2005577 https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2351989419306225?via%3Dihub https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0209716 https://widnr.widen.net/s/tsvfkqkh9w/pub_ea_017 https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09711-x https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fevo.2022.782840/full Sincerely, Cassidy
Russell Dukerschein	Y	Feb132023	18:53:28	wolf management	As a resident of Rusk County, I believe that we need to state a specific number of wolves needed in the state. There needs to be a bse number for the population to remain stable and survive. To leave it open ended is not, in my opinion, a good management practice. I also do not see any benefit to having a "buffer zone" around any Indian reservations. We don't have

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					that buffer zone for bears, deer or any other game animal. The native americans already get their allotment of wolves to harvest. Whether or not they harvest their quota is up to them. No need to increase the safe space by having a buffer zone. I am not in favor of killing the last wolf. They have a place on the ecosystem, but you can't put a top tier predator into a space without having some controls. If the folks in the areas where there are no wolves are so intent on setting the rules, then put 250 in Dane county and 250 in Milwaukee county and see how they all like it. Russell Dukerschein [redacted] Glen Flora Wisconsin
Michele Statz	Y	Feb152023	19:04:48	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Michele Statz [redacted] Waunakee, WI 53597 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jacey Bonavia Murray	Y	Feb152023	19:11:06	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to zero wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jacey Bonavia Murray [redacted] Brown Deer, WI 53223 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Daniel Zinsmeister	Y	Feb152023	19:23:13	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Hi Randy, I have been involved in natural resource management for over 40 years, I own property in Marathon County and did my graduate work at UWSP. I want to emphasize the need to approach this issue based on the ecological importance of the gray wolf as a keystone species. I have experienced many forest habitats impacted by ungulate mismanagement. We are just beginning to realize the long-term effects to ecological systems,i.e. biodiversity of our northern hardwood forests. Unfortunately, we have only a few good studies identifying the impacts of unbalanced management of forests and need to approach future management with integrated practices. Please think about the diversity of future forests in your decisions. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. 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Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Daniel Zinsmeister [redacted] Wausau, WI 54403 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Madeline Barone	N	Feb152023	19:23:54	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Madeline Barone [redacted] Chicago, IL 60611 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Gwen Pine	Y	Feb152023	19:26:45	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I'm a new resident of Wisconsin and am very impressed with your foresight of preparing this management plan before we need it. Also your inclusion of native americans is awsome! And your determination to use science as your guide! I am not accustomed to government wildlife agencies being so thoughtful! Go for it! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Gwen Pine [redacted] Madison, WI 53717 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Kitlyn Rescinito	Unknown	Feb162023	8:30:45	Proposed Wolf Management Plan	Hello, I am responding to your invitation to comment on wolf management plan. I scanned through the pages you included and did notice there were several deaths of various reasons/circumstances that were listed. One of the most important steps in any plan is to watch for poaching, and prosecute accordingly. While I do believe, alot of the stats you listed are for verification, I think an accurare wolf count is needed before implementing any management plan. And I don't believe you can justify removals by management under these circumstances. Many wolves are dispersing, to other States. Please include this in your list of stats. I hope you will consider all options and avenues, before removals. Thank You Best Regards, Kitlyn Rescinito
Jill Edwards	Y	Feb162023	13:29:28	DNR wolf plan survey	Hello. After reading the 2022 Wolf Management Plan, I just answered the survey. While the plan is pretty good and very complete, I found the survey to be basically useless. It should have had many, many more very specific questions. And I have a question. Within the last several years there was an extensive online survey about wolves. I saw no mention of the results of that survey in the management plan. What happened to those results? Jill Edwards Vilas County
Pat Clark	Y	Feb162023	13:41:57	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves need to become a protected species, permanently. The vast majority of WI citizens do not want them killed via hunting, trapping or hounding. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the

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					relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Pat Clark [redacted] Beaver Dam, WI 53916 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Taylore Long	Y	Feb162023	14:12:21	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, As a Native American from the Ojibwe tribe. I find this really important. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Taylore Long [redacted] West Bend, WI 53090 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Brian Giles	Y	Feb162023	14:25:39	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I believe we need a management plan that makes real sense like this one. There is much that needs to be taken into consideration and this one does. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves

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					in our state. Sincerely, Brian Giles [redacted] Marshfield, WI 54449 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Hannah Malicky	Y	Feb162023	14:29:37	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Hannah Malicky [redacted] Shorewood, WI 53211 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jeanette McCallister	Y	Feb162023	14:59:52	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are an important part of our ecology. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jeanette McCallister [redacted] West Allis, WI 53219 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Douglas Michalek	Y	Feb162023	15:49:27	Support for the Draft Wolf	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are an iconic animal that belongs on our landscape. They play an important role in the balance of the environment. From helping control CWD in the deer herd, too, helping to prevent over grazing by deer and other ungulates. The first and only time I saw wolves was in Alaska in 1984 never thinking that there would ever be a chance of

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
				Management Plan	seeing one in Wisconsin. They have made a dramatic recovery, just like the Bald Eagle and should be treated with the same respect. Unfortunately due to ignorance and just a general hate for wolves, there is a population of people that just want every wolf destroyed. Which is a shame. Wolves bring a certain wildness to our state and others. Every year for the last 5, I have gone camping in northern Minnesota, hoping to hear and see wolves. That was money spent that could have stayed in our state. Now that we have a viable population, there is a chance to see or hear one in Northern WI. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Douglas Michalek [redacted] Milwaukee, WI 53213 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Tracy Marconnet	Y	Feb162023	17:21:35	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Tracy Marconnet [redacted] East Troy, WI 53120 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Patricia Balde	Y	Feb162023	17:38:02	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are a vital part of the ecosystem they are less of a threat then coyotes. Bear hunters lie about the wolves to gain money from loss of their dogs they do not care about their dogs bear hunting with dogs is abuse for both dogs and bears. Hunters enter a wolf territory with their dogs and natures way tells the wolves to defend themselves. Wolves do not attack livestock like people say it is coyotes that do. Save the wolves Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Patricia Balde [redacted] Hurley, WI 54534 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jane Collins	N	Feb172023	0:19:46	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Keep the wolves of the Southern Rockies under ESA protection. Relist the wolves of the Northern Rockies. Make the Colorado reintroduction a success. This is what voters chose! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jane Collins [redacted] Amenia, NY 12501 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

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Lynn Okita	N	Feb172023	6:59:26	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal. Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in the plan for the next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Lynn Okita [redacted] DuPont, WA 98327 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Laura Herzog	Y	Feb172023	10:22:17	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Laura Herzog [redacted] GLENDALE, WI 53217 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Scholze Rebecca	Y	Feb172023	11:08:50	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are an important part of our ecosystem. They are an apex predator that has a role in controlling animal populations. When we take away a part of the chain, it breaks and becomes uncontrollable. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric

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Jeannine McG	N	Feb172023	14:18:24	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are sentient beings; they are our brother and sisters. they deserve our respect and coexistence. Also, Wolves are necessary for our healthy biodiversity of our environment and climate. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jeannine McG [redacted] COSTA MESA, CA 92626 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Valerie Gibbons	Y	Feb172023	14:56:12	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I am on the Wildlife Team of the Wisconsin Sierra Club and helped draft this letter regarding the Wolf Management Plan. In our best Wisconsin, there would be no authorized wolf kill. Wolves can manage themselves. Humans need to learn or be taught to manage their behaviors, wants, and needs rather than killing another mammal out of reprisal or fear. I am not Native American, but I see all animals as my fellow travelers. They have an inherent right to live unharmed by us. However, given where we are at, I applaud the science, public input and tribal engagement the plan takes into account. I would like to see more emphasis on nonlethal means of keeping wolves away from livestock and more education about the wonder of wolves. I especially would like to see the DNR take back its authority from the legislature by voicing concerns and pushing for changes to ACT 169, a terrible holdover from another decade. Let's stop the kill culture. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased

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					that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Valerie Gibbons [redacted] Monona, WI 53716 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
C Tiefenthaler	Y	Feb172023	16:09:41	WISCONSIN DNR C/O Wolf Management Plan Comments	Comments regarding the Revised Wolf Management Plan: 1. The 1990 Plan wolf population was capped at 350 and was acceptable and passed the NRB approval et al. This number was and, still is, acceptable as a maximum wolf population in the State by the people, DNR, and USFWS. It also exceeds the minimum endangered species number/goal as defined by the USFWS. Keep this goal and state it clearly in the proposed draft plan. 2. Social Scientific Survey: People in Range understand what living with wolves means. Non-Range population figures mean nothing although interesting to look at. Those numbers should be weighted heavily in favor of Range population comments. I live in Boulder Junction! We are terrified to let our dog out day or night, take her for a walk, or even think about taking her on a snow shoe trail. I am always armed¦.that's fun. 3. Adaptive Wildlife Management The deer herd has been decimated in the North (and elsewhere) due to wolves¦.Period. What has changed since 1998 when, the 350 population goal was being discussed and the wolf population was estimated" by the experts at about 250? Now we have 1,134 or so, wolves in the State and the deer in the dense wolf areas are decimated. Has anyone been watching or analyzing this? Adaptive Wildlife Management for deer not wolves! 4. Translocatin wolves should not be allowed unless the population goes under 350 statewide. If that happens¦. the people in which the proposed translocation area must approve it¦. not at the will of the current DNR wolf manager. Before that would occur¦.problem wolves should be killed immediately. A Range landowner should be immediately issued a kill permit to facilitate the endeavor. 5. The five mile radius around Tribal boundaries for zero or reduced harvest should be eliminated¦. Period. 6. Increased harvesting of wolves in problem areas of repeated complaints must be a stated part of the Plan. A number of the stated goal must be listed in order to measure the effectiveness of the harvest. Thank you for your consideration of my comments. I can be reached at [redacted] for further discussion or questions. James E. Tiefenthaler, Jr. NRB member from 1990-2003
Kristine Jensch	Y	Feb172023	16:16:30	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are living, sentient beings. Thank you for revising your new draft plan that I hope will prevent the conditions hat led to the disastrous hunt a couple of years ago. Never Again. Thanks for listening - and continuing to listen, to the community, to base the plan on science and with consideration for the wolf?s place in Tribal culture. I would like to think we would never have another hunt. I would hope that another one would not happen for a few years, to give the population time to recover a bit. I?m glad the plan doesn?t base the hunt on numbers. I would like to think that outside interests from other states not have a voice in this plan. But thank you for what you are doing. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better

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Kim Kreimann	Y	Feb172023	22:57:53	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, This matters to me because I believe we are caretakers of God?s creation. Everything was made by Him and for Him according to the Bible. We need to do our best and base decisions on ecological impact and rather than barstool opinions and politics. This new plan is a big step in the right direction. I do believe we need to end compensation for hounds lost to wolves and instead use these funds to help farmers implement wolf deterrents. People who run hounds know the risks and they should not be rewarded for putting their dogs in harms way. If someone drives a vehicle out on a lake to go ice fishing and the vehicle falls through the ice we don?t compensate them. It?s basically the same thing with hounders running dogs in wolf territory, it?s their hobby, it?s their risk. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. 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Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Kim Kreimann [redacted] Neosho, WI 53059 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Julie Dybevik	Y	Feb182023	6:48:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Sue Reske	Y	Feb182023	8:04:09	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Sue Reske [redacted] Dousman, WI 53118 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Eve Schoenleber	Y	Feb182023	8:11:10	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The balance of our environment is at a critical tipping point. The wolves play a crucial role in keeping this balance. Our state needs more activities to be proud of that support the beautiful diversity that is struggling to survive. This act of killing just to kill has to end before nothing is left to love. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update

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Deb Lukasik	Y	Feb182023	8:47:53	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are part of the life cycle of all animals and a gift demo God. You dont have to kill animals for the sake of killing. They are part of nature's ecobalance. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Deb Lukasik [redacted] Rhinelander, WI 54501 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Patricia Nadreau	Y	Feb182023	12:07:03	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The Trump administration moved to remove wolves from the Endangered Species list in October. Wolves are important animals to our ecosystems and are important to the Ojibwe Tribe. No wolf hunt should occur until there is an inclusive, fair, and science-based planning process. Wisconsin is the only state to allow wolves to be killed using dogs, which resulted in many heinous practices. It embarasses me to have to tell people I am from Wisconsin when I see things like this happening here. We need a new draft plan that centers on science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update

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Katherine Baldwin	Y	Feb182023	22:59:06	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I don?t think wolves are over populated in our state and that they are a critical part of our ecosystem. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Katherine Baldwin [redacted] Circle Cross Plains, WI 53528 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Patricia McConnell	Y	Feb192023	10:13:55	Comments re Draft Wolf Mgt Plan	COMMENTS, DRAFT WISCONSIN WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN Patricia B. McConnell, PhD, Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist Emeritus Black Earth, WI I would like to thank the DNR and all other contributors for this work. The sections on wolf biology, ecology and population dynamics, are valuable, comprehensive additions to our collective understanding of wolves in Wisconsin. The Department's perspective on dropping a state-wide population goal is also to be commended. Ecologically, it makes no sense to create an arbitrary number for the total number of wolves allowed to be killed in the state, when it is clear in this document that predation on domestic animals, undoubtedly an issue to be taken seriously, occurs in specific zones in specific circumstances. More flexibility allows areas with special concern to be treated differently than area with little or no domestic animal depredation. Additionally, as cited in the draft, wolf populations, as in many territorial species, tend to self-regulate over time. I am also grateful to the authors of this draft plan for their long over-due acknowledgement of the attitudes and rights of the Native American communities in our state. These rights, as we are all aware, have often been ignored or abused. Given the attitudes about wolves and the unique legal rights accorded to tribal lands, the proposed buffer zones around tribal land is a step forward. There are concerns, however, some of them serious, relating to the details of a wolf hunt. First, ecologically, it makes more sense to have no annual wolf hunt at all, use lethal control when necessary, and provide support to livestock producers to prevent depredation, than to open up the state to an arbitrary annual wolf hunt. However, the WI legislature, in its wisdom, has passed Act 169 that the DNR shall allow hunting and trapping of wolves, including with free-ranging packs of dogs, if the wolf is not listed as endangered. Thus, until that law is overturned, the DNR has a responsibility to use its powers of management to ameliorate some of the worst aspects of an arbitrary public hunt. Radically decrease the number of wolves allowed to be killed: The research is clear that recreational hunting does not decrease depredations. (Bruns et al 2020 for example.) There is evidence, however, that non-lethal control can be effective in ameliorating livestock losses (Gehring 2010, Treves et al 2016). Everything that can be done to increase non-lethal decreases in livestock/dog losses should be proposed”including more resources for non-lethal management than have been described. The use of hounds as a method of killing wolves must be better regulated. Ideally, it would be discontinued altogether. Setting packs of free-running dogs after a wolf or wolves is inhumane, and an embarrassment to our state. Wisconsin is the only state that allows hunters to set packs of large dogs after wolves, and for good reason”the potential for unnecessary suffering is obvious. Indeed, this is so distasteful that there is little support from both the public and most WI hunters. (Bradshaw et al 2022) From my involvement in hearings related to using dogs to hunt wolves, the only hunting community that is highly supportive of using dogs to hunt wolves is the bear hunting community, who also put their dogs in situations of great harm while going after large predators. (Veterinarians from northern counties, Minocqua area, for example, have gone on record that they see about 100 dogs a year who are badly injured by bears. The number of dogs who have simply died without treatment is not known. I am away from my office and files, but contact me”info below”if you would like specific names and

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					dates.) Again, the use of dogs has been made into law by the legislature, but there is still a tremendous amount that the DNR can do to ameliorate some of the worst consequences: --- First, reconsider the compensation program for bear hunting dogs injured by wolves. I understand that this program was put into place to assuage negative perceptions about wolves and concerns about wolves injuring dogs while bear hunting. But the fact remains that bears are extremely large, well-equipped predators who can, and do, injure dogs. The fantasy that all bears climb trees and are humanely shot by hunters is only that. Most importantly, there is no evidence that I am aware of, or cited in the draft, that those who dislike wolves have a change in attitude because they are allowed $2,500 or more if one of their dogs is killed by a wolf while hunting a far-more dangerous predator. --- Second, do not allow hound training on wolves during the wolf breeding season. Ignoring the well-known biology of the wolf subverts everything else written into this draft: We know that disruptions during the breeding season impacts territorial defense, pair bonding, and successful breeding. Stress is a well-known factor that decreases fecundity in mammals (Geraghty et al 2015). Allowing wolves to be chased, harassed, (and what else? Killed?) during this time period not only creates unnecessary challenges to healthy wolf populations, this kind of disruption can create the exact problem that we are attempting to ameliorate"wolves hunting outside of highly-forested territories into more agricultural area where livestock predator is potential. --- Third, more carefully monitor and regulate hounds hunting wolves. The DNR may not be able to disallow the use of dogs to hunt wolves, but it can do a lot more than proposed to decrease some of the negative consequences of what evidence suggests is an inhumane activity. There are few specifics in the draft about exactly how dogs are used and trained to hunt wolves. For example: Page 114 in the report mentions ¦ review department wolf capture and handling protocols to maximize animal welfare and minimize risks.□ (Product A4d) Does this include individual wolves that are captured to train wolves to focus on wolves versus other species? Are wolves captured at all to train hounds to chase them? It's not clear in either this draft or the current regulations. DNR regulations are clear about the use and management of captive bear, coyote, bobcat, etc, by licensed individuals, but I could find no reference to training dogs to focus on captive wolves anywhere in the regulations. The use of captive individuals, itself highly controversial as inhumane, but is justified by hunters as an important means of training their dogs to focus on one species, rather any species whose scent the dogs come across. Yet, nowhere in the regulations can I find reference to the use of captive wolves to train hunting dogs to focus on wolves versus other species. For that matter, the entire subject of training dogs to hunt wolves□ is so vague as to be almost useless. How is the training conducted? What happens to wolves who are caught by dogs/hunters during the training period? What if a wolf/wolves injures a dog during training? It has been suggested by many (personal communication, DNR staff) that facilities housing captive wild animals for use in hound training are not well monitored or regulated. This is a concern to all WI residents who are in support of responsible hunting, but appalled at some of the abuses that have come to light. As thorough as the draft document is, and I give its authors a tremendous amount of credit, I am surprised by the lack of detail regarding the most controversial aspect of the WI wolf hunt"the use of free-running packs of large dogs to hunt wolves. I strongly request that these issues be more carefully explored and addressed. Respectfully, Patricia B. McConnell, PhD, CAAB Emeritus Black Earth, WI [redacted]
Ross Hutchinson	Y	Feb202023	5:59:29	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Because of wolves place in helping to keep an ecosystem healthy. The need to regulate hunts based with science and not due to pressure from organizations (with the desire to ?hunt? just for the sake of killing). I would like to see a stop to the use of hounds in wolf , coyote and bear hunts and the reimbursement to hunters for hounds lost to wolves during these activities.. Rather than the state paying for lost hounds, hunters should be required pay a large licensing fee that would fund the payout for lost hounds or to carry ?insurance ? to cover their losses. Honestly the whole hunting with hounds should be stopped , at the very least the payment for lost hounds. Why should the state be liable for hunters putting their hounds at risk? Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. 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Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Ross Hutchinson [redacted] Muskego, WI 53150 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
ronny harris	Unknown	Feb202023	13:54:55	Wolves and our ecology	Wolves have existed in nature for many thousands of years. Just because people are afraid of them doesn't mean that we can do without them. The wanton killing of wolves is foolish, ignorant and must be stopped. We simply cannot allow this important predator to become extinct. Humans have made many stupid mistakes but we can avoid this one by banning the recreational killing of wolves and making strong laws that protect them. Wolves are a very important link in the food chain. We must act now on their behalf and ours before it is too late.
Myra Burns	Y	Feb202023	15:30:19	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Myra Burns [redacted] Genoa City, WI 53128 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Ann Wiskow	Y	Feb202023	19:30:44	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Predators (wolves, coyotes, foxes) should not be hunted at all. They are a valuable source of managing the the the vermine population, as well as hunting the sick and elderly deer population. This maintains a healthier poplation, where only the strong survive.. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Ann Wiskow [redacted] Ripon, WI 54971 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Mike Kowalski	Y	Feb202023	20:47:03	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I live in northern Wisconsin and was appalled by the way the pseudo poachers and dog fighters handled the last wolf "hunt". It made our DNR appear impotent and useless as the quota set was steamrolled. Adding the recent unethical approach to their responsibility evidenced by the NRB and its squatter chairman, I don't trust any state representative or agency to make decisions on something as important as wolf management. No hunts and no target population numbers. As with any species, problem animals or cases of self defense are naturally a different story. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mike Kowalski [redacted] Eagle River, WI 54521 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Mark M Giese	Y	Feb202023	21:12:01	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mark M Giese [redacted] Racine, WI 53403 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Geralyn Leannah	Y	Feb202023	21:30:48	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Geralyn Leannah [redacted] Sheboygan, WI 53081 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Adra Kusnirova	Y	Feb212023	7:36:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Adra Kusnirova [redacted] Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Debra Taylor	N	Feb212023	9:19:27	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, My husband and I have spent so much money going to Yesllowstone National Park to view Wolves there. Now we see boycotting because of their slaughtering. MN is on our list once we find a reliable guide, who never offers trophy hunting outfitting! Please encourage groups to get into wildlife tour programs. We paid $3k pp for the 5 day tour, including a average hotel, and breakfasts and lunches. There were 12 people in our group, our one guide, and a driver! They were booked for months. There are competing groups besides the one we used. Why cannot Wisc do this too? P.s. I was born and raised in Wisc, Milwaukee suburbs . You can and should encourage wildlife programs. Us retired people spend a lot on

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					wildlife tourism. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Debra Taylor [redacted] Den, CO 80246 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jason Maloney	Y	Feb212023	9:24:26	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I live in far northern Wisconsin on the shore of Lake Superior. There are several active wolf packs in my neighborhood. I spend a great deal of time in the forests of Bayfield County. The proposed wolf management plan is quite good in many respects. The proposed wolf management plan is based on science. It includes essential ongoing consultation with the Native American nations in Wisconsin. It includes low quota zones around Tribal lands. There are parts of the proposed plan that should be improved. In particular, hunting of wolves with dogs should be eliminated and the plan should include that recommendation. Exposing domestic dogs to needless danger by using them to hunt wolves is inhumane. Reimbursing dog owners whose dogs are injured while hunting wolves is a waste of scarce funds that should be used for conservation in Wisconsin. As it is, I rank the proposed plan at 8 out of 10 with 10 being a perfect plan and 1 being a terrible plan similar to the current outdated plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? 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The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jason Maloney [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					WASHBURN, WI 54891 This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at d
Edward Kaul	Y	Feb212023	11:12:31	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are something to be treasured, not destroyed. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Edward Kaul Madison, WI 53704 This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at
Barbara Mottl	Y	Feb212023	11:18:27	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Barbara Mottl DOUSMAN, WI 53118 This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at
Penny Warner	Y	Feb212023	13:07:29	Wisconsin Wolf Management	Hello, Please let me know that you received this email with my comments. Thank you! 1. Name: Patricia Warner 2. I have read ALL of the draft plan. 3. I am a Wisconsin resident 4. Overall, the plan is very comprehensive. I attended all the Wolf Management Committee planning meetings via zoom and appreciate the amount of work that went into this draft. I do however

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
				Plan Draft Review Public Comment	feel the committee was heavily weighted with the anti-wolf groups. These are the elements that I liked: * The previous plan had a numerical goal of 350 wolves, and I am glad it has been removed as there has been much controversy over the intent of that number. I like the new direction of the department to use science when determining harvest numbers in future hunts. I hope science dominates planning and future quotas are set at zero as science has proven the wolf can manage their own numbers and will not exceed the carrying capacity of the landscape they inhabit. * Recent surveys indicate a shift toward more acceptance of wolves in Wisconsin with wolf advocacy being in the majority of responses. Social media has promoted misconceptions concerning wolves and has encouraged hatred toward the animal that promotes cruel and inhumane practices. * I would like you to revisit Product D3a and D3b on p. 131 in the proposed Wolf Management Plan and actually begin the work of creating materials such as lesson plans, wolf boxes, wolf units and guest speakers, etc. that can be distributed to our public schools, clubs, church groups, scouts, etc. This would ensure that our future generations would have accurate information about wolves. Reach out to organizations such as HSUS, the Sierra Club, TWIN, TWA, etc. that could work in conjunction with DNR personnel to create a variety of materials. TWIN was very successful in the 1980's and 1990's with their development of a variety of educational materials. Their creation of the Adopt-a-Wolf-Pack program not only generated revenue for the DNR, but was distributed around Wisconsin and several other states and succeeded in educating participants in wolf ecology and their role in completing a diverse and robust environment. The public's understanding of the wolf's role in our environment is particularly important now with the proliferation of CWD across our state. 5. These are the elements that I disliked: * Product C2H Hound hunting training should be taken out. It is not part of the law. I own a home and 170 acres of forest land in Oneida County, and I do not want hounds harassing the wildlife on my property. Hound hunting is no better than sanctioned dog fighting which is against the law. Since hound owners are purposely encouraging their dogs to fight with another canid, zero compensation should be awarded to the owners of those dogs. Instead, those dog owners should be prosecuted for cruelty to animals, which is part of the law. * Ban the use of chocolate and Xylitol in baits. This inhumane and cruel practice kills not only wolves, but dogs as well. * Ban hunting at night. * Wolf Population Monitoring p. 64-66 As stated in your plan, radio telemetry collars on average lasted 5 Â½ years. Since the implementation of the GPS collars, the life of a collar is less than a year. This is very costly for the department and suggests that the wolves are being tracked by their collars and killed by poachers. The 2020 report stated that of the 16 recovered illegally killed wolves, 13 were wearing collars. Additionally, 60 of the 76 collars were no longer sending signals. That GPS failure rate is unacceptable. Reinstate the radio telemetry collars. The below methods need to be continued since the department has transitioned to the new occupancy model, which is comprised of a hit-or-miss approach of guesstimating the number of wolves in our State. * Summer howling surveys are the only accurate way to determine if pups have been produced in any given pack. It also gives an estimate of how many wolves are present in that pack. There should be at the minimum, a summer howling sampling of known packs in Wisconsin. * If the department continues to rely on volunteer trackers for winter wolf counts, then the volunteers need to have training in the field with DNR personnel. An internet course cannot sufficiently train a volunteer. Over counting by inadequately trained volunteers is not helpful. 6. It is very difficult to rate this plan until it is implemented, and we see the results. I watched the NRB meetings with horror as they tried to completely eradicate the wolf from its rightful place in the environment by overriding the DNR's recommendations during the last hunt. 7. Considering the 2022 survey and the changing attitudes towards wolves in Wisconsin, this plan should promote policy changes that will bring an end to wolf hunting and trapping in the state. In future committees, greater emphasis should placed on wolf advocacy groups to more accurately reflect the majority of the citizens in Wisconsin.
Linda Frank	Y	Feb212023	13:29:04	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Linda Frank [redacted] Shorewood, WI 53211 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
linda hendrix	Y	Feb212023	16:15:28	Comments on Wolf Mgmt. Plan	There are many good elements to this plan including... ...inclusion of all stakeholders. ...adaptable and science based. ...inclusive of the publics positive attitudes towards wolves and that they should be protected in prime wolf habitat. ...no numerical population cap. ...zone specific areas for hunting which focus on wolf conflict areas. ... kill time registration being brought down to 8 hours. I do NOT believe that hounding/training should be allowed in zones 1, 2 and 5 (knowing that 85% of the wolf harvest were killed by hounds in 2021.) The public wants

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					SAFE areas for wolves in their PRIME habitat! They need protected areas. The zone quota cannot be enforced efficiently knowing packs of hounds are after wolves. The Feb 2021 hunt showed us this is impossible. My recommendations are... ...that farms with chronic depredation should be mandated to use nonlethal measures or should not recieve financial reimbursement. ...money reimbursed for hound depredation should only occur if there is verified proof that hounds were not released into wolf caution areas. ...more limits on and registration of bait piles during bear hunting/ training as that is when most wolf depredations on hounds occur and much more conflicts are created with other wildlife. ...much greater enforcement needed to ensure no illegal hunting is taking place. Give wardens the ability to issue trespass citations. ...create wolf safe zones such as zones 1, 2 and 5 to stifle CWD spread. ...limited wolf hunting restricted to conflict areas only. ...no night hunting/use of Lazer technology or snaring allowed. We have a primitive cabin just outside of the Chequaumegon forest and we also camp at the campgrounds in that forest. We have had issues with hounds racing thru our campground two days in a row, 2 summers ago so decided not to camp there last summer. Also, we have been awoken to the sounds of hounds yelping while camping. Also watched a bear swim clear across the lake to avoid hounds. One summer we awoke to incessant horn honking to direct a hound back to a vehicle. Hounding is ruining this state in my opinion. There are huge trespassing issues occurring up north. We were told to tether our 13 year old, 3 legged dog at Black lake campground ....yet hounds raced through the campground unaccompanied and that's OK? We were also told by the sheriff it would take him over an hour to get there. He never came. We lost 50 wolves in zone 1 by our cabin during the Feb 2021 wolf hunt within 3 days time due to hounding. This was heartbreaking to us. After 2012 , we rarely if ever hear a wolf howl at our cabin anymore. Because of hounding, we have considered selling our beautiful cabin. I am concerned that Wisconsin Northwoods is changing and drawing the wrong people to this state. According to a HSUS 2021 study, 62% of Wi voters dislike the idea of hunting wolves. 66% oppose using packs of radio collared hounds. One important fact is that there is but a .02 % DNA variance between hounds and wolves. In essence , hounding is dog fighting ! Knowing that wolf hunting is disliked by the majority of citizens in this state, I believe citizen input on wolf hunting should be garnered more frequently and given greater significance. The WCC recently threw out over 7 resolutions that passed in this state to protect wildlife. They also threw out their own 3-2 rule for moving forward resolutions that gained a lot of citizen support. This is still a democracy. We need to be heard. Included is a recent land usage chart showing the percentages of folks who engage in hunting and nonhunting activities. Please listen to ALL citizens in this state when formulating the new wolf mgmt plan. Thank you ! Linda M Hendrix [redacted] New Richmond, WI. 54017. [redacted] content://media/external/images/media/1000001950
Betty Cordova	N	Feb212023	23:13:32	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, For healthy ecosystems you need the Carnivores to kill weaker food source, Please save the wolves!! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Betty Cordova [redacted] Albuquerque, NM 87107 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Elizabeth Barreras	N	Feb222023	0:08:30	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Carnivores play an important role in our ecosystem they are much needed please save the wolves Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the

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Rosenberg Joy	Y	Feb222023	10:46:42	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The wolves are an essential part of Wisconsin's complex wildlife system. Over-hunting this valuable resource causes damage for generations to come. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Rosenberg Joy [redacted] New Richmond , WI 54017 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Michelle Hyllested	Y	Feb222023	13:47:29	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I feel that wildlife is nature's gift to everyone. A small group of trophy hunters have held sway over wolves in Wisconsin for too long. Wolves naturally control their population and are essential for a natural balance. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training

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Sara Dobyns	Y	Feb222023	13:53:34	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are part of our natural ecosystem. As an apex predator they keep other species in check. They are beautiful animals who have done nothing to merit this senseless slaughter. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Sara Dobyns [redacted] Hudson, WI 54016 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jim and Louise Martell	Unknown	Feb222023	15:49:25	Wolf plan	I would like to see a population goal for the state it is not mention in the plan. Also the buffer zone around the Native American reservation is too large it will protect too many wolves. The population of wolves in northwestern Wisconsin is too high. People who live here and including me are getting numerous pictures on there trail cameras. Hunters are getting tired of moving out of hunting areas because of large number of wolves. People are seeing them in there yards and have to watch their pets . The population needs to be controlled . Otherwise there will be an increase in conflicts between people and wolves. The state will be responsible for the damage wolves create. I live in this area and something will have to done to control the wolf population. Thank you for your time.
Judith Green	Y	Feb222023	16:03:17	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, My father and husband hunted, fished and were/are avid conservationists. It is possible to be all. Let Wisconsin be the Wisconsin of Aldo Leopold and Gaylord Nelson. Be proud of our state again. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf

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John Kramer	Y	Feb222023	16:33:31	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I am retired teacher, U.S. Veteran and WI resident residing inside Wolf Country. I want you to know - wolves are honorable! If people were as honorable and straightforward as as wolves, the world would be a wonderful place. Why would ever want to kill them? Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, John Kramer [redacted] Chippeawa Falls, WI 54729[redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Roland Hoffman	Y	Feb222023	16:35:19	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I have been learning more about wolves in Wisconsin over the past three years. I have a strong belief in advocating for effective protections for wolves. I understand there have been conflicts with livestock over the years. We need to emphasis non-lethal ways to resolves these conflicts. This draft plan is a great start in acknowledging the ecological importance of wolves and their right to be part of our environment. The history of wolf management has always included a hunter aspect when wolves are not listed on the Endangered Species List. I would like the plan to include the most specific rules for this hunt and how the DNR can make sure a hunt does not exceed quotas put forth in the plan. Making sure science is the leading source for implementing the plan is important. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the

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Carol Larsen	Y	Feb222023	16:40:01	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I have a fundamental understanding of keystone species and their benefit to our ecosystems. I know that we all want healthy ecosystems because we want to have a habitable earth for all its creatures, not only humans, because in the end our lives depend on it. I think that the Sierra Clubs work in species support is very well thought out and reasoned considering all uses and problems with wolves. Their ideas should be adopted ASAP Personally, with the knowledge of the rapid depletion of all the world's species I think we should leave the wolves alone to manage themselves. A human centric view of wolf management is hubris. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Carol Larsen [redacted] Mount Horeb, WI 53572 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
David Koeller	Y	Feb222023	16:54:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf

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Diana Ecke	Y	Feb222023	17:35:26	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I have admired wolves for many years. They are amazing creatures that need to be allowed to live their lives as freely as possible. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Diana Ecke [redacted] Marion, WI 54950 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Kalina Rossler	Y	Feb222023	19:57:48	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone

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Bee Ramin	Y	Feb222023	20:15:30	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, This is important to the health of our natural ecosystem. All creatures great and small should be valued in our community. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Bee Ramin [redacted] Amery, WI 54001 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Erik Daczko	Y	Feb222023	20:53:24	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I support the regrowth of wolf populations in WI. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include

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Rachel Rakaczky	N	Feb222023	22:30:40	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, There are so many non-lethal ways to avoid 'conflict' with wildlife. Stop letting ranchers and hunters set policy that always exclusively results in dead carnivores. Wolves are a magnificent keystone species that belong to ALL Americans for all generations to enjoy and study and appreciate. Killing does not equal management, and wolves aren't 'game', they're living beings with complicated, loving family lives and a vital role to play in the grand scheme of Nature. They absolutely should not die for the sake of your idiotic livestock that are themselves worsening our climate crisis. Any plan that involves the killing of wolves is stupid, short-sighted and belies a serious lack of humanity on the part of its proponents. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. 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Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Rachel Rakaczky [redacted] Sparks, NV 89431 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
HEIDI AHLSTRAND	Unknown	Feb232023	0:45:37		PROTECT THE WOLVES
John Hagen	Y	Feb232023	11:27:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I support everything the Sierra Club is doing to assure the survival of all members of our ecosystem, including and especially the gray wolves. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a

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Deborah Williamson	Unknown	Feb232023	11:45:51	Wolf Management Plan	Thank you for updating the wolf management plan, and although there is much about the plan that is progressive, I urge you to re-evaluate the plan and take the following into consideration: The plan runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Again, thank you for allowing public input on the plan. I urge you to include public concerns and observations in a new revised plan- one that will truly benefit the public for generations as well as the wildlife impacted by these actions. Sincerely, Deborah Williamson
Edward Morgan	Unknown	Feb232023	11:51:29	Wolf management plan	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Curtail Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting. Thank you, Edward Morgan
Rosalind Connell	Unknown	Feb232023	12:10:17	Wolves in Wisconsin	Hi , The YellowStone rewinding project proved the biodiversity ecological beneficial impact of rewilding wolves . Wolves belong in Wisconsin . They are Native Americans . They , have Eco Tourism benefits for the state . Rosalind Connell
Karen Kravcov Malcolm	Unknown	Feb232023	12:12:07	Wolf Management Plan Comments	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: * ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. * ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves * ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves * ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What I don't like: * ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): * ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing * ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones * ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution * ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. * ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. * ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. * ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. * ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. * ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. * ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. * ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting

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Linda Shaw	Unknown	Feb232023	12:16:31	2022 Wolf Management Plan	To whom it may concern: Please refer to the Adrian Treves and Francisco J Santiago-Avila paper "Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods" regarding the use of the scaled occupancy model (SOM) for estimating wolf populations in Wisconsin. The SOM is flawed because it relies on old data and compounded uncertainty. The precautionary approach should rely on better methods to avoid the 2021 Wisconsin wolf overharvest debacle. No harvest should be allowed but if you are going to allow one, at the very least you should use valid methods that prevent another unnecessary bloodbath. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Linda Shaw
Dianne Channell	Unknown	Feb232023	12:59:09	Wolves	WOLVES are essential. You have not fully educated yourself about their place. We need them. Check it out. Dianne Channell
Julie O'Connor	N	Feb232023	13:06:42	WI Draft WMP Comments	Dear Wildlife Officials: The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Sincerely, Julie O'Connor, PhD [redacted] Tenafly, NJ 07670
Sharon Gaskill	Y	Feb232023	13:31:12	Submitting comments on wolf management plan	February 23, 2023 Having read the full wolf management plan proposed by the DNR, I wish to weigh in with my comments and suggestions. To begin I must say that I believe two key points: ”a healthy and seasonably-sized and resilient wolf population is important to Wisconsin and its biological diversity; ”I think all decisions regarding the wolf must be based upon science, upon a substantial, continuing and long-lasting body of data and observation. There is much to like in the proposed plan: ”taking away the goal of particular population numbers ”changing the zones to represent more realistic borders that have specific numbers and that respect the views and behaviors of the Native American nations, realizing that their culture reveres the wolf ”requirements for quick registration of killing ”enhanced and continuing education of the public about wolf biology and patterns, deterence to attacks, with an emphasis on the ecological benefits of wolves I feel the plan should have included other points: ”the Minnesota wolf management plan emphasizes collaboration, sharing of information, and cooperation with federal, state and local governments, tribes, non-governmental organizations and citizens; it refers to a well-connected population as a goal, as well as emphasis on educating and engaging the public in minimizing human/wolf conflict; the specificity of these goals is important ”collaborate on research and sharing of data within the region, including MI, MN, and Canada ”a strong and on-going wolf advisory committee needs to exist, one which represents all interests, such as mine, not just those involved in management, in killing or suffering predation ”more emphasis should be put on increased wolf population monitoring, including continuing winter tracking counts; the scaled occupancy model is only one tool and shouldn't be relied upon alone ”do not allow hunting during breeding season; this disrupts packs, establishment of territories and pair bonding, which much data shows leads to increased unwanted predation ”right now those who use hounds to hunt wolves are given more allowance than they should; dog training should be limited to the period when trapping and hunting are allowed in a zone, and all zones should close to training of dogs at the same time ”the DNR should educate and lobby for a change in the laws that allow hunting with dogs; these practices are unusual, unscientific and inhumane; as a frequent hiker in the forests of Wisconsin, I feel my rights are abused and my enjoyment reduced by their presence ”as a tax payer, I resent having state funds paid to compensate for the loss of dogs used to hunt, especially when the owners are well-aware of the areas where wolves frequent; the compensation was created to pay for livestock and pets, not hunting hounds Finally, I am very pleased that the attention has finally been given to replacing the outdated and ineffective plan which has been in existence. I appreciate being given the chance to voice my opinion. Sharon Gaskill [redacted] Black Earth 53515 [redacted]
Jill Sullivan	Y	Feb232023	13:34:24	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Our wolves and all predatory animals are ABSOLUTELY necessary for the balance of our eco system. If we continue to destroy our beautiful and necessary animals we are in turn destroying ourselves! PLEASE STOP GIVING INTO BIG MONEY POLITICS !!!! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the

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					DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jill Sullivan [redacted] Madison, WI 53704 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Robert Reske	Y	Feb232023	13:54:07	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Predators are a necessary part of the ecosystem. It is time to stop catering to the hound hunters and trappers. Neighboring states have recognized this. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Robert Reske [redacted] Dousman, WI 53118 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Kerstin Larson	Y	Feb232023	14:38:42	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Kerstin Larson [redacted] Saint Francis, WI 53235 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

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Doris Theodorou	Unknown	Feb232023	15:05:03	Wolf	Please save our wolves Without them the whole ecosystem would be off
Evangeline Su	Unknown	Feb232023	15:20:06	objections to the wolf management plan	To Whom It May Concern: Indigenous people view wolves as individuals and relatives. It's not in Wisconsin's interest to allow hunting of wolves because of the perceived lack understanding of the native outlook on wolves. As we work on improving relationships with indigenous peoples, we should be aware and sensitive to this concern. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike. Most people in WI are against any form of dogfighting. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, your department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several research studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Thanks for hearing my concerns, Evangeline Su -- Evangeline I acknowledge and honor the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa, as well as the Menominee, Miami and Ho-Chunk nations upon whose stolen land I live and work. I honor and recognize the loss of social networks, trade, languages, recipes, gathering and healing for more than a dozen other Native tribes that occurred on this land as well as the 100,000+ tribal members who currently live in this area.
Dana Herman	Y	Feb232023	15:26:14	Comment on Wolf management plan	As science and research have proven, Wolves are of vital importance to the ecosystems they live in, being referred to as the immune system of the forest, they help to control deer populations and kill sick animals, like deer with chronic wasting disease. I am opposed to any hunting of wolves, however if it becomes legal again, I believe a plan should be based on the following: *Centers on, and is committed to, science and continued research and not an arbitrary numeric population goal, so that ecological changes can be accounted for. *Tribal engagement with respecting buffer zones around Tribal lands and expanding these zones. *Emphasis on non-lethal methods of controlling wolf-livestock conflict. *Public education on the above point along with focusing on the ecological benefits of wolves and how they are imperative to a healthy ecosystem. *No trapping, no night hunting and no use of hounds to hunt wolves. *Reflective of public input, including the favorable opinions that have grown to protect wolves. Wisconsin is the only state to allow wolves to be killed using dogs; this is barbaric and often times results in deplorable practices. We have lived on 20 acres in Shell Lake, Wisconsin, for over 17 years and have never had any problems with wolves, coyotes, bears or other predators. However, we have had problems with hunters who use hounds to hunt these animals. These hunters run their dogs with impunity and have zero respect for exiting laws and private lands. We walk our dogs, on leash, throughout our property. We have never had any problems with wild animals, but we have had problems with hunters who knowingly run their hounds on our property as they hunt. Each time this happens we contact law enforcement, and depending on which deputy is contacted - sometimes we get support, sometimes we do not. We would like to see an end to all hunting with hounds. It is dangerous for wildlife, the public and for the hounds themselves. Thank you, Dana Herman Shell Lake
Debra Jurey	Unknown	Feb232023	16:08:38	2022 Wolf Management plan	Many thanks to the WDNR staff for taking action to update the states wolf management plan. This gives me hope that our view on wolves & wildlife is beginning to change in the right direction. I am an out of state resident, I find wolves to be an intelligent valuable apex predator and in desperate need of protections with an established new & different mindset towards their extreme value & worth. We need to move forward and not get stuck on old management tactics that cause so much damage & destruction to our wildlife & the states they live in. I believe Wisconsin is starting to move in the right direction. I was happy to see in parts of the plan that wolves are now given greater recognition in the ecological roles they play for a healthy environment. This is a major step to help in opposing motives used in killing wolves. However, the current draft falls short in using the best available science. Emphasis on sustainable recreational killing as a main management strategy runs contrary to scientific evidence, & does not establish a positive constructive outcome for wolves or humans. The plan should end any & all lethal management of wolves with the main emphasis on coexistence, except in rare cases. The cruel & barbaric practice of hounding & hound training needs to end. It is something I was not familiar with until the news came out on the horrific slaughter of Wisconsin wolves over a year ago, using hounds to run them down to exhaustion making them an easy target, & was not only gut wrenching but made my blood boil. Hounding & the horrific training of hounds is just a form of legalized dog fighting, which is animal abuse and should be made illegal. The practice is cruel to both hounds & wolves and any other poor animal used in training. Finally in regards to cattle, & on the basis of wolf protection the emphasis should now encompass non lethal management. Thank You! Debra Jurey
Scott Coulthurst	Y	Feb232023	16:34:07	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, As a lifetime hunter myself, I have seen what a well managed plan can do for a species. When I started hunting, the opportunity to hunt bear did not exist. Now I have had the thrill of harvesting a bear in the Northwoods and bear numbers are increasing and even being harvested in the central part of the state. I don't know if I will apply to hunt wolves but I do know the presence of wolves in our state is something we need defend and perpetuate. The sound of wolves or the precious chance to view a wolf is the essence of the wild. I also know the hunting community is an important ally in sustaining a species. Creating a plan which addresses the views of all constituents, which this plans does, is the key to sustaining a viable wolf population. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Jenifer Horne	Y	Feb232023	16:48:54	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jenifer Horne [redacted] Madison, WI 53704 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jennifer Abel	Y	Feb232023	17:13:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, It?s vitally important to restore predator numbers in our state. Wolves can help cull the out of control deer population in our state. Please do the utmost to protect Wisconsin?s wolf population. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent,

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Jennifer Valentine	Unknown	Feb232023	17:29:59	WI Draft WMP	What i like: i appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What i don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ●⍰ Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ●⍰ There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ●⍰ There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ●⍰ In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ●⍰ 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology “ From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. i conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.⍰ (Treves & Santiago-Ã⍰vila, 2023) thank you- jennifer vaentine
Megan Scott	Y	Feb232023	17:46:38	Support for the Draft Wolf	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are part of our natural ecosystem. Humans, Cattle, sheep, pigs, and the potential farm animals that wolves may go after are not part of our natural ecosystem. Wolves need to be protected and allow to live in balance family packs as they were meant to be. The humans who have issues with them need to deal with them and not kill them because

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
				Management Plan	they live in wolf country! STOP the Wolf slaughter. The only individuals who should be hunting wolves are people from that state and not from every other state in the nation and it cannot be a contest. Lastly, hunting wolves, as well as bears with dogs should be outlawed. That is not a true hunter. That is not true. Hunting abilities. Hunting with dogs is horrific for the wild animal as well as for the poor dogs, that these owners abuse, leave behind to die, or shoot them, because they?re of no worth to them if they get injured. Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinions and hopes for the beautiful wolves! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Megan Scott [redacted] Wauwatosa, WI 53226 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Renee Klein	N	Feb232023	18:55:35	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Renee Klein [redacted] MdR , CA 90292 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Deanna Richardson	Y	Feb232023	18:56:05	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Deanna Richardson [redacted] Milwaukee, WI 53223 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Megan Turner	Y	Feb232023	18:57:47	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Megan Turner [redacted] Beaver Dam, WI 53916 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jill McClendon	Y	Feb232023	18:57:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, This issue is important to me because I believe humans and wolves can (and should) coexist. Our goal should be minimizing human intervention. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support

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Diana Lewis	Y	Feb232023	18:58:51	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, We need our wolves! Stop shooting them! It will ruin our ecosystem! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Diana Lewis [redacted] Summit, WI 53066 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Eric Norland	Y	Feb232023	19:04:04	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy

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Mickey Wolk	N	Feb232023	19:06:39	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mickey Wolk [redacted] Havertown, PA 19083 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jean Scoon	Y	Feb232023	19:11:43	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the

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dagmar mclaughlin	N	Feb232023	19:12:07	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, don't understand why our wildlife is subject to hunting.....humans have proven how inadequate they have been, historically, in attempting to manage wildlife.....which does not need to be managed.....we rather need to manage the testosterone driven hunters....killing to kill is not normal, nor healthy.....wildlife is precious and needs to be protected especiallly with climate change making their survival much more difficult..... Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, dagmar mclaughlin [redacted] palatine , IL 60067 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jeannie Roberts	Y	Feb232023	19:13:00	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are very important in our ecosystem. We need wolves to continue to play their part to keep a healthy balance. Science based--- not anecdotal evidence is what needs to be followed. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Jan Peebles	Y	Feb232023	19:17:55	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jan Peebles [redacted] Appleton, WI 54913 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Darlene Jakusz	Y	Feb232023	19:21:13	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of

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Roger Schmidt	Y	Feb232023	19:27:06	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Roger Schmidt [redacted] Middleton, WI 53562 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Marianne Jackson	Y	Feb232023	19:31:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Everyone should read KINSHIP WITH THE WOLF as a backstory to any future decisions on the lives of these highly intelligent creatures of the land. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in

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					our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Marianne Jackson [redacted] De Forest, WI 53532 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Marylyn Stroup	Y	Feb232023	19:37:42	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Marylyn Stroup [redacted] Oregon , WI 53575 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
William Backes	Y	Feb232023	19:37:58	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, William Backes [redacted] Madison, WI 53717 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
kurt Robinson	Y	Feb232023	19:40:12	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, the profileration of cwd is due to an unnatural balance with not enough not natural predators to keep herd in check. The CWD problem roots back to a much expanded population of the deer herd. As their natural feed gets scarce they end up gathering in mass and one animal has a virus or disease is going to the infect those in close proximity.If you are on this committee I am sure you know this, but you never know. The general public is never made aware of this critical issue regarding the wolf Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, kurt Robinson [redacted] Florence, WI 54121 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Erika Reise	Y	Feb232023	19:42:47	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves have proven to be essential, and there needs to be more evidence of the necessity for these wolf hunts before moving forward with something that in the recent past has been poorly managed and poorly executed. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Erika Reise [redacted] McFarland , WI 53558 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

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Lisa Barrett	Y	Feb232023	19:54:13	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Lisa Barrett [redacted] Beloit, WI 53511 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Colleen K	Y	Feb232023	20:05:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Colleen K [redacted] Lake Geneva, WI 53147 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jay Bradbury	Y	Feb232023	20:20:08	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The new Wolf Man Plan, as drafted, deserves to be enacted, as it respects tribal rights and land control by allowing them significant input, and it is based on promoting wolf population's ecology. WI deserves a sound scientific plan, which is in this plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things

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Joyce Frohn	Y	Feb232023	20:24:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Joyce Frohn [redacted] Oshkosh, WI 54901 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Shawn Mulvihill	N	Feb232023	20:30:28	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are essential to a healthy ecosystem especially when the environment is threatened by climate disruption. We must rebuild our forests and protect the top predators. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one

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Catherine McKenzie	Y	Feb232023	21:07:14	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I support the wolf plan. Please remove arbitrary wolf population targets. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Catherine McKenzie [redacted] Appleton, WI 54911 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Connie Murphy	Y	Feb232023	21:11:20	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, When the balance is interrupted the ecosystem goes awry. Wolves are such an important piece in Wisconsin's natural balance. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the

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Mary Weeden	Y	Feb232023	21:12:32	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, From a cost/benefit approach, Wisconsin has spent millions reintroducing the wolf population. Wolves help to maintain the sensitive ecological balance needed to promote a healthy, sustainable, environment for the State of Wisconsin. The current plan is woefully outdated, failing to account for the science that supports the proposed plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mary Weeden [redacted] Lake Geneva, WI 53147 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jean Roach	Y	Feb232023	21:17:38	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are native to our area and protecting them is important. The draft management plan is correctly focused on the the ecological benefits of wolves. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in

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Paul Maiden Mueller	Y	Feb232023	21:20:47	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Good management of all our state's creatures is just the right thing to do. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Paul Maiden Mueller [redacted] Luck, WI 54853 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Charles Roth	Unknown	Feb232023	21:25:11	Wisconsin Wolves....	It's your wolves, and those of every other state and country that need to be protected. NOT just for THEIRl sake, but for THE SAKE of every human being on this earth, AND not just for human beings, but for every single member of the family of wild lives on the earth. Wolves are important to the balance of nature. They cull the sick and dying animals, and keep the populations at a safe level. This has been their responsibility for thousands of years. Before we human beings were on earth. Before our ignorant mismanagement of life on earth. They were ALL far better off without our interference in their lives. BECOME INFORMED AND INSTRUMENTAL in the wellbeing of ALL animal and human life on earth. DO YOUR PART....NOW!
Sally Drew	Y	Feb232023	21:37:01	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the

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Albert Zook	Y	Feb232023	21:42:19	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Albert Zook [redacted] Luck, WI 54853 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Audrey Lasse	Y	Feb232023	21:44:07	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent,

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David Hand	N	Feb232023	21:50:05	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves don?t need to be trophy hunted. Hunting wolves is not about sustenance, it?s about retribution. It does nothing for game numbers or livestock. The last WI hunt got out of hand fast. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, David [redacted] Fountain, CO 80817 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Bruce Lisiecki	Y	Feb232023	22:08:10	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that

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Ty Webster	Y	Feb232023	22:10:55	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Ty Webster [redacted] Trempealeau, WI 54661 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Roger Diggle	Y	Feb232023	22:19:41	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I agree with the entire message, as stated by the Sierra Club. It's a good start. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Roger Diggle [redacted] Madison, WI 53704

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					[redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Timothy Daley	Y	Feb232023	22:20:34	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, A wolf population must be fluid, no set number, and let nature determine the actual population that can be sustained in Wisconsin, focusing on the benefits of wolves. Also, review the use of dogs for bear and wolf hunting to provide for the more humane protection of the dogs. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Timothy Daley [redacted] Union Grove, WI 53182 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Beverly Fowler	Y	Feb232023	22:26:45	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, This issue matters to me because wolves matter. Supporting a strong wolf management plan is crucial to survival of these animals. They are crucial to a healthy, balanced ecosystem. They are not the enemy. It is possible to coexist with them. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Beverly Fowler [redacted] Cottage Grove, WI 53527 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
David Henning	Y	Feb232023	23:27:05	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wisconsin has a great chance to show other States how to address their wolf situation. The reason that wolves still need endangered species protection is the various wolf containing States cannot seem to write a responsible management plan. Killing as many wolves as possible is not a management plan--it just lands the wolf back under ESA protection. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. I believe that wolves can be helpful in fighting CWD by removing the weakened infected deer before they infect other deer. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? I am against the use of dogs in wolf hunting. If it is continued, the DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, David Henning [redacted] Marshfield, WI 54449 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Russell Novkov	Y	Feb242023	0:02:12	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Russell Novkov [redacted] Madison, WI 53705 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Bruce Krawisz	Y	Feb242023	4:09:48	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, If wolves can live in the future, maybe people can live, too. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Bruce Krawisz [redacted] Marshfield, WI 54449 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Greg Mikkelson	Y	Feb242023	4:33:58	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are highly intelligent, social, fellow creatures who have a massively positive impact on Wisconsin ecosystems. They should not be hunted at all! Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by science, public input, and Tribal engagement - core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain nature! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. But the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to zero wolves killed. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should ban hound training on, and use of hounds to hunt, wolves. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Greg Mikkelson [redacted] Polar, WI 54418 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Rand Friedenfels	Y	Feb242023	5:17:37	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are our best defense against CWD, now in 32 counties near YOU! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal

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Ostara Groeschel	Y	Feb242023	5:47:43	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, We need all creatures for a successful environment Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Ostara Groeschel [redacted] Middleton, WI 53562 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Thomas Cali	N	Feb242023	6:12:39	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves matter! You need to do the right thing! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent

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Jim Wilson	Y	Feb242023	6:49:42	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jim Wilson [redacted] Green Bay, WI 54304 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Kathleen Fitzgibbon	Y	Feb242023	7:37:25	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Jenene G Garey	Y	Feb242023	7:38:35	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, We need wolves and they have a place in our ecosystem! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jenene G Garey [redacted] Two Rivers, WI 54241 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Laura Lane	Y	Feb242023	7:59:28	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are a keystone species and provide many valuable benefits to ecosystem. They are also beautiful, sacred animals that deserve to be protected and treated humanely. We need a plan that is guided by science and compassion for these creatures. Please PROTECT our wolves! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update

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Laura Wall	Y	Feb242023	8:19:45	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Hello, I?m writing to urge you to stop any wolf hunting. They are incredibly important to our ecosystem. Like all of us, they deserve to live. I made my first documentary about Timerland wolves, where I learned how they create so many processes that support the lane and other animals. I strongly urge you to support their innate God given right to be here. Thank you. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Laura Wall [redacted] Cudahy , WI 53110 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Amanda Bussan	Y	Feb242023	8:38:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack

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Adam Flogel	Y	Feb242023	8:49:42	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are a keystone species critical to the success of the success of our precious ecosystems. Taking rash action without exercising proper caution, research, and diplomacy with native peoples is incredibly short-sighted and unwise. This is not an issue to be politicized, but one that should reflect the right people making informed decisions based on data and facts instead of mindless rhetoric rooted in political bias. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Adam Flogel [redacted] eleva, WI 54738 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Gloria Lansin	Y	Feb242023	8:49:58	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom

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Marge Wappler	Y	Feb242023	9:11:51	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Science vs special interests should always be what management practices are based upon. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Marge Wappler [redacted] Pewaukee, WI 53072 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Tesla Philipson	Y	Feb242023	9:15:39	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Because I love wolves and am incredibly aware of the importance they have in the natural world, seeing them still get poached and slaughtered relentlessly makes my blood boil. And it makes me wonder if it?s even worth paying my taxes to a state that keeps letting this happen to the wolves who live in it. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Tesla Philipson

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					[redacted] Verona, WI 53593 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Michael	Unknown	Feb242023	9:51:15	In Support of a better Plan for Wolves	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly inhibit any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Thank you, M -- -Michael
Cindy A Carter	Y	Feb242023	10:07:58	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, NO MORE WOLF SLAUGHTERS, Wolves are VITAL to the eco system. ANd studies had found that the more you allow an animal to be slaughtered the more HATRED people have for them. WE ALSO NEED TO BAN WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS. THESE ARE MY WILDLIFE TOO!!!!!!! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Cindy A Carter [redacted] Appleton, WI 54911 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Will Huspek	Unknown	Feb242023	10:08:47	Wolf	We need to control the wolf population by hunting
Michael Cole	Y	Feb242023	10:10:07	WOLF MANAGEMENT	We simply don't need the wolves. They are not threatened by extinction, they are not a tourist attraction, they are a threat to domestic animals, they are a threat to you and your dogs/pets if you walk in the woods and uses DNR money to manage them. This is a lawyer created situation for billings and an elitist "feel good" creation. If we are going to be forced to accept these wolves, and people who have to live with them won't, then keep the numbers at the original 350. You can't manage something without a stated goal. That should be the original goal number of 350. I'm sure the originators of this plan had no intention of keeping the numbers at 350. Michael Cole [redacted] Crandon WI 54520 [redacted]
Nicolas Humphrey, PhD	Y	Feb242023	10:11:09	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are an integral part of Wisconsin's ecosystem. They must be protected at all costs! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding

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Brad Olson	Y	Feb242023	10:12:51	wolf plan comments	Dear Wis. DNR It is inconceivable that the agency in charge of the States wildlife would make a plan with no management over the wolf population. This is not a management plan but rather an expansion plan, with no numerical number set it is impossible to say when harvest should and would be considered. What has changed that now allows for approximately 50% of Wisconsin land mass to be considered wolf habitat of some source? I encourage you to follow science on this issue. We as a State have harvest seasons to keep all other wildlife in check, why not the wolf? Any wildlife left unchecked will over populate and become a problem, this is already the case with the wolf in northern Wis. I urge you to do what is right, know one is advocating for getting rid of the wolf, but a wolf population left unchecked will destroy deer populations, cause economic hardship to our agriculture community as well. If the wolf population does not need harvest management than we must ask the question, why does any wildlife need management? Thank you, Brad Olson [redacted] Frederic WI 54837
Paul Delveaux	Unknown	Feb242023	10:29:27	Wolf situation	I believe wolf population is sky high...i also believe wolves need to be physically registered in order to get an accurate count like bobcats and bears. Also have never seen so many dogs and livestock killed by them. There is no mistaking a wolf for a coyote. Coyote eat small mamals and even berries at time. Wolves only eat large mamals like deer and livestock. Upper counties have huge deer losses because of this. This is a huge loss to bussiness. Nothing in between summer vistors and snowmobiling in winter. Huge loss of hunters. People are not going to come if deer populations are this low
Sandra Rohde	Y	Feb242023	10:33:00	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, We are all connected - what we do to one will impact us all. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Sandra Rohde [redacted] Appleton, WI 54915 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Lawrence Mark Olson	Y	Feb242023	10:37:13	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are an important part of the ecosystem. Every study known has proven that. We need to let Nature take it's own course the way God intended. Thank you for your time and consideration. Posterity depends on you and your salient decisions. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an

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Jim Bredahl	Y	Feb242023	10:40:46	Wolf management plan	We need to try to get back closer to the original goal of 350 animals. The impact up north had been felt for a decade now. When I retired from the military in 2006, I had 8 decent bucks on my trail camera. Nope I'm lucky if I see 1. I've had wolves kill deer in my yard and hayfield. Between the wolves, bear, bobcat, coyote and yes mountain lions the deer stand little chance. The winter is hard enough on them in Ashland county without all the predators they might stand a chance. Thank You Sincerely Jim Bredahl Butternut
Timothy Bauer	Y	Feb242023	10:42:20	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, We need wolves in our woods. They are as much a part of the landscape as sturgeon are to our waters. They are a part of the ecosystem as well as our ethos. We do not need to continually punish them for centuries of misrepresentation, folklore, and pseudo-science. Whether we are indigenous or came from other parts of the world, the wolf is our ancestor simply by our stewardship in North America. May our policies and attitudes be guided by reverence and sensibility, not prejudice or greed. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Timothy Bauer [redacted] Madison, WI 53704 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club [redacted]
Jerod Stamper	Unknown	Feb242023	11:03:20	Wolf management plan	Good morning I was reading about the proposed wolf management plan. I am in full support of opening a harvest season. I live in rural Douglas County and I think the wolves definitely are a cool animal but the population is at the point of needing a harvest season. Thank you Jerod Stamper
Kerstin LaPorte	Y	Feb242023	11:09:46	Wolves	I live in northern Wisconsin and we have wolves taking over our landscape. I looked forward to retiring and hunting deer, grouse, rabbits etc and it is getting to be a Dead Sea up here. I am not the best hunter and tracker around, but in the winter when I drive around on my snowmobile and can't find a track of any kind, well like I always say anyone can find tracks in the snow, they don't fly . I don't understand why the DNR is trying to make Wisconsin a predator state only, most of the people and a lot of paying residents hunt deer etc and you keep the big three unobtainable. I waited ten years for a bear kill tag and I don't remember how long it was before I had my last bobcat tag and you won't fight to get a wolf season.Coyote season is

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					24 hours a day, 365 days of the year and they are thriving (except where the wolves are).Might be something to consider, yes if you opened season on wolves year round they might drop in population for a while but I believe they would bounce back.The wolves have proven they can tolerate humans time and time again for example they killed a buck within 15 feet of my shed last fall and stole the deer rib cage I hang for the birds that was hanging between my house and shed. My wife and I have our grandkids up to make Xmas cookies, and when we are done the kids and I go play around outside. This particular year they wanted me to pull them on a sled behind the 4 wheeler so, as I pulled a couple at a time around the others built a fort. The next day they wanted to do this again and as I was pulling the first ones, the others came running as they had found where wolves had killed a doe and a fawn, another reason my wife and I don't walk in the woods without a pistol. Other states (Wyoming for example) let you hunt wolves year round and you don't even have to register them when you shoot them, and guess what their wolves are not on the endangered list! The idea of not having a number to keep wolf population at is ridiculous, you have already ruined my hunting retirement but please don't ruin my kids' and grandkids'. We agreed years ago to 350 wolves in Wisconsin and I think you should abide by that. Let's get things back under control and control the population of wolves PERMANENTLY!! If we get that number down anywhere around the 350 number then we have a chance at rebuilding a deer herd and restore the balance in northern Wisconsin.
Scott Jansen	Y	Feb242023	11:23:23	Wolf Harvest	To Whom it May Concern, As a land owner on the north edge of the Willow Flowage, I am in favor of a managed wolf harvest in Wisconsin. We have a managed harvest for many animals in Wisconsin and wolves should be included in that list. Coyote season is 24/7/365. I see no shortage of coyotes. A managed harvest will help the deer population around the Willow Flowage and help the Elk get better established in the northern part of Wisconsin. Sincerely, Scott A. Jansen
Jim Low	Y	Feb242023	11:31:12	Wolf killing plan	To whom it may concern, I have just found out about this process, so this is last minute. I live on the south shore of lake superior on bark point road in Herbster, WI. I've lived here since 2001. Prior to that lived on my farm in South Range, just se of Superior. Prior to that I lived on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation and before that moving to Eagle River in 1983; so I've lived in WI for about 40 yrs now. Wow, that's more than I thought. Anyway, I moved up here from n. Illinois to live in the northwoods surrounded by all the predators, raptors, wildlife that I didn't see much of in Illinois. I'm a birder and do my own spring hawk count here, this'll be my 6th season doing the count. I did do lots of birding in the Eagle River and Jim Baughman was my neighbor, a birder also. Think he worked for the forest service. I absolutely abhor what the government is doing to our predators here. I have questioned coyote hunters when their dogs are running through my back woods and last april I believe it was heard hounds off in the woods and soon after 3 shots rang out as i was out shoveling my drive. So I got in the car and drove a short ways and found his vehicle and waited for him to come out of the woods w/a dead coyote attached to the rope he had wrapped around his chest w/his dogs running around. He ignored my requests, one of which was if he had permission to be on this property. He didn't answer. I talked w/my neighbors who told me whose property it was and I let her know what occurred. She wasn't too please. Late July I was on my daily walk and right in front of this same women's house there appeared a wolf broadside right in the middle of the road maybe 50' right in front of me. I keep track of the predators I observe and they're high points in my life. I'm up to about 36 wolves or so now not counting all those I see in March in Yellowstone where I used to go to observe them. That's gotten too popular a thing now and there are people guiding folks there, and van's from Ely and U-Washington students etc and so I haven't been going. I've tracked w/a trained tracker in Douglas Co and loved that day w/Rachel Tillich. I do NOT support any hunting of wolves in the name of science. By the way I've read Predatory Bureaucracy and have detailed notes. What an absolute century long debacle that was and actually continues. I believe the assault/slaughter by the government of the predators, eagles and everything else that fed on the poisoned targeted animals was done in the name of science. The DNR etc are suspect agencies in my opinion. IF by chance the government determines that the population of a species is too large, first I'd recommend you take a good look at the population of the sapiens. Then and only then, I'd suggest the animals are captured and removed to areas that may need to refurbish their packs etc... This was done to reintroduce the bald eagles as I've been to a few hacking sites where this was done and attended a few International Bald Eagle days in Chicago, Rochester, NY and Winnipeg Canada and met many of those involved in the captures and running these hack sites. Along the N Shore of L Superior there were hack boxes there and actually are done in the cities like Duluth and I've seen them in La Crosse because when Cornel U tried releasing them in the Maine woods they were preyed on by the GH Owls, so they went to hacking. IT'S TIME THE GOVERNMENT STOP WHAT THEY'RE DOING. "When you find yourself in a hole. STOP DIGGING" was the poster I put on my classroom wall every year. STOP. STOP. I haven't read your plan. I have NO PATIENCE for ignorance. So I'll do what I can if I see it happening here. If the dogs are running around my place I'd KILL THEM if I can. However, I don't believe in hunting and don't have any guns but I don't know how much longer I can hold to my values. STOP [redacted] killing our predators. Jim Low Herbster, Wi
Sherrie Wiegand	Y	Feb242023	11:43:11	Wolf plan	Please ban hunting wolves using dogs. It is harmful to both of the animals. Sherrie Wiegand Spooner Wi
j green	Y	Feb242023	11:46:38	Wolf Management	I would like to suggest no out of state licensing. WI residents only also no hounds or trapping. Let WI be proud of how we treat our environment. Thank you, James and Judith Green Hudson WI.
Sandra Berg	Y	Feb242023	11:48:05	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, As a charter member of the Timber Wolf Alliance I was horrified with the wolf slaughter instigated by out-of-state trophy hunters. This can't happen again. I totally agree with WI Sierra Club's comments regarding the Wolf Management Plan. (I actually read most of the Plan). Wolves are beautiful animals adding to the biodiversity of our State. They must be thoughtfully managed and protected. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are

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Judith Christianson	Y	Feb242023	11:50:47	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Past history tells us that messing with Mother Nature and the creatures under her watch, sometimes has devastating consequences that we often notice too late. Good thoughtful management is essential. AND it must be grounded in good science. Wolves are extremely essential in our Ecco system. Beware of overstepping nature's balance. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Judith Christianson [redacted] Eau Claire, WI 54703 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Frank B	Unknown	Feb242023	12:02:08	Wolf zones	How do u think u can manage with all the closed areas. I hunt in northern Wisconsin west of hwy 51 north of hwy 47, around camp lake,deer population like zero. Around trout lake it's 85 percent less then it was ten years back. the people just no long hunt in that area like in the past. all this land is open to hunting. So reading the draft the science takes the back set again to special group interest not what is good for all are land all the people of Wisconsin. with out fences wolfs will move. go on the reservation see how many deer u see (none) that see how the tribe's manage there lands. If science shows 350 wolf will maintain a good health population this is for the entire state. With Closed land for no hunting. So much for common sense. I have been hunting and fishing this area from 1975. I seen the high and lows. The best thing of all the years hunting was harvesting of the mature forest. The worst is mis management that goes on for special interest groups.
David Elavsky	Y	Feb242023	12:07:02	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I own a cabin in northern WI. I no longer hear wolves howling. The recent wolf hunt has decimated the local wolf packs. Hound hunters seem to be taking over the woods. The constant sounds of hounds has wrecked the northwoods experience for me. Wolves are an important part of the environment. They can play a large part in keeping the deer and elk herds healthy. They are crucial in helping to stop the spread of CWD. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these

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Mark Reinhardt	Y	Feb242023	12:29:07	Wolves	Hello, I would just like to comment and say that I am beyond tired of trying to enjoy the outdoors but have to make sure, as best we can, that there are no wolves in the area where we are hunting, trout fishing or just hiking in the woods with family and pets. The wolves have taken over many areas in northern Wisconsin and are out of control. Something needs to be done to control the wolf population!
Mary Anderson	Y	Feb242023	13:12:15	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Humans are the problem not wolves. I have livestock in wolf territory. Never been a menace but hunters sure are, hounders in particular. Stop paying those cretins scofflaw payments. Their dogs are not worth $2500 only their equipment is worth that much. They very deliberately run their dogs in wolf hazard zones, it's a good way to cull dogs and get more money than if you sold. Or they just drop them off. There are 2 hounds in our community shelter right now that no one claimed. Catering to the very worst of humanity is offensive to the rest of us. Do better when you know better. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mary Anderson [redacted] Spooner, WI 54801 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Marla Rubin	Y	Feb242023	13:27:38	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in

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Joy Fricke	Y	Feb242023	13:46:56	Wolves!	We need to protect wolves in Wisconsin. These animals have started to make a comeback and deserve protection..not kills in the name of hunting! Thank you, Joy Fricke 6172 s 36th St Greenfield, WI 53221
Donna Selquist	Y	Feb242023	14:05:37	Wolf Management	First off, a State Law that mandates a wolf hunt is totally ridiculous! The law should be revoked immediately! Beyond that, however, I have several objections to DNR's proposed Wolf Management. 1. Artificially set kill quotas do not even consider the positive benefits which wolves contribute to healthy ecosystems, including managing the number of deer, and filling an ecological niche which Nature intended for them. 2. Wolves have cultural significance to many of our Native American neighbors, whose traditions should be respected. 3. "Managing" wolf numbers is not the same as "slaughtering" them - there are many non-lethal methods available for dealing with human-wolf conflicts, even in agricultural and ranching areas. 4. Most hunting methods, including trapping, baiting, bow hunting, denning, and hounding are unsportsmanlike in the extreme. Hunter, especially the young ones, need to be taught human compassion and respect for other sentient creatures with whom we share our habitat. Other than as trophies, people have very little if any use for dead wolves. This is a shameful waste of precious life. 5. As proven by last year's hunt, it is obvious that DNR nas no idea what a toll even a theoretically controlled hunt will have on wolf numbers and species survival. You need to stop pretending you know what you're doing. I sincerely hope you will take my concerns seriously. As a WI resident, I want my home to be a place of peace, kindness, and natural splendor which includes all of the species who share it with us. Thank you. Donna Selquist Florence 54121
Diana Kromraj	Unknown	Feb242023	14:50:25	please get rid of the wolves.	the wolves NEED to be moved/ killed whatever it takes they ARE a problem my Mother lives between GALLOWAY AND ELDERON WISCONSIN and I spent time up there and the wolves howl many of them . 10 12 in packs . my mother is 85 yrs old and lives alone. my uncle also lives near by and he was swarmed by many all around him at dusk. i took some breaks outside and was terrified hearing them near by.i was scared for sure . if anyone feels they should stay than [redacted] it go out side at night and hear and see what I am talking about. get rid of the wolves. they are you gonna wait till they kill people? all of you are talking about something you don't know anything about them...get rid of this problem dont feed it..there are way to many of them.and NEVER should have brought them in that area they were not needed.please look into this matter.or wait till something BAD happens .than will have to have take action on this matter.
Lisa Douglas	Unknown	Feb242023	15:09:03		1. We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. 2. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on lethal management and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to non-consumptive users. The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. 3. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. 4. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and training. We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.
	Unknown	Feb242023	15:24:57	Wolf management	The open door policy involving wolves being controlled by the environmentalists is so fractured for what the value is, is heinous to say the least. How wolves were imported from Canada without being subject to any enforcement was illegal beyond reason. Compare what Florida is now facing with the control of pythons is not much different. These do gooder environmentalists who think the removal of wolves was such bad thing should then also support removal of all pest controls in any of this country's cities. Let rats return to spread diseases that history will vouch for. Let's not be selective and use any practical sense of why wolves were removed. Previous history should be ignored of what destruction wolves can do to the entire wildlife status. Overlook whatever the numbers might be that say they are no longer endangered. Give them full protection as the environmentalists tout. The craziness that even opened the doors to allow wolves to be reintroduced and worse yet go uncontrolled is not an act of any defining wisdom. How the environmentalists got an upper hand with this country's top courts should never have occurred. The management of all wildlife should have been and forever in the future only subject to the decisions of the individual states wildlife programs. Why are there programs to control the numbers of feral pigs? Should there be a difference between the feral pigs and the wolves? It's ok to decimate a herd of wild cattle because they are destroying habitat of property and they might be a safety factor. Again, not the decisions for this country's high courts but that for state agencies. Bottom line, if state decisions are not the controller and not that of this country's high courts, then any of this is a waste of time.

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Tim landgreen	Unknown	Feb242023	15:42:36	Wolf management plan	There should be separate times and quota for the different harvesting methods trapping should have 2 week season with there own quota Hunters who hunt with dogs have ther own time and quota and should go last as a clean up if the other Quotas don't max out Plain hunting weather day or night can be in middle season can be in either Jan or Feb when there fur is the best Thermal scopes must be allowed There's my 2 cents Tim landgreen [redacted]
Rhonda Bast	Y	Feb242023	15:45:45	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, You do not need to slaughter any more wolves. Wolves are a necessary part of the eco-system. Try a trap and release program instead. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Rhonda Bast [redacted] Racine, WI 53403 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Kyle Bruley	Unknown	Feb242023	16:22:59		Hello. I currently own land in Jackson County by Prey. I am a true believer in the good wolves do. I am not opposed to hunting wolves but I hear a lot of gossip by locals that they do a lot of self management. (Poaching). Just wondering if this is thought of when setting harvest numbers. I think wolves in Wisconsin is amazing and thank you for using scientific research in establishing a wolf hunt
Pamela Weindling	Y	Feb242023	16:30:31	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Pamela Weindling [redacted] Milwaukee, WI 53217 [redacted] This message was

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Tom & Bonnie Garbers	Unknown	Feb242023	17:36:28	Fwd: NEWS RELEASE: Last Call For Comments: DNR Seeking Input On Proposed Wolf Management Plan Through Feb. 28	It appears to me that this subject and its conflicts will never end. My opinion is to let the tribal nations have as many wolves as they would like. Put the rest of the state at the 350 number as promised in the beginning of accepting the wolves to Wis. When tourists and big city people wish to see wolves on the landscape they can pay the tribal nations to view them. The tribal nations profit, and none of the wolves are hurt, that stay on the reservations. It's also not fair to land owners that live close to reservations to block a 10 mile radius on all sides. How about changing that figure to about 1,000 yards. Put the hunting and trapping at numbers that will sustain the 350 number as was promised. So simple to do, to make the most residents of Wis. come together on the wolves. Thank you for listening to me. Thomas Garbers
Melvin Gall	Unknown	Feb242023	17:53:56	Wolfs	Leave the wolfs alone.they should be protected unless on a individual basis,then the farmer and only the farmer can shot one.otherways they should be protected.
Lance Kammerud	Unknown	Feb242023	18:07:32	Wolves!!!	STOP THE NEEDLESS, UNNECESSARY TRAUMATIZING KILLING OF GRAY WOLVES IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION AND THROUGHOUT THE U.S. WOLVES KILL FOR NEED¦HUMANS KILL FOR GREED. SAVE THE ANIMALS¦KILL THE HUNTERS!!! [cid:18685e30b32b26aaf7a1]
Jeff Olson	Unknown	Feb242023	19:20:25	Wolf population goal	why ask hunters you dont listen to us anyway
Ahnna	Unknown	Feb242023	19:23:36	Wolf Killing/Management	1. We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. 2. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on lethal management and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to non-consumptive users. The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. 3. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. 4. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and training. We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized. Thank you, Ahnna [redacted]
Thomas Ries	N	Feb242023	19:24:27	Wolf management plan	Wolves are necessary and essential to our ecosystem and a I am requesting that they be allowed to be protected in your state. There are states to your south including Iowa, Illinois , and Indiana that have no wolves in them. Many from these states would love to see wolves return to our states . You have a beautiful state with many animal species that have disappeared from your southern states. Which I am sure draw many tourists to your state. Please allow these animals to migrate to your southern states safely without hunting pressure
Chak Dantuluri	N	Feb242023	19:49:18	Save Wisconsin Wolves	Hello, I am an Illinois resident and deeply appreciate the state of Wisconsin for the natural beauty and kindness of the people. Congratulations on hosting a large wolf population, a precious set of wildlife that is increasingly rare in our country. I respectfully urge you to save these beautiful creatures from hunting. We already lost a lot of our wildlife, please save the remaining wolves. Thank you, Chak Dantluri [redacted] Naperville IL
Lucinda Grinvalsky	Unknown	Feb242023	19:50:41	Wolves	Wolves are essential. They will continue to exist as long as there is a food source so any attempts to reduce or remove them are pointless. Let them live their best carnivorous life.
Debby Roegner	Y	Feb242023	19:55:13	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Debby Roegner [redacted] West Bend , WI 53095 [redacted] This message

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Dave Hochtritt	Y	Feb242023	20:34:35	Wisconsin Wolves	Wolves play a vital role in the ecosystem in the State of Wisconsin; this is a proven fact. Wolves are capable of managing themselves in every aspect and have proven this many times over. It is the trophy hunters, trappers and hounders who wish to see these creatures back on the "kill list." Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and Wisconsin have shown what can happen when wolves are the target of these sportsmen." Killing is not managing as many would have you believe. Wisconsin's reputation was badly tarnished with the February 2021 wolf "hunt" which showed what can happen when rules and regulations are cast aside to appease a special, small group who believe that nature's bounty belongs to them exclusively. Hopefully the wishes of wolf haters like Tiffany will be put to rest and Wisconsin can take its rightful place among what is really important in the scheme of things. Dave Hochtritt Professor Emeritus UW Oshkosh
Mark M Giese	Y	Feb242023	20:43:11	Wolf Management Plan Comments	1. I recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. 2. I encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on lethal management and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to non-consumptive users. The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. 3. I encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. 4. I also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and training. I understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized. Thank you. Sincerely, Mark M Giese [redacted] Racine, WI 53403
Donald DeBruyn	Y	Feb242023	20:50:00	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, A healthy, sustainable wolf population is important to maintain in Wisconsin and the plan should help achieve this while managing wolf interactions with humans. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Donald DeBruyn [redacted] Two Rivers, WI 54241 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Julie Begalke	Y	Feb242023	21:55:44	wolf hunt	Hello, I am for wolf management hunts. Too many wolves will destroy the deer and elk herds. Wolves also are a danger to farmers. If a wolf is attacking a farmers livestock then they should have every right to protect their animals and they can shoot and kill the wolf. As far as I am concerned a wolf is no different then a coyote. The only good coyote or wolf is a dead one. A few years ago Wisconsin had a wolf hunt and they allowed only 200 to be harvested. It took only 2 ½ days to go over the limit. That should tell you right there how big the wolf packs are in Wisconsin. I am in favor of wolf hunts. Sincerely Julie Begalke
Manuel Lopez	Unknown	Feb252023	0:07:15		My name is Manuel Lopez I believe wolves are eco system guardians where wolves are present it shows natures at its best when wolves hunt they target the weak or sick animals keeping heards strong they keep deer and elk on the move giving a chance to let plants and vegetation grow wolves also never let themselves over populate they will regulate there numbers on there own hunting wolves doesn't work is unethical and will weaken a pack causing more wolf livestock conflict there are many non lethal methods
Kyle Froehlich	Unknown	Feb252023	5:11:35	Wolves	Get rid of these useless things. Or lock em up on the rez. Pit more barricades up and keep the spearing wolf lovers on their own land and how about the dnr work for the people that pay for their wages.
Rebecca Billey	Y	Feb252023	6:52:57	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I commend your efforts to make the stewardship of wolves an inclusive process. When we work in conjunction with others, we expand our knowledge. Please consider the recommended additions. Together we can achieve a healthy wolf population, without the drama of the past. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-

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Doreen Hlavaty	Y	Feb252023	9:03:33	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I support any plan which considers the welfare of wolves as a priority. Wolves are vitally important to healthy ecosystems. The recent hunt was not something that needs to be repeated. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Doreen Hlavaty [redacted] Lancaster, WI 53813 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Nancy Nowak	Y	Feb252023	9:12:00	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are very necessary to the whole ecosystem. Take note of what happened in Yellowstone National Park! Removal of wolves damaged the whole system. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one

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Karen Hershenson	Y	Feb252023	9:28:52	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves deserve to live their lives! We CAN co-exist with wolves! Humans need to do their part- education is key! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Karen Hershenson [redacted] Wauwatosa, WI 53213 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Julie Miller	Y	Feb252023	9:59:54	Wolf management	To whom it may concern, I would like to recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. I also encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on lethal management and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to non-consumptive users. The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. I would also like to encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. I also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and training. We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized. Trophy hunting is cruel and senseless and I am fighting to get it prohibited. Also to outlaw the use of snares and traps. Thank You, Julie Miller Animal rights advocate [redacted] Monroe, WI 53566
Todd Steffes	Y	Feb252023	10:15:12	WOLF MANAGEMENT	I believe the time to start managing the wolf population in Wisconsin is past due. There is no way to manage or grow the deer herd in northern Wisconsin without reducing the wolf population. One wolf harvest season in the last 10 years or more is no way to manage the resource. Wisconsin estimates of 1100 or more wolves is more than 3 times the population goal(350) or threshhold to allow a hunting/trapping season for this predator. Deer populations have suffered for more than 2 decades in northern Wisconsin. The number of hunters and camps have diminished due to the lack of deer sightings and the realistic opportunities of filling a deer tag or even seeing deer on a daily basis. This is a measurable loss to the economy of

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					many northern counties. The "Wisconsin Outdoor News" paper reported in their Dec16, 2022 edition that northern counties Douglas and Price saw a 13.5% increase in deer harvest(2021) after the 3 day wolf season in 2021. Clark and Forest counties deer harvest increased more than 35%. Douglas county has 44 wolves killed for depredation alone. That's 4 per month for 11 months! The DNR is constantly talking about recruiting more hunters. Deer hunting and small game hunting is where you will get more people, young and old, to continue and join the great sport of hunting. The loss of opportunities to be successful in northern Wisconsin is a shame. It is a large amount of forest space with few game animals and fewer hunters every year. More hunters head to more populated areas in southern Wisconsin to be successful. Here is the nutshell of the DNR plan The draft plan aims to effectively balance the tradeoffs between three main objectives: * Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role. * Addressing and reducing wolf-related conflicts. * Providing multiple benefits associated with the wolf population, including hunting, trapping and sightseeing. It's time to get a handle on the out of control wolf population. If the wolf harvest does not MEET OR EXCEED the number of offspring the following spring, you are growing the wolf population. Wolf-related conflicts will not be reduced(point number 2). An annual season will address point number 3. Sightseeing is a mystery to me. As a weekend hunter in Florence county since the 70's, I have heard wolves and seen tracks but have never seen a wolf. My friends that spend more time in Ashland county do see the wolves. The first point sounds good on paper but provides no measurement for success of failure. It's time for Wisconsin to manage its own wolf population!! Do not allow the federal government to interfere with the citizens who have to live with the wolves on a daily basis. Todd Steffes Malone, Wi
susan McMurray	Y	Feb252023	11:26:20	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I am concerned about the wolf population of Wisconsin. 2011 Act 169 goes against decades of sound management practices and brought inappropriate legislative involvement into this arena. The Feb 2021 wolf "hunt" was an abomination. I am aware that the DNR cannot change the law, but I am supportive of the proposed Wolf Management Plan. It is perhaps the best outcome that could be achieved. It removes a specific population number, and instead focuses on science. The plan was developed with extensive public input, and with consideration of involvement of the Tribes, as it should. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, susan McMurray [redacted] MADISON, WI 53704 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Helen Findley	Y	Feb252023	11:40:20	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone

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Margarita Zamora	Y	Feb252023	12:31:29	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Hunting of wolves with hounds is not a legitimate, science-based management activity. It is a private recreational activity or 'sport' that has had negative impacts on wolf biology, management, and conservation efforts. The new proposed plan should include language to this effect. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. The plan should point out the hunting of wolves with hounds is not a management practice supported by the best science. It is a private recreational activity which has caused harm to wolf conservation and science based management efforts. It should not be included as a legitimate management activity in the plan. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Margarita Zamora [redacted] VERONA, WI 53593 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Karolyn Beebe	Y	Feb252023	13:29:42	My comment on the WI. Wolf Management Plan	Thank you for the new plan. It's a happy improvement over past plans. This plan almost appreciates the supreme land managers that families of wolves are. I wish the WI-DNR would adopt the wolf as their stewardship mascot and guide. The wolf's role in North America's ecology is key -- they keep prey populations like deer in check while redistributing nutrients through hunting and movement patterns. They also provide some of the only sources of food for scavengers that do not or cannot hunt. It's impossible to know the extent of the web of life that originates with wolves, but one thing is for sure -- we need them. Karolyn Beebe [redacted] Madison, WI. 53704
Gordon Dukerschein	Y	Feb252023	15:07:47	Wolf Plan	I am a life long resident of Rusk County and have fished and hunted since I was a small boy. Next week I will turn 68 years old so I have experienced many changes in our wildlife populations in my lifetime, some as a result of habitat changing and some by human intervention. I clearly remember when wolves were being introduced and the goal was to be 350. I appreciate wolves as part of the wildlife diversity and they should continue to be a part of the mix. I am concerned that we now have 2 to 3 times that number and northern Wisconsin is out of balance due to their strong predication skills. Without a managed hunt we will certainly be guaranteed further loss of whitetail deer and other wildlife. Hunting has changed due to their over population as you are hearing from up north. We have way too many and as man is their only population control it will not be brought under control until they are managed. In speaking with the head of elk management, of the elk lost in the northern herd, of those found and investigated, over 42% are due to wolves. It's no wonder why the elk herd is so slow to grow. I thought the DNR was supposed to manage our wildlife for the benefit of each species and for outdoors men and women to enjoy by watching and/or hunting and fishing. The wolves are out of control, please manage them as originally planned to the benefit of all the wildlife population. I am not against having 350 wolves in our state but let's quit changing the goal, listen to those who are living up north and understand what is really happening. Respectfully, Gordon Dukerschein [redacted] Glen Flora, WI [redacted]
Janet M. Wall	Y	Feb252023	15:40:35	Support for the Draft Wolf	Dear Randy Johnson, I was born and raised on a ranch in Montana. My family and I have always loved and protected wildlife, including coyotes and wolves. I learned from the wonderful example of my Father and my Mother that respecting wildlife, protecting them, and in general maintaining an attitude that they share the Mother Earth with us. I am deeply interested in protecting them now and in seeing that we live in harmony with them. I do not believe in the cruelty of trapping them. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft

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				Management Plan	Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Janet M. Wall [redacted] Houlton, WI 54082 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Steve Betchkal	Y	Feb252023	15:41:37	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are a natural component of Wisconsin's ecosystem, and an important key predator. For our natural systems to function correctly, we need a healthy wolf population in the state. The WDNR plays a critical role in monitoring, and conserving our wolf population, and input from citizens is integral to any functional and reasonable long-tern planning. The recent "wolf hunt exploitations" dominated by pro-hunting groups is out of whack with the diverse range of opinions of Wisconsin's citizenry. My hope is that the DNR considers what's best for the resource, not a fraction of the human population. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Steve Betchkal [redacted] Eau Claire, WI 54701 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Karen Jacques	N	Feb252023	16:17:05	Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan	I am writing in response to Wisconsin's efforts to develop a new wolf management plan. I have been appalled by the cruelty with which Wisconsin has treated wolves in the past and the relentless killing to which they have been subjected. It appears that the attitude of Wisconsin residents toward wolves is increasingly positive and I am grateful for that. All decisions about wolf management in Wisconsin should be based on the best science available and in consultation with qualified wolf biologists. Your proposed plan does not reflect what is currently known about wolf sentience and pack social structure. Failure to seek consultation and expertise will result in a plan that is less than adequate. It is critical that Wisconsin develop a wolf conservation plan that recognizes the value of wolves as an apex predator have in deterring the health of the ecosystems of which they are a part. Wolves are viewed as relatives in the world view of many indigenous tribes in the US, including in Wisconsin and your wolf plan should be developed and finalized in respectful consultation with them. I am opposed to any numeric cap on the number of wolves that Wisconsin will allow to exist and I certainly oppose your arbitrary cap of 350. I do not believe that wolf hunting should be allowed. There should be no wolf quota. Wolf hunting is unnecessary, cruel and extremely disruptive of the social structure of wolf packs. Wolves are not a food animal. Allowing their hunting is allowing killing for the sake of killing, killing in order to brag about killing or killing in order to put the stuffed head or skin of what was once a living being up on a wall. Such killing is unethical and should not be allowed in any state. It denies the value of the lives of individual wolves and cheapens the lives of all living beings. If any hunting is allowed, it should be extremely limited and methods of extreme cruelty such as hunting with hounds, trapping and killing wolves in their dens should be strictly banned. If hunting is allowed, Wisconsin should at least show respect for tribal beliefs by mandating a wide buffer zone around tribal land. Ranchers should be required to use non-lethal methods of managing wolves. Most live stock deaths in this country are not caused by wolves and non lethal methods have been show to work extremely well. Knowledgeable animal advocacy groups like Project Coyote should be consulted for help in setting up an appropriate educational program. There should also be a public education program for the general public about how people can coexist with roles and other predators. The world is facing an extinction crisis, much of it caused by the relentless expansion of human populations into lands inhabited by wildlife and by senseless attempts to exterminate some species. The only hope of maintaining the biodiversity that is needed for our own survival as humans is to learn to coexist with other species, including predators. instead of killing them. It is heartening to see the the public attitude toward wolves and other apex predators is changing to recognize the value of these species and the need to conserve them. Polls in Wisconsin show this shift in attitude. Thank-you for this opportunity to comment. I look forward to Wisconsin getting the expert consultation about wolves that it needs and moving forward with a wolf plan that respects their inherent and ecological value. I hope I never again have to read about horrible episodes of wolf slaughter in Wisconsin (or elsewhere). Karen Jacques, California
Andrew Reske	Y	Feb252023	17:33:02	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Andrew Reske [redacted] Milwaukee , WI 53207 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
A Cavell	N	Feb252023	18:00:06	Wisconsin wolves	Your state makes the USA look bad WORLDWIDE and thats a statement!making a species extinct is backward and insane, you dont realise social media users worldwide ðŸŒ ðŸŒŽðŸŒ ðŸ—£ðŸ“±ðŸ“² know what you do and you are watched ðŸ‘€ in Wisconsin ðŸ‘€ WE WON'T GIVE UP! Your psychopathy will kill you, trying to genocide a species wont end well for you! Its got legal proof to that you can't make a species extinct if you try you bring a zoonotic(passes between species) pandemic on you im in n.e.england !
barbara resheske	Y	Feb252023	19:22:56	Wolf Management Plan	I have read your Wolf Management Plan in it's entirety. Please do no use wolf numbers to decide how many wolves to kill.There is no proof, but only rough guesses as to how many wolves actually reside in given areas.These numbers endanger the future of wolves by implying their existence. Listen to the Indian Tribes who have co existed with wolves from time immemorial.We have stolen land from the Indians, we have no right to steal their right to live in harmony with wolves. Wolves have never killed humans and to take a poll from a group of propagandized strangers who have been conditioned to fear wolves is an unethical attempt at justifying vilifying and thus killing wolves. Non lethal methods such as electrical fencing, mules, large dogs, booms etc. have proven to be effective against wolve predation.Lethal methods are not necessary for wolf control. Mixing science and hunting/special interest group research and committees is hypocrisy.Keep the two separate so data isn't skewed and research is unbiased...it's the only way to the truth...facts and opinions are not the same.To protect

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					our wildlife we need critical thinking not groupthink. Hounds are used for harassing raccoons, fox, bears, and it's time it stop.Dogs carry ticks, mange,viruses,rabies,parvo,lymes disease, heartworm and more.These are all transmittable to wolves.Even worse, separating the pack by chasing pups, juveniles and pack leaders can cause pup mortality and loss of their family unit.Justifying the training of dogs by harassing wolves is unethical. Wolve's provide a balance of nature by selection.CWD is on the rise and wolves cull the sick whitetails.Wolves eat berries and disperse berry seeds as they browse and hunt.Wolves help control beaver as part of their diet. Poaching, wolf/vehicular deaths,disease,pup mortality,toxins, poisoning all contribute to wolve's unaccounted for demise.Guns, hounds,and traps are devices that allow the worst predators on earth to decimate the wolf population.Those predators are humans. Barbara Resheske [redacted] Lake Nebagamon, Wi 54849 [redacted] CARPE'DIEM
Jayne Belsky	Y	Feb252023	19:37:12	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, This draft plan is a great start in taking control back from the hounders and it puts wildlife management back in the hands of biologists and scientist. Thank you. For the last 10 years they (hounders) have been in complete control of the DNR Board and have controlled your work of managing our wolf population. I understand that hunting wolves with hounds is permitted by law. But it doesn't state that hounds can / or should be used for the whole season. Give them 24 hours to run hounds and then return to normal hunting without hounds for the remainder of the season. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jayne Belsky [redacted] Necedah, WI 54646 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Cooper Stringer	Unknown	Feb252023	20:28:37	objection to the wolf management plan	To whom it may concern, Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, your department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several research studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. Cooper
Alan Wegner	Unknown	Feb252023	20:55:18	Wolf plan	I believe that Wisconsin should have a limit of how many wolf we have on the landscape. We need to control the numbers of wolves throughout the state. I believe there are more wolves than the DNR are reporting. Alan Wegner
Phyllis Hasbrouck	Y	Feb252023	22:15:28	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The Wisconsin wolf population needs protection. They are a keystone species that ensures the health of many other species and the entire eco-system. Also, they are extremely important to native people. The Anishinaabe believe that if the wolves will be wiped out, they will be too. This by itself is reason enough to protect wolves. Why would would traumatize people who have been traumatized ever since Europeans arrives on this continent? Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169

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Meghan Pierce	Y	Feb252023	23:55:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Dear Meghan, Wolves are really important to our ecosystems and are considered 'keystone' species or an animal that other animals rely on and, if removed, could have major impacts to the ecosystem. Wolves also hold a cultural significance for many of Wisconsin's 11-federally recognized Tribes. These reasons, along with many others, are why it's so important that Wisconsin is careful and thoughtful about how we manage our wolves. This is all governed by Wisconsin's Wolf Managementt plan, please move it forward Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Meghan Pierce [redacted] Sauk City, WI 53583 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Maggie Van Buren	Y	Feb262023	8:54:31	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are important to the state of Wisconsin and preserving our wildlife. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR

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Deb Bascom	Y	Feb262023	9:24:08	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Deb Bascom [redacted]Wauwatosa, WI 53226 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Mark Richard	Unknown	Feb262023	10:19:23	Wolf	I do not agree with the new wolf plane. We need to do a better job of management. and cannot interfere with privet land owners rights to harvest animals.
Alexander Michael Hakam	Unknown	Feb262023	10:24:16	Wolves	Dear staff, Wolves existed before humans. We have infringed on and destroyed their habitat, then we try to solve any so-called conflict by killing them through various means which are all cruel and egregious. Wolves help maintain the balance that nature intended. Any interference by us, humans, contributes to causing further ecological imbalances that would entail dire consequences. Let nature keep its balance without our interference. Nature knows best! Thank you for reading my comment and taking it into consideration. Best regards, Dr. Alexander Michael Hakam, Ph.D. P.E., S.E.
Carrie Little Owl	Unknown	Feb262023	10:27:09	Wolf Management Plan	Dear, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wolves need to be protected in all 48 states. They deserve to live and roam in the territories they were born. As a keystone species-they are necessary for the health and ecological balance of the environment. Killing wolves for fun because they wander outside of a protected boundary is insidious. Killing wolves for any reason is unconscionable. Under no circumstances should this type of 'disturbed' behavior be tolerated or accepted as a valid wolf management practice. We, the good people of this earth ðŸŒ recommend that you change your policies in favor of protecting the sanctity of life. With Kindness-Carrie Little Owl
Don Ferber	Y	Feb262023	10:28:36	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy

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Pat Porter	Unknown	Feb262023	10:28:54	Wolf "management"	Your proposed plan has too many negative aspects to list. Wolves are a keystone animal, exerting great influence on the environment. Humans would do better by leaving nature alone, to the maximum possible. That includes discontinuing hunting and culling. Wolves have complex social structure within their packs, and removing members is detrimental to the whole group. If you determine (I can't imagine how!) that wolves are overpopulating, look for non-lethal means of achieving your goals. Thank you for your attention. Patricia S Porter
L. Joy Schroeder	Y	Feb262023	10:58:58	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Every creature is important to the balance of Nature. Wolves may be scary to encounter and may take some livestock to eat, but not one should be killed by other than natural forces. Humans can live in harmony with wolves if we consider what their needs are and how they contribute to balancing the wildlife food chain. We humans are the ones that should be controlling our numbers and the way our machines and pollution affect ecosystems. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, L. Joy Schroeder [redacted] West Bend, WI 53090 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
ecmuell@aol.com	Unknown	Feb262023	11:22:42	WOLVES ARE NOT NECESSARY IN WISCONSIN	3 We do not need Wolves, "MAN" can be the predator for all predation needs if necessary! If you want a wolf, build a fence in your backyard and feed it. Wolf Management is not wildlife management.
Dave Samuel	Y	Feb262023	11:29:24	Wolf Proposal Plan	I am opposed to the unlimited population and the extension of the buffer zones to protect the wolves. We should set a goal of 350 and maintain it to protect all people who utilize the northern portion of the state. We all know that using a minimal count as in the past there would be at least double that amount in the state. We own a lot of acreage in Sawyer County and no matter where you go there are signs of wolves. No matter who you speak with they are opposed to the number of wolves. There have been a lot of incidents where wolves have followed people as they hike the trails in the area. SO far no attacks have happened but eventually it will happen. We have way too many wolves in our area already. The 350 goal has

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					been surpassed by over three-fold utilizing the minimal count. I believe there are closer to 3000 wolves in Wisconsin versus your minimal count system. It is unsafe to have our grandchildren play outside with out adults' supervision due to the potential of issues with the wolves. We have to carry sidearms to make sure when we are in the woods our grandchildren and dogs are safe. We can't even let our house dog out without being in constant visible sight of him. Wolves have come right into our yard and we have had to chase them away. The wolf committee that put this together do not have to deal with the day-to-day issues with wolves. Those of us that do, realize the constant danger they present when the numbers are not kept in check. Regarding the buffer zones by reservations, from landowners I have spoken with in the buffer zones, I can assure you and if wolf tags are issued the rights of the private property owners within the buffer zone will be addressed in court. Dave J. Samuel
Deborah Crouse	Unknown	Feb262023	12:41:36	Wolf Management Plan Feedback please	Hi and thank you for taking into consideration this feedback on the wolf management plan. Please use the authority you have been entrusted with responsibly. When you're gone and only your legacy remains, don't have your family look at what you did versus what you could have done. Be the ones who made the often difficult decisions to stand up for THE RIGHT THINGS. No longer accept arcane policies that destroy precious nature and NATIVE species because it was wrongly accepted for far too many years. Be the ones who leave an undeniably POSITIVE future for every living being. As far as the wolf management plan is concerned, please take into consideration that wolves were on the land in question THOUSANDS of years prior to European settlement. Wolves COEXISTED; the environment was healthy and in tact. Our ancestors came, felt threatened by these large carnivores that they didn't understand and thought they had the right to extirpate an entire species. The arrogance, the inhumanity, the cruelty, the ignorance is astonishing. There is NO place in this century for the tolerance of this destructive and unnecessary behaviour. There is a PLETHORA of accurate studies of wolves from every country where they exist and we know their nature and their role. Every scientific study on the planet is in agreement: wolves are vital to a healthy ecosystem and increased biodiversity. We do NOT need to manage wolves. It is a FACT that wolves naturally limit their own populations; it's referred to as CARRYING CAPACITY. Easy examples of this can be seen today in Minnesota where the population hovers in and around 2,700 and Yellowstone at 100 etc. In captivity wolves live up to 15 years and in the wild less than 6 years; they will die from disease, starvation, and from injuries sustained trying to take down prey and fending off other rival wolves. They will not increase in numbers if there is not sufficient prey. To reiterate, we do not need to intervene and manage wolves. Please BAN trophy hunting/ trapping of wolves FOREVER. It is 2023 and it's utterly embarrassing and unacceptable that it's tolerated. There's enough violence and destruction in this world; we do not need to condone and encourage unnecessary killing of any kind. Psychologists know that deriving joy from killing an innocent being who feels pain, hunger, sense of loyalty to its family like a human does is NOT healthy human behaviour. It's highly unlikely that the trophy hunters could tell you many scientific FACTS about the animals you're allowing them to kill for fun. Those hunters can get their jollies somewhere else; they have zero right to use their UNETHICAL means to kill our dogs' ancestors. It should not even be a debate. We are a civilized nation. NO TROPHY hunting and NO TRAPPING ever. 100 countries around the world have banned trapping, but arguably the most advanced country in the world tolerates and has a season to torture animals? Wolves are hunting to feed their families and keeping ungulate populations HEALTHY so ETHICAL hunters have years and years of non disease ridden animals to kill and eat. Look at the data on the reduced rates of chronic wasting disease where wolves are present; they are our allies in stopping the disease from running rampant. They detect when an animal is sick years before humans can. Reimbursing a hunter for a hunting dog getting killed? Wolves gave us the domestic dogs we know and love, yet we're using them to kill their own ancestors?This is not only illogical, but also extremely cruel. Wolves gave us the bomb sniffing, cancer smelling, seeing guide dogs that we use to better our lives and, in return, we have a season where it's okay to slaughter them? It never was okay and it will never be okay. As far as livestock producers and potential conflicts with wolves, they have a responsibility to protect the animals who could be preyed upon. It should be mandatory to show that NON LETHAL measures have been implemented: fladry, high fences and guard dogs can be used. It's proven everywhere where wolves are present that non lethal measures are more effective and LONG TERM than lethal measures. People in every walk of life need to be responsible for their own actions or, lack there of, that impact their livelihood. Thank you for using this information to reduce the unnecessary negative, and to increase the positive aspects of the wolf management plan. Now let's work together to educate so we can co exist in relative harmony. Sincerely, Deborah Crouse [Attachment.png]
Zach DeVoe	Unknown	Feb262023	12:56:07	WOLF PLAN public comment	To whom it may concern. Please take into account the gross miscount of wolves in the NW part of the state. I don't care what any model suggests there is for numbers but it is terribly inaccurate compared to what everyone sees while in the woods. We need to manage these animals like everything else in the state. I run 30+ trail cameras across Douglas County public lang yearly for deer. I cover 1000's of acres of land in many areas of the County and average 100+ wolf pictures a year. I'm not alone in this. I have a handful of friends that have the same thing happen to them. It's rare to see them in person either. I don't do a lot of driving outside checking my cameras yearly but I average seeing 6-12 per year between driving and walking in the woods. I rarely see a coyote in contrast. Please do what you can to bring the numbers down to an acceptable level. 50% of current levels would be wonderful and they would still be plentiful. Zach DeVoe
Cindy Carter	Y	Feb262023	13:29:18	Re: Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	YES I am VERY concerned about our wildlife. Could care less about the over population of humanity. Dear Randy Johnson, NO MORE WOLF SLAUGHTERS, Wolves are VITAL to the eco system. ANd studies had found that the more you allow an animal to be slaughtered the more HATRED people have for them. WE ALSO NEED TO BAN WILDLIFE KILLING CONTESTS. THESE ARE MY WILDLIFE TOO!!!!!!! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Monika McDole-Russell	N	Feb262023	14:32:42	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are a critical part of the ecosystem and play a vital role in the balance of nature. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Monika McDole-Russell [redacted] Eden Prairie, MN 55347 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Bob Behnke	Unknown	Feb262023	16:04:34	Wolf Plan	Do not understand where the DNR geniuses came up with a Wolf Plan without the use of numbers. There is absolutely no way to set goals, survey counties or make reasonable recommendations without any kind of numbers. From my own experience, I will say that I, and a group of 7-9 hunters have been deer hunting Washburn County for the past 40+ years. We use to see and harvest many deer over the years. The past 10-15 years have been very lean. We do not see many deer, hear much shooting and have been totally skunked 4-5 years. Also, the majority of us see more wolf tracks than deer tracks. Unfortunately, our group of hunters have had it with northern Wisconsin deer hunting and will begin hunting in central Wisconsin come November. We hunted the same area in Washburn County every year. It is County Forest and is managed very diligently, with clear cuts, select cuts shelterwood cuts etc. The County has done their job in renewing their forests for the benefit of wildlife and forest management. Unfortunately, the DNR does not know how to manage the over population of wolves. The original plan for the wolf reintroduction was, I think a cap of 350 or even lower. But now with the wolf population well over 1,000 and no plan to control their growth I'm afraid the sportsmen and women of this state have lost their ability to have input into the process. All because the DNR has been aligning their philosophy with that of the protectionist groups for the past few years. Its high time the DNR realize that the hunters, fisherman and trappers are the ones paying the freight here, not the protectionists!
Pam Brocious	N	Feb262023	17:51:45	Wolf conservation science	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating it is a huge improvement from the last endeavor. I was glad to see: Updating the actual wolf count from a goal of 350; recognizing the positive view of wolves in the public eye and opposition to the motives and methods for killing them; a greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves; and adopting a proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (where previously no buffer zones existed). The new plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The new plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention

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					of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). In short, please go back to the drawing board and take wolves off as a main target of hunters, who cannot even be called sportspeople. There are better and more effective ways of managing the wolf population. Thanks for listening, Pam Brocious Pam Brocious | Founding Partner CitiStaffing, LLC | since 2001[redacted] New York, NY 10016 T:
Chad Wenzel	Y	Feb262023	17:53:36	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are important to Wisconsin as a keystone species as well as a symbolic animal to many people who call this state home. Please consider carefully how to manage their population going forward to protect and respect this essential species. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Chad Wenzel[redacted] Fox Point, WI 53217 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at[redacted]
Roy Sook	Y	Feb262023	18:32:26	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Stop killing wolves and other wildlife, endangered or not. There are billions of people on this earth and a fraction of that amount of wildlife. What is the reasoning behind killing the few left? Why? Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of

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Tammy J and John M Johnson	Y	Feb262023	19:53:36	comments draft wolf management plan	Thank you for considering our request to NOT increase the wolf population [https://ssl.gstatic.com/docs/doclist/images/mediatype/icon_1_document_x64.png]2-23JMJmemoWIDNRwolves Snapshot of the item below: Memo John M. Johnson [redacted] Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849 [redacted] February 27, 2023 To: Wisconsin DNR I am a farmer. I have lost track of how many animals I have lost to wolves. A neighbor farmer of mine has lost animals to wolves also. Please keep the wolf population to 350 or less as has been mandated in your DNR plans of 1999 and again in 2007. Sincerely, John John M. Johnson Google LLC, [redacted] Mountain View, CA 94043, USA You have received this email because [redacted] shared a document with you from Google Docs. [Google logo] <https://www.google.com/>
Lisa Casto	Y	Feb262023	20:20:41	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, No wolf hunt should occur until the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) leads an inclusive, fair, and science-based planning process that includes: - A review of most current science, including information about the extinction crisis and social science and public polling - Full consultation of the Tribes - A public input process - Broad consultation of stakeholder groups Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Lisa Casto [redacted] Milwaukee, WI 53211 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Marlena tzakis	Y	Feb262023	21:38:22	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Mary McGuire	Y	Feb262023	21:53:10	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves have very complex social, family units which are vital to the survival of the species. Killing a nursing female will result in the likely danger of losing the next generation of wolves. Killing the dominant male will also jeopardize the health and future of the pack. All species are impacted when a dominant keystone animal like wolves are jeopardized. I would definitely not want to see a wolf hunt to primarily benefit the recreational hunter! The science which addresses the best practices is going to serve both the wolves and proper management, if needed Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mary McGuire [redacted] Suamico, WI 54313 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jesse Shatto	Y	Feb262023	23:52:44	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Because wolves deserve to live just like us happy,safe,and free. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season,

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Maureen Kidd	Y	Feb272023	6:18:58	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Maureen Kidd [redacted] MILWAUKEE, WI 53211 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
jim Swanson	Y	Feb272023	7:28:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I have hunted in northern WI for over 35 years. In that time, I realize that wolves and critical for the health of the north woods. When I am eating chili in my tent after a good day of hunting and the wolves begin to howl. Life is good. Research is beginning to indicate out that wolves may be critical to preventing CWD from spreading to the north woods. A wolf management plan that keeps wolves at the current population level, which seems to be at the biological carrying capacity is vitally important. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update

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Mary Bellovary	Y	Feb272023	7:33:08	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Biodiversity loss is becoming a huge issue for our future and the future of our planet. We need to be responsible stewards of our environment, and that means taking all species in our area into consideration when making decisions and writing legislation. The United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal December 2022 underlined this need. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mary Bellovary [redacted] New Berlin, WI 53151 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Mary Strasser	Y	Feb272023	8:34:29	FW: Wolf hunting	I am aware that wolf hunting is still being promoted in Wisconsin. I oppose wolf culling for most cases. Wolves are valuable in managing prey populations and keeping a balance in our ecosystem. I understand that some wolves do impact farmers' animals. In those instances it would be appropriate to permit farmers to kill or relocate the offending wolves. Thank you for allowing me to weigh in on this issue. Sincerely, Mary Strasser Colclough, La Crosse WI
Larry Horsfall	Unknown	Feb272023	9:30:26	Wolf management	My comment is simply that now that the idiot Prehn is gone the DNR has to be headed in the correct direction.
Amy Plamann	Y	Feb272023	9:58:51	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each

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Joe Seis	Unknown	Feb272023	11:04:42	FW: Wolf Comment	I would like to express my concerns about the wolves in my area. These wolves are an absolute safety hazard. I grew up my whole life in the outdoors, hunting and fishing. As a young 12 year old I would wander through the woods every day after school with my BB gun and never worry about anything. Now, I have children about 12 years old and I will not let them play in the yard as I know wolves are watching them. We have wolf tracks close to our house and they are on trail cameras nearly daily. I personally will not walk into the woods without some protection. I know grown men that are afraid to walk into there bow dear stand because they have had encounters with wolves. These wolves are changing our lifestyle. It is ridiculous we cannot enjoy other hunting activities because of wolves. Wolves have distributed our fishing, coyote hunting, bear hunting, deer hunting, and even just a walk down the road. My kids cant do cross county running because of fear of wolves. I have not seen any benefit to these wolves AT ALL. Joe Seis
Heather Florian	Y	Feb272023	11:21:45	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Heather Florian [redacted] Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Frances Hoffman	Y	Feb272023	11:32:28	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Some people still give wolves a bad name. They don't regard them as having a rightful place in the ecosystem and don't recognize how they contribute to the balance of nature. We need more science-based research as a foundation for a wolf management plan to help maintain the species. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the

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Lori Ranker	Y	Feb272023	11:43:54	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I support the new draft wolf management plan. The existing 20 year old plan is out of date and out of touch with the need to conserve and protect wolves. The current plan negatively impacts my state and the ecosystems that evolved for thousands of years with wolves acting within them. Please approve the new draft of the wolf plan. Lori Ranker, Milwaukee Wisconsin Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Lori Ranker [redacted] Milwaukee, WI 53207 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Amy Delaney	Unknown	Feb272023	13:22:09	wolf management plan	To Whom it May Concern, I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) There are still many issues however. ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and

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					concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology " From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable. (Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023). Please help rectify these issues so that wolves can get the protection they deserve on their own land and habitat. Anything else continues to be cruel and unjust. Thank you! -- Amy Delaney For every animal that is bought from a breeder, a beautiful, healthy, and loving animal dies in a shelter. Adopt from a shelter...save lives.
VICKI DOWNES	Y	Feb272023	14:17:35	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as

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					wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincere, VICKI DOWNES [redacted] Summit, WI 53066 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jeannine McGhee	N	Feb272023	14:49:21	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I believe that the wolves should be managed by US FWS and all should be listed as Endangered Species Act. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincere, Jeannine McGhee [redacted] Costa Mesa, CA 92626 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
James Patrick	Y	Feb272023	15:33:01	Wolf Management Plan	Some items of concern: YOU as used in the following points refers to the WI DNR Lack of a recommended population. This started out as 100-125 animals, then morphed to 350 with no public input. This number is greater than the total requirement for WI and MI combined. We are now at greater than 1200 and YOU decide to stop counting and reporting on said count. When the last season was finally declared it was apparently over YOUR dead body, as the law clearly stated, when possible, (without a court order declaring no harvest) there was to be a season beginning in November following the conclusion of the rifle season for deer, YOU had no intention of following the law and in spite of the time frame of several years passing YOU had deliberately not formulated a management plan. I am of the opinion the inclusion of the BUFFER zones around the reservation lands of the First Nation is another attempt to enhance the population of the wolves to satisfy WHO?? Why is this a necessary element of the plan? The plan, in its questionable wisdom, already ascribes 1/2 of the total recommended harvest to the tribes and those permits are not used by the members of the tribes. The effect of the additional BUFFER area is to additionally decrease the opportunity for harvest to the hunting public of the State of WI. How accurate is the count of the wolves in WI? During the previous seasons the time required to fill the allowed permits has always been significantly less than the time frame allowed. I believe any person, who suggests that the harvest of wolves which has taken place in a few hours of the allowed season time is devastating the population and threatening the survival of the wolf in WI, is extremely uninformed regarding the population of the WI wolf. How is it possible to harvest 216 animals across the state of WI in less than 60 hours (less than 3 days) and then continue to suggest the population in the state was 1195 wolves? Are the hunters in WI endowed with super powers? Are the wolves in WI super stupid and run around carrying signs saying "shoot me"? I cannot imagine how even the super hunter of WI managed to find 216 wolves in the roughly 16 million acres of wooded land in WI in about 60 hours. If we shrink the numbers of wooded acres by half, since not all of those acres are suitable wolf habitat, and divide by the suggested wolf population, (8,000,000 acres / 1195 wolves) and determine the acres for each wolf, the answer is 6,694 acres would hold 1 wolf if the wolves were equally spread across 1/2 of the available acres. What do you think your probability of finding a wolf in 6,694 acres might be? Then estimate the likelihood of harvesting that wolf with 6,694 acres to run and hide in. Do YOU still think people should believe that purported estimate? If WI had a deer population of 1195, how many deer sightings do YOU think there would be? My background, age 80, raised in WI, have lived in rural areas for nearly 70 of those years. I enjoy the wildlife that live here with me. I do not wish to see wolves extirpated in WI. I do however, insist on a management program that allows reasonable harvest. Seeing an occasional wolf or two once a month on my 400 acres is acceptable. Seeing 6-8 of them every other week is not. Being unable to walk with my dog in my woods unless being armed to protect my dog while bird hunting, is not my idea of reasonable. Having deer killed by wolves within 80 yards of the house where I and my dog live is not reasonable. The wolves are unafraid, and are quite bold. I have served on the CDAC committee of Wood County as the DMAP representative since inception, and was on the committee that developed the DMAP program. My wife and I have been involved in managing our property for wildlife enhancement for over 40 years. In 1993 we were awarded the Wildlife Habitat Development Award by the Wisconsin Land Conservation Association. Jim Patrick
Jodi Lessner	Y	Feb272023	15:34:18	Support for the Draft Wolf	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal,

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Brittany Lampe	Unknown	Feb272023	15:58:51	Draft wolf management plan	Hello, Please see my comments below: 1. I encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on lethal management and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to non-consumptive users. The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. 2. I also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and training. We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized. Thank you, Brittany Lampe
Ros Nelson	Y	Feb272023	16:19:25	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves need our protection. Our forest worlds need to be managed with science, not guns. Time to get with current research and thoughtful thinking! Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Ros Nelson [redacted] Mellen, WI 54546 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Marie Baker	Y	Feb272023	16:21:56	Support for the Draft Wolf	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are part of a balanced environment, and are needed to keep the balance. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things

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John Soine	N	Feb272023	16:23:20	Wolf Management Plan	Dear Plan Managers, I have read your Wolf Management Plan update and would like to make the following recommendations. I applaud your commitment to using scientific research in making recommendations for wolf management. My personal opinion is to leave the wolves to manage themselves but I also realize this is not realistic. Your recent wolf hunt was a total disaster and I would hope none of that plan finds its way into the current plan. Wolves should not be managed with a specific number. If you are going to have hunts a limit should be considered based on scientific derived data. Open seasons with no limits or unrestricted seasons can wipe out entire packs and endanger the genetic integrity of the entire population. There should be no trapping, snaring, baiting, or hounding in your regulations. Hunting should not be allowed on public lands. Lethal control should be a last resort in cattle and sheep depredations. Farmers and ranchers should be encouraged to use fladry, carcass removal, lights and noise to discourage wolf depredation. Livestock payments should be realistic and not require excessive red tape. Wolves can and should be given every opportunity to coexist with us. They are a vital part of our environment and should be respected as such. Thank you for your interest in doing this right. Sincerely, John Soine [redacted] Surprise, AZ 85374
Melaina Solomon	N	Feb272023	16:57:44	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I'm from Wisconsin and take a very active interest in matters that impact the state of my birth and all of my relatives still living there. Responsible wolf stewardship is so important to our shared ecosystem that even though I'm currently living out of state, I want to make sure my voice is heard in Support of the Draft Wolf Management Plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves

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					in our state. Sincerely, Melaina Solomon [redacted] Niguel, CA 92677 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Barbara Guy	N	Feb272023	17:22:16	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are an important part of balancie in our environment. They hunt the weakest and genetically less healthy deer and also feed on rodants. They are a beautiful and shy animal who pose no threat to humans. They deserve our protection and our respect Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Barbara Guy [redacted] Tomahawk, WI 54487 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Eileen Hennessy	N	Feb272023	19:39:30	Wolf Management Plans Comments	February 27, 2023 Wolf Management Plan Comments 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707 Subject: Wolf Management Plans Comments To whom it may concern: As an advocate for the protection and preservation of our nation's endangered wolves, I am submitting my Wolf Management Plans Comments. The positive updates to the 2022 wolf management plan are encouraging. It is important to not manage wolves at only 350 animals. Moreover, it is extremely necessary to recognize the essential role wolves play in the balance of nature in the ecosystem, as well as how their presence positively affects wildlife. I also support the adoption of around tribal reservations buffer zones. Last but not least, the long overdue recognition of the support of the majority of Americans for the reintroduction, protection, and preservation of these irreplaceable apex predators is a step in the right direction. However, there are negative aspects to this wolf management plan. The current draft fails to incorporate the best available science, including the omission of significant scientific literature such as data concerning wolf ethology, sentience, wisdom, sociability, agency, and wellbeing. The plan also omits data on the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions as opposed to lethal measures, as well as the negative impact of wholesale killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics and ecological relationships. Failing to include such information along with the rigorous push to promote recreational killing and consumptive users as the preferred strategy for wolf management reveals a plan with an anti-wolf mindset that defies recent, widespread and strong scientific evidence that debunks such lethal practices. The non-exploitative enjoyment of wildlife enthusiasts seeking to view and experience wolves in the wild is conspicuously overlooked. I strongly oppose lethal management of endangered wild wolves. Wolves are an endangered keystone species whose contribution to maintaining a healthy ecosystem cannot be dismissed, including their regulation of other wildlife numbers, including the sick, genetically inferior and overgrazing from ungulates, which leads to increased biodiversity and the improvement of habitat. Promoting the liberal killing of wild wolves under the guise of management leads to increased illegal hunting of these animals, as has been witnessed in Wisconsin. There is myriad research documentation of human-caused mortality in wolves in North America. Wolf killing often includes the barbaric practice of hounding or hound training, which is tantamount to illegal dogfighting. Not to mention the extreme cruelty involved in such activities, for both wolves and hounds. Even the majority of hunters, in solidarity with overwhelming public sentiment, do not support these inhumane hunting practices. In incidents of wolf-livestock conflicts, the implementation of only non-lethal measures must be adopted to ensure the protection and preservation of endangered wolves. This should include prioritization of encouraging peaceful co-existence and proactive practices on the part of ranchers. Although Act 169 mandates a wolf hunting season, the WDNR may restrict the use of lethal management methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Myriad studies prove that non-lethal methods lead to better conflict mitigation. The liberal use of lethal management more often than not fail to result in long-term solutions of wolf predation. Non-lethal management practices are far more successful than resorting to knee-jerk reactions that result in senseless wolf slaughter to appease special interests. The overwhelming majority of the American people, including myself, strongly support the protection and preservation of our nation's endangered wolves. I call on you to do everything in your power to ensure the future survival of this unique, highly beneficial, and irreplaceable species/ Thank you for your consideration of my comments on this most important issue that affects all Americans. And future generations. Sincerely, Eileen Hennessy [redacted] Melrose, MA
Kelsey Saari	Y	Feb272023	19:42:52	Support for the Draft Wolf	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a

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				Management Plan	very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Kelsey Saari [redacted] KENOSHA, WI 53140 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Patrick Stoffel	Y	Feb272023	20:05:40	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, This draft is a much improved wolf management plan. I support this as it looks at the benefits of wolves for the ecology of the state and its based on science and research. Please support this plan. Reason and science over emotions and politics. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Patrick Stoffel [redacted] MAZOMANIE, WI 53560 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jeanna Penney	Y	Feb272023	20:05:56	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Please stop Sport hunting of the wolves?. Keep Them on the endangered species list and protect them Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit

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Gary Kohn	Unknown	Feb272023	20:25:54	Wolf management	Wolf management. To whom it may concern I was at the first DNR meetings when they were looking for support from farmers and the WFB . The plan presented to us with your numbers of 350 wolves would have given Wisconsin a sustainable population . Now with numbers well over 350 some farms are experiencing problems with no help insite . With the over population of wolves and no longer endangered in Wisconsin let's get back to your plan and get some help to these farmers in need . A plan with no population goals is no plan at all in any wildlife management system . We supported the DNR in bringing wolves back to Wisconsin now can you stick to your plan and help support the farmers in need of population control .
William Ebbott	Unknown	Feb272023	20:40:03	Wolf Management Plan	I tried to attach my brother's comments, which I agree with, to my online questionnaire, but was unable to. See below. William Ebbott
LWren Walraven	N	Feb272023	21:16:15	WI Draft WMP	I am a resident of New Mexico and care deeply about keeping wolves and predators on the landscape in our country. I would like to start with what I do like about the WI Draft: That wolves will no longer be managed by reference to the old goal of 350 individuals. I appreciate that there is a greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. I like that a social survey is included which increases positive views of wolves and increased opposition to the motives and methods of killing wolves. I am very happy to see increased buffer zones around tribal reservations where there were none before. I do not like the following: That the current draft does not reflect the best available scientific data and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature. The literature includes: ecological relationships and evolution, social dynamics, wolf ethology, sentience, effectiveness of non lethal interventions, and the impact of widespread killing of wolves on physiology, behavior and well being. By omitting this important scientific information and emphasizing and promoting sustainable recreational killing by consumptive users as a main management strategy is biased and is contrary to scientific evidence which is more current, and numerous and of stronger reference. Only in rare instances, should wolf management involve lethal management. As stated in a substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including wolves of Wisconsin, policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves results in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Thank you, Wren LWren Walraven Wren Dreams Art [redacted]
Judith Buttala	N	Feb272023	21:59:17	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Let science stand on its own. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be

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Ralph Fischer	Unknown	Feb272023	23:15:16	Wolf Management Plan Comment - Carolyn Forde	Please help: ooops I made an incorrect statement in my Plan comments. Here is the incorrect statement:" I disagree with the removal of reservation wolves when considering wolf hunt quotas." Please remove this comment. I meant to say that I agree with the removal of "reservation wolves" when determining quotas, Thank you very much! Carolyn Forde
Joan Arnold	Y	Feb272023	23:17:31	Wolf Management Draft Plan Comments	Thanks for all the hard work that was put into producing this draft Wolf Management plan. I appreciate that you have taken into account public input, Tribal concerns and incorporated science and education into the plan. Thank you for conducting a survey of public opinion of wolves in Wisconsin. Please continue to do this periodically. I am a farmer and live in central Wisconsin, in what you have listed as Zone 4a. I own 171 acres of mixture of woodland and farmland in this area. In general, I support the draft plan but I get the feeling it is geared mostly to lethal control measures for dealing with any conflict with wolves on the landscape. I wish there was a lot more emphasis on non-lethal measures used to deal with conflicts, especially dealing with farmers. I do not support the plan of having the greatest harvest goal in Zone 1a and 4a, in which I live. I have never seen wolf evidence where I live. Currently with hunters using dogs to hunt coyotes in this area they do not seem to care that they and their dogs trespass on my land and any neighbor's land where they do not allow hunters. Dogs are not controlled and they are able to run wherever they seem to want to go. Just this past weekend coyote hunters with their dogs ran through the area and the only thing they seemed to be chasing was a herd of about 12 deer. The last 3-5 years I've called the Sheriffs about trespassing hunters and their hounds running through my land. So I have to keep aware of whenever hunting season is and continue to worry about trespassers with their dogs ravaging the landscape and whatever and all animals that are in the area. Also, there are many farmers in the area that have too many deer that eat the field crops. Yet you want to reduce any wolf population in Zone 4a that could help control that population naturally. Why aren't you emphasizing non-lethal controls? I do agree with many of the items as written which are: - Doing away with a numeric goal and allowing for a adaptable population. I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. - Respecting the Tribal rights and lands and creation of the buffer zones and having low limit zones around Tribal lands. I wish they were no kill zones around these Tribal lands. Tribes were here long before us Europeans and have long lived with wolves and treat them differently so we should respect that. - I'm happy to see based on public surveys that the DNR has acknowledged that most people in the State want a healthy wolf population based on science and have tried to develop a plan reflective of this. - It briefly mentions and acknowledges that wolves are a keystone species that play a very important role in a healthy ecosystem. This should be emphasized in greater detail and should be researched and collaborated with other experts as mentioned. - There is a section dealing with public education regarding the importance of wolves and how they are scientifically important and about using non-lethal methods for reducing wolf related conflicts. - I definitely support the recommendation to changes to the administrative rules that decrease the required time to report wolf kills to not later than 8 hours, and making the destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal, which should never occur regardless of occupied or not. - Agree with issuing wolf harvesting licenses which are only valid in the specific zone specified on the license, instead of valid in all zones. - Agree and appreciate the public and farmer educational aspect of this plan. Emphasis on education of non-lethal controls to farmer community should be budgeted for and enhanced. - Concur with conducting studies on effects hunting with dogs has on the wolf and dog conflicts (product E3c) Maybe the issue of hunting with dogs is the issue. Should this even be allowed based on the scientific research? Maybe all hunting with dogs should be eliminated as wolves are still around when bears, etc are hunted with dogs. This conflict will never be eliminated and maybe dogs should not be used to hunt. Areas that I do NOT agree with or should be adjusted: - More emphasis on non-lethal controls for areas that tend to have wolf-related conflicts instead of raising the harvest goal, especially in Zone 1a and 4a. Subsidizing farmers to implement non-lethal controls should be pursued. If there are lethal controls used prior to the legal hunting season these numbers should be included when setting harvest goals as already harvested. Do studies show that disrupting the wolf family structure actually deters conflict? What does science indicate are better ways to deal with these conflicts? - Put emphasis on wolf viewing and eco-tourism for wolves. Put money or grants into setting this up in the future. - There is no mention of obtaining State money for implementing non-lethal controls. This plan should lay out plans for State budgeting for non-lethal controls to better reflect what your science is telling you that non-lethal controls work and may be a better deterrent for wolf related conflict than killing. - There should be no night hunting allowed. - Do not agree with CITES application. This could lead to extreme trophy hunters and lead to poaching and black market. We don't need to have our Wisconsin wildlife marketed worldwide. - The plan should review Act 169 and recommend legislative changes based on the science and the parameters of this plan in creating a healthy and sustainable wolf population for an overall healthy ecosystem for Wisconsin. The DNR should be able to better manage any wolf harvest based on the science instead of political interference. - The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf zone closes, instead of what is recommended in the plan of having state wide training till all zones are closed. This would interfere with breeding season and put dogs at risk. - There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group and a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. - Wolves should be encouraged in areas that have a CWD issue with the deer herd. Wolves are a better control for this devastating disease than any human control ever good be. If deer are putting pressure on agriculture fields maybe wolf population should be encouraged in that area. I appreciate the comprehensive plan as presented. Please do not cater to the trophy hunters and please stick with the science of wolf management as you progress to the final product. I appreciate the respect you show to the Tribes as they are the true owners of this land and its wildlife and they know better how to manage it than most. I appreciate the emphasis you place on education and hope that you are able to carry this out in the future. Emphasis on non-lethal controls should be made instead of lethal in dealing with wolf related conflicts. I believe science indicates non-lethal works better. I hope this plan can be continued on into the future regardless of who politically is running the State and Legislature. This should be non-partisan. Thanks for your work, Joan Arnold [redacted] Rudolph, WI 54475

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Joan Waak	Unknown	Feb282023	7:13:56	Wolf harvest	Good morning DNR, We do not support the harvesting of wolves through hunting especially inhumane trapping and the use of dogs. With all of the complaining of different organizations of overpopulation of deer and other species we're dumbfounded at the reasoning behind eternal open season for coyotes as well. Long gone are the days of the majority of ethical hunters and the need to exterminate the wild canine population. The killing of Animals for fun or sport is contrary to a Christian and ethical society. Few hunters to today hold a reverence for the taking of wildlife and it simply is no longer needed as an economical food source to provide for oneself or family. Killing should not be for fun or entertainment. Time for us to evolve further. Kindest Regards, Joan & Dik Waak
Jeff	Unknown	Feb282023	7:57:30	wolf plan	I have read most but not all of the plan (i do plan on reading the whole thing as i get time) My only comment is this.... I spend most of my weekends in the winter hunting coyotes, i spend hours driving forest roads, back roads and logging roads looking for coyote tracks. The last 2 years there have been way less coyote tracks and many more wolf tracks. I believe the estimated population of wolves is too low. this is my experience and opinion i hunt in northern Marinette county . thanks, Jeff
Brigid O'Hagan	N	Feb282023	10:52:09	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I lived in Wisconsin for many years and I have lots of family still living in Wisconsin and responsible wolf stewardship is important to me and my family! Decisions like these have wide ranging consequences, so thank you for working to develop a strong wolf management plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Brigid O'Hagan [redacted] Dallas, OR 97338 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Caleb Fransson	Unknown	Feb282023	10:52:23	Wolf Management Plan	The farmer can't stop the wolves from killing their livestock. The government should let the farmers put traps around their farm because then the wolves will have a harder time killing the livestock. According to the farmers Wolf predation has not only taken a toll on livestock farmers, owners of hunting dogs and family pets, the state also has paid out nearly $3 million in damage claims. In an attempt to build tolerance for the increased wolf population, the state established an income-tax checkoff in 1983, allowing residents to donate to support federally protected species. It earmarked 3%, or up to $100,000 a year, to pay for damage from wolves and other protected species.'' We need to do something about all the livestock being killed because if we just leave them be the wolves will think they can just go into farms and have a snack and then the government will just keep paying and paying so we need to do something fast. According to the farmers Although Ashleigh Calaway and her family have suffered significant losses to their sheep flock, she doesn't want to see the wolf population eliminated. "But I do want to see the population managed so we can coexist in harmony; I want to see the ecosystem reestablished so that wolves learn that humans are not on their easy-prey list, she said. Yes I think we need to coexist in harmony because if we just keep letting them hurt farmer livestock next they might think they can hurt people so we need to do something. The government should let the farmers put traps around their farm because then the wolves will have a harder time killing the livestock.
Larry Flyte	Y	Feb282023	10:56:57	DNR wolf plan	I was on the conservation congress when the dnr brought the plan to us asking for a 100 wolves in the state then some changed it to 350 like fools we thought that's not to bad. Well get busy and get the number down to 350. Larry Flyte waushara county
Avery Norin	Unknown	Feb282023	10:57:49	Gray Wolves in WI	Since the population is really the biggest issue in my mind, you should make a law to stop hunting the wolves in WI since the population has gotten so much lower than it naturally should be. Even though everyone has a say in this, it is important to know that the population is one of the most important things since, if it's gone, it's gone, and most people are really overlooking this.
Jaxson Wilcox	Unknown	Feb282023	11:20:20	The wisconsin wolf argument	The government should make a law that you can hunt wolves unless they cause damage because the wolves shouldn't just be hunted for no reason. The issue is that wolves are being hunted because they are killing livestock and causing property damage. The Wolf population was going down so they gave them a protection law so they can't hunt the wolves. The wolves should not be hunted unless they are causing damage to livestock or property damage because that's just lowering the population when it is already super low. Also hunting the wolves is bad for the environment because wolves kill animals with lyme disease.and they are a part of the food web and if the wolves were to be taken out of it the food web would crash. According to NBC 15 Hunters say that since there are 950 wolves and the cap is 350 they should still be able to hunt because there are 600 more than they need.Even though there are

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					more than the cap doesn't mean we should hunt them because 950 isn't a lot especially compared to other species. And wolves cant have such a low population because they will die out faster and means another extinct species. Is the gray wolf actually endangered?<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Ix2hRBf1V0> Video says that the gray is not endangered anymore because there are more of them. So they removed them from the endangered list. Also they say that the definition of endangered is: a species. I think that just because there are more doesn't mean they should not be on the endangered list because now hunters can hunt them and they have a higher chance of going extinct then they did with them on the endangered list. I also think that the hunters don't need to hunt the wolves unless they need to.I offer the solution of putting electric fences as some sort of device that shocks the wolves around the farms and livestock to prevent the wolves from killing the animals. In conclusion this is why I think that The government should make a law that you can hunt wolves unless they cause damage because the wolves shouldn't just be hunted for no reason.
Mike Kautz	Y	Feb282023	12:23:30	Wolf Management	I have numerous issues with the planned draft. Number 1 - No population goal, 350 was the goal when the plan was drafted, currently I can support that number and believe most outdoor people would also. Number 2 - A buffer zone around the native reservations would infringe on public and private land.. Number 3 - Population estimates, I spend over 100 days in the northern forest zone guiding bear hunters,trail camera pictures of numerous wolves at the bait sites. Upland hunting my bird dog had a very close encounter with wolves and am glad I was close by to interfere with there intentions of making a meal out of him. Predator population in the county I live in is high and is taking a toll on the deer herd. I chair the County Deer Advisory Council in the county I live in which is in the Northern Forest Zone. Read the minutes from the Councils meetings and the public on-line feedback. The economic impact of local business, lack of hunter satisfaction success, no deer sightings so we will no longer hunt the north due to not managing the predator load. Another bill introduced to delist wolves hope it passes, The Department of Natural Resources responsibilities is to manage the states wildlife, please do the right thing,
Marnie Wall	N	Feb282023	13:01:59	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I am from Wisconsin and still have family who lives in the state. Responsible wolf management is important to me because wolves play a key role in keeping ecosystems healthy. A strong wolf management plan would reflect responsible stewardship of Wisconsin's natural resources. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Marnie Wall [redacted] Dana Point, CA 92629[redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at[redacted]
clelia taylor	Y	Feb282023	13:07:05	Comments on WI Wolf Management Plan 2022 Draft	Thank you for this opportunity. 1. Strongly support administrative rulemaking to make illegal purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens with strong prison sentences in addition to fines. 2. Strenuously object to any and all trapping practices related to the "harvesting" of wolves. The DNR should issue wolf hunting licenses and discontinue issuing trapping licenses. The data in your proposed management plan indicates that in 2013, 52% of takes/harvesting were completed through use of foothold traps. That number increased to 70% in 2013. In my opinion, this is unacceptable. If a man wants to harvest a wolf then he should do it in the old fashioned way with a weapon, not a trap. Trapping wolves is inhumane and gives an unfair advantage to men. 3. In my opinion, the DNR is more interested in accommodating hunters than the wolves. Wolves don't have any say in the matter so they are at a distinct disadvantage. Truth is, your efforts are data collection in support of developing evidence-based practices. If evidence-based practices are available, they should be included in your final report. 4. The true spirit of 'hunting' as it applied 50 years ago has been lost and contemporary activities are better described as 'bunting.' Bunting is the use of assistive technology such as bait and traps to capture an animal. If a hunter wants to hunt, then hunt without dogs, or bait piles or any type of trap. I strongly support any and all legislation to make use of any type of wolf traps illegal. That would bring the DNR back to management of hunting practices, not harvesting. 5. The draft mentions "state of the art" practices in animal welfare and efficiency as well as increasing trapper efficiency. These are contradictory objectives. Please detail the animal welfare practices presented during wolf trapper education in your final report. Perhaps consider doing the same during public education events. 6. Wolves are majestic creatures that have every right to live according to the rules of mother nature. I strongly support strengthening the Wolf Depredation Program. 7. To prevent future overkill/harvesting of wolves (such as what happened last season), address the challenges & fix them so that it doesn't happen again. Again, thank you for this opportunity. C. Taylor [redacted] Tomah, WI 54660

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Mona Carrillo	N	Feb282023	13:32:40	Wolf Management Plan Comments	This world belongs to the wolves too. They are trying to survive and thrive, just like the rest of us. The trophy hunting, the killing for sport and pleasure, and the unbelievably cruel methods of killing wolves are abhorrent. Where is the mercy is such practices? Where is the humanity in this day and age for a creature that lives in harmony with its environment? The people who are allowed to hunt and butcher wolves mercilessly certainly have the clout and influence to do so, and that is so distressing. Wolf conservation groups have so many excellent proposals on how to manage and live with wolves, without the barbarism and inhumane treatment of them. Please listen to these groups and work with them. Please have mercy on the wolves. Mona Carrillo [redacted] Alhambra, CA 91801
John quam	Y	Feb282023	14:12:29	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, WI. DNR, does a poor job on management of the wolfs.I?m Native American, I love wolfs. But there has to be balance. Wolfs kill dogs, Kill deer, young bears in den. Wolf?s kill just to kill., sometimes take few bits leave. We need to harvest more wolfs... Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, John quam [redacted] Iron River, WI 54847 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Judith Walsh	N	Feb282023	14:14:10	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The hatred and judgement on Wolves is based on fables and false information. Wolves are vital to every ecosystem and wilderness they inhabit. Protection from psychopaths that find pleasure in killing. Do not allow terrorism on wildlife. There is no justice in their behavior. Preventing crimes against nature is ethical on many levels. Wolves are not a trophy or commodity. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom

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Kelly Bratt	N	Feb282023	14:46:51	wolf management in WI	Hello, I am a teacher in the Oregon School District. My 6th grade students have been reading & learning about the wolf related issues in Wisconsin. Some students may have shared their writing with you about the issues that they are concerned about. I am also including one here in this email because the student wished to remain anonymous. Thank you! I think that we should keep the wolves in Wisconsin because the wolves are impacting their environment by keeping other animals' numbers under control, raising rivers, helping plants and increasing tourism in the national parks. Even though the wolves are killing livestock, if we can properly protect our livestock, the good impact outweighs the bad impact. It is not the wolves fault that the sheep are dead. It happens naturally and it is the farmer's fault that they did not protect their sheep or other livestock properly. There should be more laws to protect them because they impact their environment in such a beneficial and valuable way. 6th grade student -- Thank You, Kelly Bratt (she, her) 6th grade, Language Arts & Social Studies Rome Corners Intermediate School Week at a Glance Slides<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/14T17aFXRGr3nphJHm1j5ATsP6Q_rPkebxo8wct_4lAE/edit?usp=sharing> [redacted] Yellow 2 website<https://sites.google.com/oregonsd.net/yellow-2/home?authuser=0>
DK Franson	Y	Feb282023	15:26:38	timber wolf	I'd like to see the hunting season on WI timber wolves cease and improved husbandry practices by farmers and landowners in wolf-habitat areas. What is considered management" of this species and other WI animals which have been on the Endangered Species List in the past needs refinement in my own view. Thank you./D.K. Franson Ferryville WI
Heidi Cassel	Y	Feb282023	16:02:41	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I feel so strongly that wolves in Wisconsin need more support. I appreciate the time people have put into the new plan. Hounding is a real sticking point for me. I believe in ethical fair chase hunting for animals we plan to eat. Nobody eats wolf. Hounding puts wolves and hounds at risk in the same way that dog fighting does. I enjoy the woods. I do not feel safe when there are hounds training and hunting. I would love to see more focus on wolf education that dispels myths and incorrect Ideas about wolves. Many people hold the false belief that killing wolves lowers predation. I?d love to see an education center in the middle of the state similar to Ely, Michigan?s International Wolf Education Center. Thank you, Heidi Cassel Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. 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Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Heidi Cassel [redacted] Grafton, WI 53024 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Ronald Solomon	N	Feb282023	16:25:54	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Even though I live out of state, I have relatives still in Wisconsin and responsible wolf stewardship is so important to our shared ecosystem that,I want to make sure my voice is heard in Support of the Draft Wolf Management Plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent

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Catherine Reske	Y	Feb282023	17:50:50	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Catherine Reske [redacted] Waukesha , WI 53189 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
DIANE BOWEN	Y	Feb282023	18:56:20	Comments on Draft DNR Wolf Management Plan	To the DNR: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft plan, which I have read. I appreciate the abundant information in the document. I learned a lot. I also realize that DNR is significantly constrained by politicians and legislation as to its approach to wolf stewardship (and many other activities). Examples of this are the designation of the gray wolf as a State Game Species and the requirements contained in Act 169 (2012). I offer several observations from my reading of the report, which have a bearing on the few comments I offer. Observations: ¢ Wolf populations in ecosystems, without human incursion an intervention, will be in equilibrium with the carrying capacity of the ecosystem. This is reflected in the letter in the draft plan submitted by LCO, which states that it is felt that this group (wolves) should be able to self-determine their numbers and distribution on the landscape. In other words, wolves can self-regulate their populations. ¢ Wolves in Wisconsin tend not to range in agricultural lands or in areas of high road density (which is associated with high human population). ¢ An attitude survey showed almost no public support for the inclusion of recreational hunting of wolves as an objective for the Wolf Management Plan. However, there was stronger support for hunting in regard to public safety. ¢ There are virtually no cases of human mortality and extremely low cases of injury from wolf attacks on humans. There is also a low rate of attacks on pets, other than those used as hunting dogs. Depredation in agriculture, while higher, is still relatively low, and under the ESA, must be compensated. However, public perception of the safety issue in regard to wolves, whether in or out of the wolf range, is higher than would be indicated from the data. ¢ Surveys indicate that there is public support for a wolf hunting season, but the studies do not indicate the reason for this support, nor does it address the contradictions of my previous three bullet points. Furthermore, hunting will be in the wolf territories, not in areas with high threats to public safety and agriculture. ¢ DNR is required by Act 169 to allow wolf traps, and tracking by dogs. The report refers to trapping using traps that afford animal welfare. Requests for Revisions to Draft Plan In light of the above observations, I recommend the follow revisions to the Draft Wolf Management Plan. ¢ The plan

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					should reflect my first bullet point in general, and in particular when dealing with establishing so-called harvest quotas. In order for them to do so, the Plan should stress this as an objective and also prioritize the enforcement of illegal killing and other human degradations of wolf populations. ¢ With respect to the second, third, fourth and fifth bullet points above: The plan should pace a very high priority on public education about wolves and policy towards them in all their dimensions, and allocate funds proportionally. ¢ There is no such trap that affords animal welfare. All invoke fear and stress prior to death unless they instantaneously kill. The DNR is subject to mandates from Act 169, but should do everything possible to restrict trap via its regulatory mechanisms. Respectfully submitted, Diane Bowen Bayside, Wisconsin
John Brooks	Unknown	Feb282023	19:01:03	Wisconsin wolf management	I would like to have input into Wisconsin wolf management. I know there are different ideas as to what the ideal population should be, but I think that too many people want their population controlled to reduce or eliminate them. As a hunter, fisherman, and general outdoor enthusiast I feel like they are one of the most important species we have in Wisconsin. A keystone species which could be very beneficial if allowed to increase to the point where they actually fulfilled that position. Please allow them to increase. Thanks for listening.
Sarah Krause	Y	Feb282023	19:05:14	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Sarah Krause [redacted] Evansville, WI 53536[redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Jordan Longever	Unknown	Feb282023	19:07:34		I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section),I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●? Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●? There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●? The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●? The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What I don't like: ●? The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●? The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●? The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●? The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●? The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●? The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping

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					season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology " From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable. 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Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					Santiago-Ãvila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A. (2018a). Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. PLoS ONE, 13(1), 1“20. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0189729 Santiago-Ãvila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A. (2018b). Correction: Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. PLoS One, 209716. Santiago-Ãvila, F. J., & Lynn, W. S. (2020b). Bridging compassion and justice in conservation ethics. Biological Conservation, 248, 108648. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2020.108648 Santiago-Ãvila, F. J., Lynn, W. S., & Treves, A. (2018c). Inappropriate consideration of animal interests in predator management: Towards a comprehensive moral code. In T. Hovardas (Ed.), Large Carnivore Conservation and Management: Human Dimensions and Governance (pp. 227“251). Routledge. Santiago-Ãvila, F. J., & Treves, A. (2021). 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Mike Adler	Y	Feb282023	19:14:23	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Over many years of being a Wisconsin outdoorsman , I have had a chance to witness DNR management first hand mostly with the Deer population in central Wisconsin and Far Northern , you handed out party tags / multiple doe tags / then no antlerless tags / ag shoots ? All for what to manage whats natural , Predation is life in the wild period , Wolves , Raptors , Cats , etc all are here to keep balance nature , Instead of having a Wolf season treat their predation on a case by case basis . If their is a legitimate issue Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mike Adler [redacted] Middleton, WI 53562 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Angela Clark	Y	Feb282023	19:17:46	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves don?t need to be managed, people do. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Angela Clark [redacted] Beaver Dam, WI 53916 [redacted]This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
Clementine Conrad	Y	Feb282023	19:23:28	Wisconsin wolf plan	Hello. My name is Clementine Conrad, I am an 11 year old from Verona, Wisconsin, and my classmates and I have been discussing this issue for some time. I have decided to do something about it. I viewed the problem from both sides, the animal rights activists as well as the farmers point of view. and i have decided to side with the farmers. You see, someone very close to me grew up on a farm and I couldn't help but realize that protecting the wolves at an extreme rate could not only hurt the ecosystem, but also our farmers. Even though the state could compensate the farmers for their lost livestock, that could not cover the costs of the possible milk, meat, and offspring (calves). and if people cannot hunt the wolves, it could make the wolves reproduce more, ultimately bringing down the native deer, rabbit, and other small animal population. And once the ecosystem is broken down, it can be very hard to put back into place. Plants would die, animals would suffer, and so would we. Maybe a small wolf hunt would be justified, or the states could provide electric fencing and pack dogs so the farmers would be more apt to feel safe ad keep their livestock. I wish you the best -Clementine
Margaret M Pratt	Y	Feb282023	19:26:02	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, The idea of hunting wolves with dogs sickens me. The hunters took advantage of their chance to kill as many wolves as possible during the last hunt where they killed many more than what the quota was with an attitude of "what are they going to do if we kill as many as we can? Was there even any repercussions? These hunters love adrenaline rush of having their dogs run down the wolf. They switch off their dogs with fresh ones who can continue the pursuit until the wolf can't go anymore. Then it's a fight for it's life. I've heard stories of them letting their dogs tear into the wolf, even maming the wolf so it can't fight back so their dogs can learn to be more aggressive and tear it up. It's legalized dog fighting only not a fair fight for the wolves. Hunter's should be "humanely dispatching an animal so as not to cause unnecessary suffering". These hunters hide the facts of what really goes on when the dogs catch up to the wolf. Why else are they not posting videos and pictures of it Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Margaret M Pratt [redacted] Bayfield, WI 54814 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Diana Jonen	Y	Feb282023	19:48:45	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, As an important part of the intricate web of nature, wolves are needed. It's inherently important to keep a healthy and strong wolf population, which is currently just a small fraction of its levels before extermination began. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently

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Jim Lynes	Y	Feb282023	19:57:09	Wolf Mgt.	DNR, A healthy wolf population is a part of Wisconsin that must be maintained. Prior to the Europeans eradicating the population, they roamed freely in the Badger State and everywhere else. Overpopulation may present negative results primarily to those raising livestock. Positive compensation plans should satisfy those most affected by what comes naturally to the wolf population. I believe there is a plan (s) currently used by the state and DNR. Likewise, a procedure of removing nuisance and "repeat offender" wolves should be in place if not already. Those many deer hunters have opinions adverse to the wolf population but, there are more than enough deer in the state to satisfy hunters and wolves alike. More often than not wolves select the weaker animals and aid in maintaining a healthy herd. On Wisconsin. Jim Lynes Mauston
Rita & Jim O'Sullivan Malone	Unknown	Feb282023	19:59:51	Wisconsin 2022 Wolf Management Plan	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ●⍰ Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ●⍰ There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ●⍰ The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ●⍰ The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ●⍰ The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ● wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ● effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ● the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ●⍰ The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ●⍰ The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320713003418?via%3Dihub><https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-70837-x> ● Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●⍰ The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ● Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ● Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ● Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ●⍰ The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ●⍰ The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ● Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ●⍰ Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/related/acts/169><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1zHxgZYZtqWNS6T2R4sbO7y4j6U-fb-ou42w5yKg1T0c4gqWBOsqhtFKXAC64LQp88NN-FYEipX21onhfD_AeI2euedJjbGJ-e_hztXYceOWkR8P1QN1L6_oxc1PbHAGchmd7dokfbqfZMCkkn6t1BfF_SUUXh5f68kvO-xnSw_OjChlK6UGsojmh5wvP2RZwfd4uqzFm05nctEJSbCPXVzs4wvhYNV813h_9aT9VxzXhr0O6YNF1cM34gsV4j9UP-hv9W4mF5d5U4gRG0kUOlPofo4ZkLExF1IWBL5T9R52YbwgMvpjH9xvnqNBTTN83imbMeb2wN57jNNtH8n-HkQ/https%3A%2F%2Fjournals.plos.org%2Fplosbiology%2Farticle%3Fid%3D10.1371%2Fjournal.pbio.2005577><https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2351989419306225?via%3Dihub><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1mhxipSwg8e8yV8_289gSUIINqjcHpEISQLwy2TIdNrWMWpKXbnsmSyGQsnvWNt3FLyXmuzu0dzuNScu8PcxsTPdb7t1rQu0n5qr-oFaffG2mHEitEK32pnEPYxCUc_P-1S7mtnja_dN_CUPLny7S2eLRXfzB7sOnkpUaMiZjJ0MoAie9NZY9Jh-aTjnGdVBGco3DxzzHkIo4ew-_qtkgbJo_SUQoDEF48mNUKhZOp96FSV0VAGXFjysAxH8JdK3XzGUa6CnQUjuUFzHCpn_N5oNFY5EvPaCBNqzKGN1dzS6xOQ8M7sXhGSl4PY7-C55qr34PHT7i84_6zUKFTnPc8w/https%3A%2F%2Fjournals.plos.org%2Fplosone%2Farticle%3Fid%3D10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0209716><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1mhxipSwg8e8yV8_289gSUIINqjcHpEISQLwy2TIdNrWMWpKXbnsmSyGQsnvWNt3FLyXmuzu0dzuNScu8PcxsTPdb7t1rQu0n5qr-oFaffG2mHEitEK32pnEPYxCUc_P-

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Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ●⍰ In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ●⍰ 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology â€“ From a recent critique: â€œThe new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.â€⍰ (Treves & Santiago-Ãvila, 2023) Rating: 4-5 Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 <https://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Inappropriate_consideration.pdf><https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09711-x><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1NTsYMUQWjAcv0Rhgz94pGby98Nci0lOF6KT7vsJ54OSRwiURbj04frRmj7eX2PNwmxtxyOmkQWuKGxSQp3V5N1tgmelalRmmuv0I1TSU6_gEO6kSrb5SZNnQrzli-6nUec2tZiOOoOFr6t3qIpMwaXFkRg67XOOdEBkvdR-U816-X6iDYVljwjApbqZga2XckBFzV_n58zUh0vhROYvSPDNjsbIJIP3ha6_qqxgKKL8mu4CMIne99BwAay1IZRQH7-A54tsHyyQWN1Yy3nOH_Q9xKln1Xw0VC5F-a5YfYheXWioDruuvSFN-gy0sJSIl3EceUxueH5q6gAMwc4edUA/https%3A%2F%2Fwolfwatcher.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2015%2F09%2FProtection-from-harvesting-restores-the-natural-social-structure-of-eastern-wolf-packs.pdf><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1NTsYMUQWjAcv0Rhgz94pGby98Nci0lOF6KT7vsJ54OSRwiURbj04frRmj7eX2PNwmxtxyOmkQWuKGxSQp3V5N1tgmelalRmmuv0I1TSU6_gEO6kSrb5SZNnQrzli-6nUec2tZiOOoOFr6t3qIpMwaXFkRg67XOOdEBkvdR-U816-X6iDYVljwjApbqZga2XckBFzV_n58zUh0vhROYvSPDNjsbIJIP3ha6_qqxgKKL8mu4CMIne99BwAay1IZRQH7-A54tsHyyQWN1Yy3nOH_Q9xKln1Xw0VC5F-a5YfYheXWioDruuvSFN-gy0sJSIl3EceUxueH5q6gAMwc4edUA/https%3A%2F%2Fwolfwatcher.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2015%2F09%2FProtection-from-harvesting-restores-the-natural-social-structure-of-eastern-wolf-packs.pdf><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1Qcy0-b670rrAOl_Yd-r6kFIrZUaUCu2-HsG7jYR65_7vgTrSrzYYNOCntGGLFxNjmqonbLeRp1sCqQ6_E4Tt4_sByDEPuxhEYJjfB9DXgrpkukUiYWetwSQFArTCw0xUwW_J1WU0S_KLuLmuAERtxFDVIo3q_Og0OcGpnB5YkWWrRDhPN5QzzR16wFrCTf4sH0feLUNf6iaI_uxE1WunzVDp8VnhisL2ccJPOCq8Jgt1rNGLv3D-X6nkuxgS8XN0PZKz0KQgNVbkup-1lgESJkQzkhlfUQxE-0HRYg3MkLUYLLMacYjJcj6ro3Zpfqnnf5Of0B07PZqd7qmCA0W2iA/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.frontiersin.org%2Farticles%2F10.3389%2Ffevo.2022.782840%2Ffull><https://secure-web.cisco.com/1Qcy0-b670rrAOl_Yd-r6kFIrZUaUCu2-HsG7jYR65_7vgTrSrzYYNOCntGGLFxNjmqonbLeRp1sCqQ6_E4Tt4_sByDEPuxhEYJjfB9DXgrpkukUiYWetwSQFArTCw0xUwW_J1WU0S_KLuLmuAERtxFDVIo3q_Og0OcGpnB5YkWWrRDhPN5QzzR16wFrCTf4sH0feLUNf6iaI_uxE1WunzVDp8VnhisL2ccJPOCq8Jgt1rNGLv3D-X6nkuxgS8XN0PZKz0KQgNVbkup-1lgESJkQzkhlfUQxE-0HRYg3MkLUYLLMacYjJcj6ro3Zpfqnnf5Of0B07PZqd7qmCA0W2iA/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.frontiersin.org%2Farticles%2F10.3389%2Ffevo.2022.782840%2Ffull><http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/archive_BAS/Treves_Santiago-Avila_WDNR_2022_SOM_critique.pdf> Adams, L. 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Science Advances, 4(3). http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/3/eaao0167.abstract<http://secure-web.cisco.com/1cDuII5LW7fdJt42jEt67DHl4VMj7ToYtP4f2WaplmMlkTx1CQlGpfkNzG9GiGwE3bLXXtpJ5w-VFZ1lkA-2m5mPMxhiw_xJMFcpOJUxhuu83OfcoQ0yRSFUrjDQkwXVBX21iFZzevyPxSQo4QJJMjuFbui5_yTKTr9tKdPQrKtE4P285otPoFe-o893OrFGFboDWkfs3yt3GI1N_0bUlhfCQ2YrLo01m-r6g4dVOLlGJqAxSLg6zgnCVVYPrRq1Wfa-cTbvgvXge_l4hxWsfbDfXV-iZ8vuPVnHVkqEyBAg3UmtZ5FDk0DXF3h9AL-gexv7OLBvB27TeHT_0GU-2qA/http%3A%2F%2Fadvances.sciencemag.org%2Fcontent%2F4%2F3%2Feaao0167.abstract> Ausband, D. E., Mitchell, M. S., Stansbury, C. R., Stenglein, J. L., & Waits, L. P. (2017). Harvest and group effects on pup survival in a cooperative breeder. Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences. https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.0580 Ausband, D. E., Stansbury, C.

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
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Lin Jacobson	Y	Feb282023	20:20:34	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Wolves are a part of our world. They deserve to live in it. To be fair, using dogs in training or in the actual hunt should be outlawed. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Lin Jacobson [redacted] Washburn, WI 54891 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Sue Krause	Unknown	Feb282023	20:25:43	Wolf plan	I fully support a wolf management plan that allows the animals to thrive in Wisconsin. Wolves may be a crucial part of the ecosystem to control our deer population. I oppose wolf hunting. Sue Krause.
Alexis Pegram-Piper	Unknown	Feb282023	21:17:33	Comments on Proposed Wolf Plan	Dear DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management: Thank you for all of the many hours of hard work that went into creating the "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan." It is thorough and provides a rich, nuanced context that I appreciated. It's also readable, well organized, and accessible, which I also appreciate. However, I am incredibly concerned that ranching/farming and hunting interests are overrepresented and feature so prominently in the report. Let's be stronger as a government department that is supposed to represent the interests of ALL citizens (and I emphasize state actual Wisconsin citizens). Let the majority of citizens (who favor wolf protection and conservation, resoundingly), the sovereign tribal nations of Wisconsin, and the science lead--and NOT special interests who are out for blood and money. Relatedly, I am also concerned many out of state licenses were issued to "sports"/"trophy" hunters to come into Wisconsin with their sick culture of killing to murder wolves here. In addition and VERY significantly, the report does not take into enough account the disastrous, horrifying, shameful, abomination wolf slaughter of 2021, when (I don't think I need to tell you, but I want you to know that we Wisconsin populace hasn't forgotten) 216 wolves were slaughtered in a disgusting bloodlust, which was 83% over the quota. This is a blight on all of us, one that will stain and haunt us for decades to come--unless we do much better. This wholesale slaughter of a brother, magnificent species that has fought back from the brink of human-caused extinction and cruel bounty hunting needs to be accounted for and should consequently bring any lethal measures used to "manage" wolf populations to zero or very near zero. I am also concerned that farmers are not disposing of dead livestock in ethical, responsible, humane ways that help to protect wolves from slaughter, rather than setting them up for their own demise. How many different farmers reported livestock losses or was it the same farms? What kinds of behaviors on the part of the rancher/farmer contributed to the livestock loss and wolf encounter? The report and our future wolf plans also need to address the reprehensible use of hounds/dogs to hunt wolves. This kind of "hunting" (if we can call it hunting because the wolves stand no chance against guns, dogs, snowmobiles, and rage-fueled trophy hunters) so unethical for the dogs and their prey (wolves, coyotes, and bears) that its physically hard to stomach. For more on this, I would like to refer you to some excellent public radio reporting on the issue: https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2022/01/26/newly-removed-from-the-endangered-species-list-whats-next-for-americas-gray-wolves Wisconsin is the only state that allows this repugnant, reprehensible method of "hunting" and we should all be ashamed of this. Any future reports and plans need to address this reality. And we all need to be aware of the inhumane, cruel treatment of animals every time a wolf hunt happens, and when it happens with hounds the cruelty is unthinkable and unbearable. I also know that this report does not fully consider the relatively "new" science on how integral wolves are to ecosystems. I would like to see this integrated and more fully considered in future versions of our state's wolf plans. I would also like to see information on wolf numbers BEFORE white, European settlers. Why don't we really know this and why aren't THESE pre-colonizer numbers considered? These numbers should be the target. In addition, I want the compilers of this report and the policy makers to know that you don't have to be an enrolled member of one of the two main tribes primarily mentioned in the report to know that wolves are a sacred species, our teachers and our brothers and sisters. I know for a fact that many more Wisconsinites feel and acknowledge this reality: our fates are intertwined with wolves and what we do to them is a reflection of how evil and reprehensible we humans can be. What we do to them will revisit all

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					of us tenfold. This report is a start, but I know we can do better. We need to do better in the ways that I have outlined here. Thank you for your time and, again, for all your hard work. Lexi [Lakeland University
Christie Gustafson	Y	Feb282023	21:17:40	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Understanding and protecting nature's balance...instead of reintroducing wolves and then when they hunt...which is what they are supposed to do many what them killed or even eradicated....leave them alone or relocate packs to other less populated areas.... Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Christie Gustafson [redacted] Port wing, WI 54865 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Courtland White	Unknown	Feb282023	21:47:10	Wolf Management Plan	To whom it may concern, My child and I have followed the debate over wolf management in Wisconsin for many years, particularly since the wolf hunt law was passed more than ten years ago. We each commented in person at public hearings and before the Natural Resources Board regarding the law. The recovery of the wolf in Wisconsin and in the Midwest has been a great success of The Endangered Species Act and DNR wildlife management. A carefully constructed and well managed wolf hunt might be appropriate given the significant recovery, although we thought it should be limited to wolves living in areas where livestock had been depredated, or where they were causing drastic problems for residents. Unfortunately, the law had been written to drive the population down to the politically determined and now irrelevant number of 350. As well, the barbaric means (with hounds; at night) allowed by the law for hunting wolves revealed the fear and hatred with which the law had been drafted. The greatest drawback of the Plan is that it is drawn in the context of responding to the terrible wolf hunt law. The greatest strength of the Plan is that it disposes with the obsolete number: 350, which was determined before any realistic view of how wolves might reintegrate to the landscape in Wisconsin had come into focus. Clearly, the environmental carrying capacity of the modern landscape of Wisconsin has been shown to be well in excess of 1000 individuals. The social carrying capacity is more debatable, but humans have been adapting more successfully to the presence of wolves as wolves have always had to adapt to the presence of humans. Choosing to manage populations regionally is a positive step forward. Any number at which one might arrive would necessarily be the result of a formula adding each regional population to the other regional populations. Evaluating and setting goals for each region, then resetting goals and reevaluating in a cycle of management (adaptive planning) is an excellent strategy which we strongly support. We support the new Wolf Management Plan. Without the stupidity with which the wolf hunt law was drawn, it might be possible for a wolf hunt to take place without triggering judges to reimpose the restrictions of the Endangered Species Act, but until a sane replacement wolf hunt law is drafted, we need to live within federal rules. If federal rules are relaxed, we feel comfortable with the new Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. Sincerely, Corry White (Mikey (ZoÃ«) White referenced)
Robert Brandt	Y	Feb282023	21:47:39	Wolf Plan Comments	Hello, The following comments are submitted by: Robert Brandt [redacted] Phillips, WI 54555 DNR Customer # [redacted] I would like to comment on the DNR wolf plan for the state of Wisconsin. I feel it is a plan that is flawed because the plan does not want to list a number on the minimum wolf count goal and also is proposing to expand the territory in Wisconsin for prime wolf habitat. I strongly disagree with the DNR's plan. Instead, I strongly support all 33 proposals put together by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. I believe the 33 proposals address the wolf plan for Wisconsin to make it a fair and equitable plan for all parties involved. I strongly feel there should be a minimum number set on the wolf count at 350 animals. I feel this is a number we could all live with. I have always been interested in conservation of resources and diversity of species. My farm was chosen Wisconsin Conservation Farm of the year in 2004 by the WLWCA. My farm adjoins on to the Mead Wildlife area in north-central Wisconsin and is now operated by my son and daughter-in-law. I also worked with many farmers throughout Taylor, Clark, Rusk, Sawyer and Price counties writing rotational grazing plans from 2006 through 2016 while working for Pri-Ru-Ta Resourse Conservation & Development and the Taylor County LCD. With my experiences in the Mead and on my own livestock farm seeing wolf tracks many times and knowing neighbors that lost cattle due the wolf predatation and talking with many other livestock farmers in northcentral and northern Wisconsin, along with my vast outdoor and hunting experiences throughout my lifetime which also includes 25 years of hunting deer in the UP of Michigan, I feel strongly that the wolf population is growing too large and needs to be more tightly controlled. The 2 day wolf hunt that

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					was held a couple years ago very clearly shows us all just how large the wolf population has become. In my opinion, there is no way that many wolves could have been harvested in those 2 days unless the wolf population was quite a bit larger than the DNR population estimates at that time. Sincerely, Robert Brandt
Jacqueline Kelley	Y	Feb282023	22:49:33	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Hunting wolves has become a barbaric and unacceptable practice in Wisconsin. Hunting wolves and other animals with dogs is extremely inhumane. Wisconsin is one of the only states that allows this primitive practice which doesn?t benefit anyone. Hunting pregnant wolves and pups is equally barbaric. It is time to start treating animals with the dignity and respect they deserve?hunting with dogs should be discontinued. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Jacqueline Kelley [redacted] Kenosha , WI 53144 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Steve Reske	Y	Feb282023	22:55:37	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Steve Reske [redacted] Waukesha, WI 53189 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
STEVE ANDERSON	Y	Feb282023	22:55:41	Comments on the 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan	Greetings to the WDNR staff, Please find below my comments regarding the 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan. I also completed the online Comments survey and hope my survey reached you as well. Thank you for this opportunity. 1. I support the philosophy of adaptive wildlife management proposed in the Draft WMP, in so much that it allows for an ongoing, fluid approach to addressing the ever evolving status of the wolf population and wolf issues themselves. A 10 year plan that remains rooted in hard and fast policies makes it difficult to respond to the often contested & volatile nature of wolf-human interactions. We saw the levels of disagreement spawned by the infamous 350 management goal that remained entrenched in the minds of many for nearly a quarter of a century once it found its way into the 1999 WMP. I do have concerns that this adaptive and flexible management strategy will mean the continuation of the often year-to-year, if not month-to-month, divisive and heated debates as we seek some semblance of compromise and agreement while engaging public input on all things wolf. 2) I both appreciate and align with the the philosophy toward the wolf expounded time and time again over the years and in the WMP by the native tribes and was pleased to see their thoughts and input in the plan. 3) Funding the continuing costs to the Department, in terms of both dollars and personnel time and effort, on behalf of this single species, is a concern. I am not sure the Draft plan fully addresses this concern. I support expenditures that help sustain a healthy and viable wolf population, but do recognize the price tag of this endeavor. 4) I do applaud the mention and intent to seek legal language & protection for den sites mentioned on page 113 (I believe) of the plan. The concepts of refuge areas and buffer zones around tribal lands, where wolves residing in areas experiencing low levels of human conflict receive little or no harvest pressure, are also to be applauded. I support refuge areas wherever warranted. 5) I think the WMP comes up short on addressing habitat management, a surprising shortfall given the fundamental importance of habitat as the linchpin to wildlife survival. Though the DNR only has primary responsibility for habitat management on state-owned lands, the department has considerable history and influence when it comes to seeking and attaining cooperation and agreement with both county and federal land managers on habitat plans and projects. Most of this plan centers on managing the hunting and trapping of wolves, but we all know wildlife management is more than that and habitat is key. Coupling the habitat management of white-tailed deer and grey wolves might go a long way to securing the future of both the wolf and the deer (and deer hunting, for that matter) in Wisconsin. As the plan admits, the management of deer is beyond its scope, but managing for diverse forest landscapes in various stages of succession would benefit both deer and wolves, in addition numerous other wildlife species, including hare, beaver, etc. (prey species also key to wolf survival). The recent attempt at placing an easement on the thousands of acres of working forest now labelled the Pelican River Forest serves as an example of the bold attempts required to secure habitat and ensure it is managed for a variety of forest stages. Seeking cooperation with both county and national forest officials will be key. Forest fragmentation threatens the future well being of many, many wildlife species. 6) Objectives E and F of the WMP stress collaboration and partnerships in wolf management. I suggest and support any efforts to work with neighboring states and provinces to manage wolves from a regional standpoint to the benefit of all of the Great Lakes region's greater population. This is the largest concentration of wolves in the lower 48 states and it would only seem prudent to work cooperatively with both neighboring states and Canada to the benefit of all. Our near neighbors share the same challenges we do when it comes to ensuring the coexistence between wolves and humans. 7) I would like to see the pack nature of wolves be made a priority going forward. Any research and special management considerations that can be directed toward this aspect of wolf ecology should be pursued. Unlike a lot of other predatory species, the wolf's social nature is an important factor in its survival and we need to be cautious when we apply any and all management strategies. Losses of individual wolves are magnified because of the structure of the pack, a consideration that must always be weighed by those making management decisions. The average Wisconsin wolf pack is small in number, compounding the importance of any decisions we make to harvest or control wolf numbers. 8) Clearly wolf conflicts fall into three categories”livestock loss, loss of pets and hunting dogs, and loss of deer to wolf predation. I sympathize most with livestock producers, especially those that have a long tradition on the land, possibly back to the dark days of wolf extirpation. I support any and all reasonable answers to mitigating livestock losses, including reimbursement for losses. I have less concern for the loss of hunting dogs that are knowingly introduced into wolf range for the purpose of recreational training and hunting. The owners of these dogs must assume both the risk and responsibility of their actions and I do not support funding their losses. Much like we all assume the risk of drowning while fishing or contracting Lyme disease while exploring the woods, hunting dog owners assume the risk of conflicts with wolves. Regarding losses of deer to wolves, we are all very aware that wolves must consume large game and in fact, for years, twentieth century deer hunters defended their hunts by claiming, in the absence of large predators in our state, humans needed to control deer numbers. Now that the wolf has returned, we are having a hard time accepting their role, the very role deer hunters used to champion their cause. As I mentioned earlier, in my point #5, I urge this adaptive management approach to make every effort to engage deer hunters and wolf advocates in the search for common ground, emphasizing that habitat management for one of these species benefits both. The prospect for the wolves to play a positive role in controlling CWD is one example where deer hunters and wolf supporters can find common ground. Maybe someday deer hunters and wolf supporters will become more or less synonymous! I am not anti-hunting..I hunt ruffed grouse myself, but I do not condemn the goshawk, the great horned owl, or the fox for their take of grouse to survive. 9) I am very pleased to see that there will be room on the Wolf Advisory Committee for individuals not necessarily affiliated with an organization or lobby-like group. I think this is a positive step toward some independent thinking making its presence known, as well as giving the general public one more assurance that their input can be heard at the regional and state level. 10) Despite the plan's obvious and active attempt to avoid the discussion of wolf numbers, the size of any population is a defining character that influences its survival and the behavior of its individuals. Clearly, the last several years have taught us that wolf numbers still matter to many of us. If we are to hunt and trap wolves in the future, harvest quotas need to be set, thus I share my current take on wolf numbers, italics below: In the current (1999) management plan, the statewide carrying capacity for wolves was estimated at 500, based on the presumed available habitat present in Wisconsin at the time. The 2021 estimate puts the population at a little over 1000 wolves and it looks like the wolf population did indeed grow as predicted on page 17 of the 1999 plan”in an S-shaped growth curve classic to populations exploiting new habitat or range. The only problem is it looks like carrying capacity for our wolves is over 1000, rather than 500, as the wolves proved more adaptable and able to occupy more areas than was originally thought. The 1999 population goal of 350 wolves appears to have been ascertained choosing a population level a bit above the midpoint in the exponential growth portion of the curve, thus keeping wolf numbers below carrying capacity, but well above lag phase where their low numbers would risk extirpation by perhaps a disease outbreak or their own lack of genetic diversity. If 350 was a population goal for 500 wolves, it would seem slightly over 700 would be the logical goal for a population of a little more than 1000 wolves. I fully realize not everyone agrees with me when I question the need to hunt and trap wolves at all, but I am guessing it would be hard to argue with the math and basic population biology employed to arrive at this population goal of 700, especially for the many that cling to the obsolete 1999 wolf management plan as if it were gospel. At a September NRB meeting a year or two ago, Board member (and now Chair!) Bill Smith commented that some of the best years for wolf management, from a state-level perspective and in terms of conflicts and complaints, occurred during the years of state-managed hunting and trapping, roughly 2012 to 2015. Winter wolf numbers in those years ranged in estimate from 660 to 815 and actual fall harvests during the three hunts ranged from about 120 to 250 wolves. One might argue Bill's comments and these numbers support a population management

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					goal that is at least double the 350 value established in the 1999 plan. 700 lowers the current wolf population to what has proven before to reduce conflicts with human interests, but would also be more palatable to those that support the continued survival of the wolf as a viable part of the state's natural landscape. At the very least, a population goal of 700 wolves might serve as the starting point for compromise and any discussions of a management target for wolf numbers (if indeed any such targets still have merit, which I am not sure they do). 11) Regarding the 6 major management zones established and mapped in this Draft WMP, I appreciate the attempt to match the zones and their various management priorities to both land cover types and percent public lands present¦..the DNR staff efforts here were outstanding as far as I can tell. Where there is more forest and public land, emphasis on wolf sustainability and well being is prioritized (Zones, 1, 2, &5). Where there is less forest and public land, conflict resolution is prioritized (Zones 3 & 4). I would have liked to seen Zone 3 managed with similar objectives to Zones 1, 2, and 5, but understand the large amount of private forest ownership warranted compromise. 12) I urge the WDNR to heed and respect the thoughts and comments of Adrian Wydeven, (member of the WHAC, Green Fire rep, and former long-time WDNR wolf biologist) shared during the Listening Session held on February7, 2023. Adrian is on record as opposing the inclusion of the western half of Lincoln County in Zone 3, and advocated for its inclusion in either Zone 1 or 2. I think his concerns should carry a lot of weight and his thoughts and opinions deserve the respect of all those concerned with this WMP. I support his viewpoint as presented here. 13) I strongly support the Plan's call for continuing every effort to sharpen and hone both population estimation methods and modeling, to enhance both Department and public confidence in these processes. Please make every effort to educate the public on details of these methods and why they are the best available science at the time they are employed. 14) I strongly support the Plan's commitment to stay well above the outdated state and federal statewide population thresholds that once warranted management options that included hunting and trapping. These various thresholds range from 100 to 350 and were popular fodder for discussion from 1992 through 2007. Such thresholds are simply too low to deserve any serious consideration going forward. 15) With the proposed adaptive approach to wolf management, which seems to include the ability to target future hunting and trapping pressure into areas of high depredation, I support any and all efforts to closely examine the link between increased wolf harvest and reduced depredation, if one exists. There is disagreement on this topic and close study of this issue going forward would seem to be both warranted and immensely beneficial. 16) I support public hearings in each of the 6 Zones annually to allow for public information and input to be shared on any hunting and trapping quotas set by the Department and the Wolf Advisory Committee. 17) On page 97 I note that the ruffed grouse is included in a list of game species currently managed via the adaptive approach to wildlife management, as is the turkey, bear, and deer. Though this is a very lesser point on my part, I would argue that the ruffed grouse has been and is currently managed in a rather static, hands off, statewide approach and its harvest strategies and regulations lack the year-to-year review and adaptation of those that govern the harvest of the other species listed. There has been some recent movement toward the adaptive philosophy in regard to grouse management in the form of some minor emergency adjustments made to season length, but no significant annual review and modification of harvest goals and regulations occurs at this time nor have they occurred in a long time in primary grouse range. I would not include grouse in this list. A minor detail truly outside the scope of the WMP, but something I noticed. 18) Finally, it seems odd to me that a population of about 1000 animals can move back and forth between endangered and game species status as mercurially as the wolf population has over the past many years. Regardless of its status going forward, I don't think we will be able to hunt and trap our way out of all the issues facing wolf survival on a landscape dominated by human interests and activities. The management objectives in this plan dwell heavily on the killing of wolves, when it comes right down to it. I applaud the many points in the plan that appear to be put in place to safeguard against repeating the mistakes of the last century and to ensure we don't hunt and trap the wolves to anywhere near the point of extirpation ever again. Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment on the 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan and best of luck to the WDNR going forward as you weave your way through this complex, contestable, and worthwhile issue. Stephen Anderson Hartford, WI This email message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient(s), you are hereby notified that any dissemination, unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution of this email and any materials contained in any attachment is prohibited. If you receive this message in error, or are not the intended recipients(s), please immediately notify the sender by email and destroy all copies of the original message, including attachments.
Janine Kadile	N	Feb282023	23:23:20	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, As a former WI resident and frequent visitor to WI, I support this wolf management plan to protect and conserve their role in the ecosystem. Thank you. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and

Name	Resident	Date	Time	Subject	Email Body
					other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Janine Kadile [redacted] Gilbert, AZ 85298 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]
Sara Christiansen	Unknown	Feb282023	23:53:50	About Wolves	The State of Wisconsin needs wolves! They evolved for a reason and for humans to try to eradicate or limit their numbers harshly is an act against nature. It is cruel to the wolf pack structure and is detrimental for the sustainability of wolves in Wisconsin To only allow 340 wolves in a state that evolved with many more wolves in nature, is risking our fragile ecosystem. The ignorance of humans who think wolves do nothing positive is purely from fear. Your plan listed several positive things wolves do. More education is necessary for the people who don't understand. Also to hunt wolves out so the season can be better for elk hunters is terribly disheartening to me. I suggest the wolf hunts are purely for profit by people who don't even live in Wisconsin. They come up here and slaughter our resources leaving a bloodbath and then go home to other states. It sickens me as a nature lover and Wisconsinite. Wisconsin can make much more sustainable money from other uses of nature (tourism?). Please bring back, and more importantly protect, this vital and important species of our state! I hope you consider this before it is too late for them! Sara Christiansen
Mitchell Nussbaum	Y	Feb282023	23:56:10	Support for the Draft Wolf Management Plan	Dear Randy Johnson, I've learned from Aldo Leopold that wolves are necessary to make our ecosystem work properly. Thank you for creating this detailed management plan. Thank you and your team for the effort developing the 2022 draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Overall, I support the draft plan. I am pleased that it is guided by best available science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources! I also applaud the Department for conducting a very extensive and inclusive survey on the "public opinions regarding wolves in Wisconsin?. Things I support about the plan as written: ? The plan removes a numeric population goal, allowing for an adaptable population: I support the goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. ? The plan creates low limit zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed and further reduce the limit to one wolf per subzone. ? The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that finds opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. ? There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledgement that ?keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem?. ? The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. ? I support the plan?s recommendations to pursue more administrative rules, including the reduction of the window to report wolf kills to 8 hours or less and making the purposeful destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal Things I would like to see added or reviewed before plan is finalized: ? The plan should outline the concerns with ACT 169 and recommend legislative changes so that the DNR is able to make decisions on wolf stewardship in alignment with the goals of the wolf plan. ? A recommendation that the department issues wolf hunting licenses which are valid only in the specific wolf management zone(s) specified on the license. ? The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season and population tracking of which both occur in late winter. ? There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update ? Ideally, the plan should include a provision to update every 5-7 years rather than simply being ?valid until it is replaced.? ? There should be permanent, ongoing oversight by a stakeholder group AND a science committee to oversee wolf stewardship in Wisconsin. The stakeholder group must be inclusive and recognize the importance of Tribal oversight. ? I recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. Examples should include metrics include pack integrity, average pack size, distribution of CWD in wolf range, the relative distribution of wolves across the state, and genetic connectivity and flow between packs across the state. ? The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts but should recommend that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. Bottom line: Please continue to push for more science-based research in our state as well as wolf co-existence education across Wisconsin. Thank you for your consideration and careful work involving the on-going wolf stewardship of wolves in our state. Sincerely, Mitchell Nussbaum [redacted] Madison, WI 53711 [redacted] This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at [redacted]

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
William Reynolds	St. Croix/ Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	Yes	Webster, WI	I am glad to be part of this. I know it's a very touchy situation between the DNR and the local and, and the tribal identities, but, you know, I have a, just a couple questions, actually comments that, you know, weren't really touched on, you know, that I was thinking about. One is, what would be the tracking side of wolves throughout the year when this plan gets going. Is it gonna be, are you gonna use volunteers to help track or are you just gonna take the information from hunting and the local residents on where they're at, what they're doing in, in some of these regions. My next one is, what are the consequences going to be for individuals who get a license and hunt and that quota is over hunted. What are the consequences gonna be for that? My third one is, what would be the resolution on a DNR side, if the DNR is looking at resolutions, if hunting dogs get attacked while they're out with their dogs in those areas. Other than that, I'm just looking forward to getting this up and running and that's all the questions I have for today.
Doug Cox	Menominee Tribe	Yes	Kenosha, WI	Alright, thank you. Doug Cox, Menominee Tribe. I'm a seated tribal legislator. Also hold a position in our Land Mangement, Office as Director for the tribe. We're here in Keshena. So I'd just like to say on behalf of the tribe that, and we want to thank DNR for the precision that they put into developing this plan in relation to Menominee and in other tribal nations that have been able to participate in the approach it's taken. So it's been, tribal consultations have been productive. We've been at the table, we've been able to share our concerns, not only in hearings, but directly with staff in, in leadership that are developing this plan. We've also had the privilege of having a seat on a committee. Our biologist, Donald Rider, has filled that seat for us. He's our expert and has done a great job in interacting and has great feedback. So some of the specific stuff with the plan, we, we all through the process have indicated that we were pushing hard for a buffer around our reservation and of course, closing the reservation to harvest quotas as well. We certainly accomplished that. We know that the plan includes the buffers, although, good, not great, we would've preferred the closure of any harvest in those buffers. But, we understand the importance of this plan and how we are approaching it and being able to sit at the table together. Not a compromise, but a management tool. And, we can for today live with that. We also are happy with the adaptive Wildlife management approach and we hope DNR sticks with that. You know we would certainly like to add a mechanism to have traditional ecological knowledge built into that more specifically than the criteria that you're using now. Traditional ecological knowledge is important to tribes. We've used it for a long, long time. Organizations like Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, we are all familiar with use that method and we hope that that's something we can build in moving forward. One concern that we do have is, is even with the buffers, our reservation being a closed unit and tribal lands, we worry about the dog hunting related to, to the activities when hunting does begin, and that dogs will enter into a tribal land unattended. And, and we need to be sure that if that happens, that our tribe is notified by any hunters that are hunting with dogs for wolves. And again, you may have heard this may have not, the significance of this animal to us, it's in the plan. There's reference to the importance in, in tribal culture of this animal, but for Menominee, we need to keep saying it. We need to keep educating DNR and our publics on why we feel this way. This animal is culturally significant. It's part of our creation story, it's part of our clans. We hold this animal in special regard and will continue to do that in the future. We'll continue to protect it within our boundaries. Our tribal laws currently do not allow harvest to this animal, and I don't see us changing that in the future. You know, we treat this animal for protective at highest level because it is our brother, it is our client within our tribal lands. And lastly, when hunting, if hunting becomes part of this plan in the future and a season opens, we certainly don't expect a repeat of the 2021 season where the massive over harvest occurred. But we want to be assured that this doesn't happen again. And through that, we hope that consultation and the communication and the partnership and the recognition of our government-to-government status as a sovereign nation continues into the future in that we remain embedded in, and part of management of this species as part of this plan. So, that's what I have for today. And again, thanks DNR. Thanks Drew. Thanks, Randy, for all your hard work and we appreciate it. Thank you.
Michelle Beaudin	Lac Courte Oreilles of Lake Superior Chippewa	Yes		Good afternoon. This is Michelle Beaudin from the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe, and I want to thank you for having this opportunity to talk today. First off, going through your plan, I do have some comments that I wanted to make and it's, I think it's a very well thought out plan and a lot of the history there is very well written. I did want to make comment that you did identify in your plan that the wolves were re-listed on the federal endangered species list. And that's also in the plan. It mentioned that the state has always followed the federal endangered species. And I'm confused in terms of why we're even considering the hunts then if they're on the endangered species list, then we should respect that. But if that is not the case, I do want to make comments as to one of the things that is put in the plan, which I agree with, is the wolves are, are a very important part of our ecosystem, and one of the things that you mentioned in there was that the fact that CWD, other diseased and sick animals are the main prey that wolves go after. And this is something that we as native people have always known that they're there to help this ecosystem and keep it thriving. And only when humans interfere with that, like killing off all the wolves to begin with, and the buffalo and different species, that this is what throws our ecosystems off. It's not them doing it themselves. And as you say, they do become omnivores as well, so they can, and there's a lot of science that goes into them even being able to stop reproducing in times of starvation and famine for themselves. I just wanted to comment to that, that they are self-moderating their own population as well. In your comments or in your research that you had in there, there was a section in there that talked about deer hunting, because I think this is a part that they, that some people might say is like, well, they take all the deer, and in there you identified that what they consider a healthy ratio is one wolf within a one to 17 mile radius in deer, one to one mile, one deer per mile in an area. What you identified, what we have in ours is we have wolves, one wolf to 10 to 13 miles, but we also have 10 to 26 deer per mile. So I don't see that is an argument for having a hunting season for that purpose of taking all the deer, which we wanna prevent a lot of the spread of any of the diseases that are that.And I did want to talk about the over harvesting last year, and I don't believe that that should continue to happen in giving people 24 hour notice. With this day and age with technology I believe that, that should be a lot less timeframe than giving them a continued timeframe to overharvest. And that it extensively increased the amount of wolves that were taken. And I also, in my opinion, I don't believe that dogs should be used to hunt wolves or bear for that matter. I think the owners of these dogs have responsibility in any injuries or, fatalities of their animals. I do think that they are being well compensated for that. With the inventive technology and them using radio collars and GPS, there's not a whole lot of actual real hunting being done. It's sending out the dogs and then just following them when they've got a bear tree'd o a wolf trapped. So I believe that we as a tribe would consider, would also make the stance that we need to be involved in our ceded territory, and I personally would not be opposed to not having any harvest.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Melissa Lewis	Lac Courte Oreilles	Yes		My name is Melissa Lewis and I'm also an LCO Tribal member and I want to point out that, Michelle is one of our TGB, tribal governing board members. And I appreciate her also chiming in. I have a couple of notes, we felt that needed to be reiterated for the wolf management plan. The first one is that, Thank you to the Wisconsin DNR for the hard work that they put into the draft. And we appreciate the inclusion of sub zones and threshold harvest levels. LCO supports the goal of ensuring a sustainable wolf population to achieve its ecological role on our landscape. We also appreciate the adoption of the non-numeric population goal for [ma'iingan] wolf, which is more compatible with our tribal perspective as, our elders have already stated prior. we appreciate the plan following an adaptive management framework, but this requires monitoring, both the shortcomings and the accomplishments of the goals and objectives in the plan. And, in order to evaluate and adjust those accordingly, we hope that adequate resources are devoted to this aspect. Appropriate goals and objectives are included in the plan, but falsehoods and misunderstandings continue. We feel that education must be highest priority, and the implementation of that should be adequately funded and includes tribal perspectives. LCO opposes the harvest of ma'iingan and legislative changes should be pursued to revoke this practice. The establishment of tribal buffer zones, the positive move and the support of the zone specific permits, zone A as well as the shortening of the registration window. We hope that this is a good way to not repeat the overharvesting of the last wolf hunt, and hope that more measures are put in place so that this does not happen again. Because as said before, ma'iingan is a being that we have high regard for as a brother and a teacher. As Michelle said, LCO does not support hounds for hunting. If hounds are used, they should be limited to specific zones. The ecological role that wolves play in limiting the prevalence of CWD should be thoroughly researched and funded. We hope that partnerships are included in that plan to address this. One of the last things I should say, that the tribe feels that we need to handle any, that the plan should respect the quota allocations for harvests that the tribes have. And we also feel very strongly that any plan needs to have two committees. Needs to have a technical committee of experts from tribes, state and federal that understand the ecological importance and cultural importance of ma'iingan as well as the greater public committees. So, with that being said, we do appreciate the opportunity to state these comments and thank you for the time.
Amy Mueller	Public	Yes	Waukesha, WI	Thank you, drew. My name's Amy Mueller and I'm from Waukesha County. I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to speak today and the department for all the effort that went into this plan. Overall, I'm in strong support of the draft plan as it is written in that it is rightfully focused on the ecological benefits wolves provide. It's reflective of the re recent Wisconsin DNR public opinions survey that finds opinions towards wolves have grown significantly more favorable. It also includes critical tribal consultation. As mentioned in the speakers before me, it expresses commitment to science and continued research. It also outlines and strategizes on how to engage with the public for education as well as the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. Before the plan is finalized, I would ask that even more consideration be given to the connection between wolves and CWD as brought up with speakers before me as well. The plan does note the possibility that wolves can reduce CWD on the landscape. It also points out that studying the connection between wolves and CWD is difficult because finding the overlap of wolves and CWD seldom occurs. But wait, isn't that a glaring data point in and of itself? It seems unwise to disregard potentially one of our best biosecurity tools we have in our state to address this giant concern and to which we have no other viable solutions currently. I urge the department to go one step further by creating CWD zones on a temporary basis where there would be restriction on wolf quotas in those areas where new outbreaks beyond break-outbreaks occur beyond the current range like Shawano and Langlade counties. They would be similar to that of the low quota zones around tribal lands. The tri, the CWD zones would be annually evaluated just as the other management discussion. Certainly, these zones would be evaluated annually, and I also suggest that a deer research scientist focused on this connection have a guaranteed speed- spot within the Wolf Stakeholder Group going forward. Thank you for your time.
Mike Brust	Public	Yes	Wausau, WI	Good afternoon. My name is Mike Brust. I'm from Wausau. And I have to say it's disappointing when our DNR has to hold a pretend listening session because they won't hold public hearings. This isn't a listening session. A listening session is where you go and listen to the concerns of the people involved. There's actually a real listening session scheduled for February 28th in Douglas County where the citizens, citizens there are trying to deal with the wolf overpopulation, but it's not being held by our DNR. It's sponsored by groups actually trying to deal with the problems. This is just an extension of the public comments where large national animal rights organizations script their members to comment from the comfort of their couches about situations they aren't involved in. Ironically, these organizations don't really care about wolves, what they do care about is the millions of dollars they generate for themselves from kind-hearted individuals that have been duped into believing wolves are endangered and at risk, they are not. What isn't being said is it was sportsmen and hunting licensed dollars that brought wolves back to Wisconsin, but the sportsmen and women who actually fund the DNR are now being double crossed. The objective of the Wolf management plan from the start was to establish a sustainable wolf population in Wisconsin. According to the experts at US Fish and Wildlife service that was accomplished over 20 years ago. Then since then, thanks to countless lawsuits by well-funded groups like PETA and HSUS the wolf population has expanded out of control into many areas of the state considered agricultural or even suburban. The DNR often claim management was beyond their control, but now when we have their proposal to manage wolves or more correctly not manage them, it is clear that they have with PETA, the HSUS and other groups instead of our own citizens living in northern rural areas that have to deal with all the negative aspects of wolves. So now you understand whether DNR wants to listen to a vegetarian sitting on her couch in California as much as a farmer in northern Wisconsin, literally trying to save his farm. Thank you for your time.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Tyler Wenzlaff	Wisconsin Farm Bureau	Yes	Stoughton, WI	Hi, thank you. My name is Tyler Wenzlaff from Stoughton, Wisconsin. I am the director of National Affairs for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. First, I want to thank the DNR for holding this virtual public listing session, even though we prefer this to be held in person. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau has a number of concerns associated with the draft version of the State Wolf Management plan. Our principal concern and one we advocated for as a member of the Wolf Management Plan Committee is the lack of a numeric population goal. The current plan has a numeric population goal, target, whatever you wanna call it, of 350 wolves. The draft plan instead favors an adaptive management approach in which, a set of ambiguous objectives are set. The lack of a set numeric goal makes setting consistent zone harvest quotas virtually impossible, as these objectives are broadly stated and can easily be redefined by the department. Additionally, WFBF takes issue with the expansion of zone four into Marathon County and central parts of the state previously designated as inappropriate habitat for wolves. This area of the state is now designated as secondary range for wolves, greatly expanding suitable habitat for wolves in the state and putting additional farms at risk of depredation. There is no scientific reason behind the zone change and was made simply because wolves had inhabited the area. In fact, the human population is increased in the area raising chances of wolf human interactions. This is in direct conflict of the draft plan's objective B, to reduce wolf related conflict. WFBF has additional issues with the plan and will be filing official comments with the department. We hope this is just a first step in an extensive public outreach plan that includes an in-person public listening sessions throughout the designated primary wolf habitat. An in-person hearing is the only way to ensure rural Wisconsin residents are allowed a voice in the process and not drowned out by out-of-state activists. I wanna thank you, the DNR for the opportunity to speak today, and thank you Randy Johnson for his work on the plan specifically, and we appreciate working with him. Thank you very much.
Christa Hoffman	Public	Yes	Shawano County	My name is Christa Hoffman, a resident, landowner, and dairy farmer in Shawano County. My home and family property are located in proposed zone 2B of the Wolf Management Plan. In the last 10 years, I have recognized an increase in wolf activity, which has altered our livestock pasturing protocols and overall outdoor recreational activities. We regularly see wolf tracks in our woods and are visible on our trail cameras year-round. This has prevented me and our two young children from taking hikes in our wooded areas alone after a close encounter last winter. We also pasture our cattle year-round and we've, while we've not had livestock depredation occur, the wolf pressure continues to increase and remains a threat to our herd. My overall concerns with the Wolf management plan are, first I oppose the creation of the buffer zones surrounding reservations. This takes away rights of private landowners. I also oppose giving away wildlife management authority in these areas as well. The department excludes reservation wolves from harvest considerations when developing harvest Wolf quotas, the creation of sub zones around tribal lands increases the wolves that can be excluded from the population estimates. This would limit or exclude our property from any future wolf hunts and the potential of being under-reporting, under-reporting wolf wolves in our area. I also have concerns around the lack of numerical goal of population goals and the resources that would need to be in place in order to, to effectively manage what's being proposed. And I also have concerns over the long-term solutions preventing wolf depredation beyond permanent fencing. My home is within the boundaries of the wolf habitat. I respect these animals and appreciate their cultural significance to my tribal neighbors. As a business and private property owner, ensuring those that live closest to these animals have a voice and how this plan is executed and enforced before overpopulation in our zone is critical. Thank you.
Chris Albert	Public	No	Mount Washington, Kentucky	I am Chris Albert. I am from Mount Washington, Kentucky. I'm a veterinarian, so I understand concerns of producers, but I also feel that wolves are very important. There are lots of good things I see in the updated Wolf management plan. I'm very glad the concept of a population cap on wolves has been dropped. I'm glad there is emphasis on non-lethal deterrents to minimize livestock conflict. A buffer zone around tribal lands is a good idea, as well as shortening reporting times and making hunting licenses zone specific. When there is a persistent problem from a particular animal, only that animal should be targeted. One of the things that has been repeatedly demonstrated is that general hunting and trapping season targets all wolves is not a useful or appropriate response and does not diminish livestock conflict. I would like to see more restriction on hounding. It is safe to assume that hounds running rampant for hours on end can cause enormous disturbance to all forms of wildlife and they're trespassing on private property with pets and livestock is most unwelcome. At a minimum hound hunting should be banned on our national forests. I would welcome an oversight committee consisting of biologists and other professionals. Thank you.
Laurie Groskosf	Public	Yes	Tomahawk, WI	Laurie Groskopf, I'm from Tomahawk. But I happen to be in, in a work session in Tomah today. And, um, my comments, can you hear me? My comments are that every scientist who knows his wolves, knows that wolves belong in areas where there's plenty of game for them to eat, very low human presence and very low agriculture presence. Unfortunately, the draft plan does not recognize two out of three of those parameters. We need to have wolves in Wisconsin in areas where they're appropriate and where their safety is assured, as well as human safety. And that happens to be areas without much human presence, definitely very low agricultural presence and plenty of game to eat that needs to be looked at in this plan. Thank you very much for allowing me to comment.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Stephen Anderson	Public	Yes	Hartford, WI	My name is Stephen Anderson. I'm talking from Hartford, Wisconsin. I'm also a co property owner of some land in Oneida County. Can you hear me all right? I support the adaptive management approach proposed in this plan, though I do have some reservations. I'll save those for the written comments. A similar approach has been taken in Minnesota and Michigan, so we have neighbors doing the same thing. a new plan that provides some flexibility to respond and adjust policies, goals, and strategies year to year to reflect new knowledge of wolf ecology, resolve human conflicts in a timely fashion, and ensure the future of the wolf seems appealing to me. Like it or not, until state law changes, there will be numbers and quotas in our future if we return to state management and regulated hunting and trapping. I hope the now infamous and outdated target of 350 wolves is once and for all abandoned. This value might have had merit in 1999 when wolves carrying capacity was estimated at 500, but the wolves have shown us that the carrying capacity is in the vicinity of a thousand or more. The 350 number was a worthy projected target for a growing population displaying a sigmoid growth curve with the carrying capacity estimate of about 500. It reflected a somewhat optimum density below the stresses of being too crowded and above the threats to viability of being too scarce. This might be an oversimplification in light of the complexities of wolf biology but applying the math and logic from 1999 to current wolf numbers a more realistic population goal for today might be in the neighborhood of 700 or more wolves. Though I'm not an advocate for the hunting and trapping wolves, I do recognize that this adaptive approach to wolf management will require all interested parties regularly meet to be heard and compromise will play a role in insuring a healthy and acceptable number of wolves thrive in Wisconsin. Whatever annual kill quotas might be set in various wolves zones. I urge the powers that be to keep an eye on the total population and maintain wolf numbers that reflect an optimum density in light of the best estimated carrying capacity at the time. This plan allows that flexibility. Thanks for the DNR to hear our opinions.
Adrien Wydeven	Wisconsin Green Fire	Yes	Cable, WI	Hello, my name is Adrian Wydeven. I'm from Cable, Wisconsin. I represented Wisconsin's Green Fire on the Wisconsin Wolf, an advisory committee in 2021. Wisconsin Green Fire appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft Wolf plan and offers these comments. Wisconsin's Green Fire congratulates the department on the tremendous work in preparing this draft plan, incorporating latest science, while also considering diverse opinions of stakeholders and sensitivity to cultural concerns. Green Fire supports these elements of the Wolf plan, removing the numeric goal as done for bears and deer, and focusing on fulfilling ecological roles. Green Fire especially appreciates efforts by the department to move beyond the 350 goal of the 1990 plan, which is based on earlier knowledge of carrying capacity and viability analysis. Managing toward a 350 goal would require eliminating wolves from two-thirds of current Wolf Range in Wisconsin. We support redrawing wolf zones to manage the wolf population more effectively, with exception of Western Lincoln County, which should be part of zone one. We support creation of buffer zones around Indian reservations to better protect reservation wolves. We support rigorous focus on wolf population monitoring using an occupancy modeling approach. Wisconsin Green Fire does have some concerns and recommends some of the following. We recommend that Western Lincoln County represent that which represents important core wolf habitat should be re-added to zone one. We have concerns that the plan should balance permits and license to avoid long extended hunting trapping seasons that extend into the winter tracking period or wolf breeding season. And we are recommending that any training period for dogs should be authorized only in zones that remain open to the public for public hunting and trapping when those zones are open. we thank the department for the opportunity to comment and encourage folks to look at our Green Fire website for more details on some of our comments. We feel the return of wolves is a conservation success story. Our Wisconsin wolf population is currently secure, and wolves now occupy the majority of favorable habitat. Future management action should maintain viable population of wolves in Wisconsin while encouraging greater understanding and acceptance of wolves in the state. Thank you.
Megan Nicholson	Humane Society of the United States	Yes	Madison, WI	my name is Megan Nicholson. I'm, I'm calling in from Madison, Wisconsin on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States and our supporters. Thank you for this opportunity to speak. Again, my name is Megan Nicholson, Wisconsin, director for HSUS. I'm sorry, I'm hearing some background. First thank you for your efforts to update the Wolf plan. While we have some concerns, we appreciate many of the changes made, including the removal of the numerical population goal. We support the recommendations to reduce some of the harms caused by trophy hunting and trapping wolves, including pursuing administrative rules to reduce registration times, limiting wolf licenses to a specific zone to more effectively, and the creation of sub zones one B and two B. The quota in these sub zones should be set at zero to more effectively provide a buffer area for wolves who primarily live on or adjacent to reservations. With that said, we do have some concerns with the plan. We are especially concerned by the establishment of a hound training season and the plan's overall emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping of wolves when they're not federally protected, including in response to conflicts with livestock. A higher emphasis should be placed on non-lethal conflict prevention methods. Scientific studies demonstrate that killing wolves, particularly through trophy hunting and trapping, can lead to increased conflicts while non-lethal deterrents can be highly effective. Using trophy hunting and trapping to address conflicts as prescribed by product B1F goes against sound science and should be removed. Additionally, product C2H to establish a home training season for wolves is irresponsible and amounts to state sanctioned dog fighting. As the season will undoubtedly increase conflict and lead to increased harassment of non-target wildlife and cross path issues with landowners. The plan also places an alarming emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves. Indeed, most of the strategies under object C provide multiple benefits associated with wolf population are related to the killing of wolves. Wolves provide many services that benefit all Wisconsinites, including increasing biodiversity and ecosystem services, disease reduction and preventing deadly deer vehicle collisions. There is little discussion with the potential consequences of killing wolves, including pack disillusion, increased poaching, and increased conflicts with livestock. Thank you again for this opportunity to speak and we'll also provide written comment.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Wendel Johnson	Public	Yes	Marinette, WI	Yes. My name, my name is Wendel Johnson from Marinette. I'm an emeritus professor of biological sciences at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay Marinette campus. Part of my graduate work included working with Wolf Biologists on Isle Royal National Park. I'm also a deer hunter. I have read this excellent science-based draft of the Wolf Management Plan in its entirety. It is important to understand that wolves are a state resource, not just of local concern. This plan appropriately removes the flawed, dated idea of numeric statewide population goal, thus giving DNR Wildlife managers greater regional options. This plan also wisely, focuses on the many ecological benefits of wolves. In addition to this draft, I should include the following important points. There should be no night hunting of wolves just as we ethically behave with deer hunting, there should be limits. Secondly, on the size of hound packs in the use at any one time. And thirdly, wolves are a respected apex predator and should be classified as a trophy game animal. And hunters should have an opportunity by a zone specific lottery, lottery for hunting. And finally, wolves serve many functions such as reducing deer, overpopulation, and their dangers and damage to motorists and agricultural production. Statewide public opinion surveys show strong support and tolerance of wolves as part of Wisconsin's biodiversity. This draft is an excellent result of thorough survey of scientific literature and reasoned balance thought by trained wildlife biologists. We are fortunate to have these workers and wolves in Wisconsin. Thank you.
Francisco Santiago-Avila	Project Coyote and the Rewilding Institute	Yes	Madison, WI	My name is Francisco Santiago-Avila. I am a resident of Madison, Wisconsin. I'm also the Science and Conservation manager for Project Coyote and the Rewilding Institute. And I want to thank you for the opportunity to comment and I want to thank the DNR staff involved in updating the plan. That said we are very concerned about the plan's bias towards lethal methods and wolf killing. And to begin the draft really is far from reflecting the best available science on wolf pathology and wellbeing on the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, and on the impact of widespread killing on wolf's dynamics, ecology, and even evolution. Now, dozens of recent studies in each of those topics are emitted from the plan, and most, if not all of them present robust evidence against lethal methods and recreational killing and in favor of stricter protections for wolves and the use of non-lethal methods for conflicts. Now, when you combine those emissions with the explicit promotion of sustainable recreational killing as a main management strategy, you're inevitably going to get a bias in an unscientific plan. In addition, the plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves obtained by the department's survey. For example the plan never mentions that most Wisconsinites oppose hounding, trapping, and feel that hunting wolves is unnecessary and culturally offensive to tribes. That's pretty much what the plan seems to prioritize, again, with very little and unreliable science. Now, lastly, there are agency objectives like public hunting and conflict mitigation that are not only not acknowledged as conflicting, but even misunderstood, as harmonious against scientific evidence and public values. So in general, we think this plan misinforms and promotes an unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that is contrary to public values. And we hope this is addressed in the final draft. Thank you.
Valerie Gibbons	Public	Yes	Monona, WI	My name is Valerie Gibbons in Monona. I appreciate many of the new goals the DNR has proposed, especially removing an arbitrary wolf population of 350. I'd like to see two points reviewed. The plan acknowledges there are non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of prioritizing them. The focus should be on prevention, not the unsustainable practice of payment for livestock loss. The plan should prioritize funding for abatement measures and non-lethal controls in order for someone to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Saying it's too expensive is helping promote a culture of kill rather than a culture of coexistence. My understanding is wolves take less than 1% of Wisconsin's livestock and do not threaten the state's deer population. A wolf human attack has never been recorded in the lower 48. Rather than using fears or some losses as justification for wolf hunting, the DNR must focus on providing myth busting public education. Second, killing these sentient, sapient, social beings should not be quote, an outdoor opportunity. The plan should outline concerns with Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season and recommend legislative changes be made to further the plan's goals. While in the meantime, strictly curtailing quotas even to zero and banning the cruel use of hounds on wolves resulting in compensation, which results in compensation for an individual's hobby sport And not supported by the majority of hunters or the public. Thank you
Diane Cain	Public	Yes	Hixon, WI	Thank you. Uh, my name is Diane Cain. I'm from Hixon, Wisconsin. I support the 2022 Wolf Management Plan, and I believe the DNR captured the commentary of the 29 Group Wolf Management Plan Committee very well. In the unforeseen event, the great lakes wolves were to lose their current federal protection and face a wolf hunt as mandated by Act 169. I would encourage the term zone specific selective cull, instead of wolf harvest. Recreational hunting or wolf harvest, tacitly normalizes killing wolves for fun and trophy while leading hunters and trappers to have an assumption there will be a sizable number of wolf tags available at their disposal. Zone specific selective cull describes aptly, the mechanism by which the quota of wolves will be determined in each zone, lowering expectations of large quotas with a rampant slaughter. The February 2021 wolf hunt showcased the need for Wisconsin wolf, hunters, trappers, and hounds' men to be held to a higher standard. Perhaps this change in verbiage would elevate the intrinsic value of wolves in the mind's eye of the recreational hunter while advancing the awareness wolves serve as a keystone species with substantial evidence indicating wolves self-regulate their populations. Thank you
Paul Collins	Animal Wellness Action	Yes	Madison, WI	Good afternoon. I'm Paul Collins, the State Director for Animal Wellness Action. A lifelong Wisconsin resident and vegan calling in from Madison while on break from work and not from my couch in California. Today you are going to hear or have already heard from folks that love, respect, and sadly despise wolves. You are also likely going to hear the usual lies in propaganda about wolves eating grandchildren and the incessant fear mongering that the same over amplified voices have been parroting for years. From me, you're going to hear a simple message. Wolves belong here and across the country contrary to the culture war-based narrative. Neither myself nor our organization will ever support, encourage, or condone the recreational killing of wolves in Wisconsin or anywhere else. That being said, we are realists, and I will address the proposed management plan on its merits. While not perfect, this plan is light years better than the archaic plan currently in place. It's ridiculous numeric goal of 350 wolves that somehow became a population cap for the anti-Wolf factions. It was never to be a maximum number, but those folks will clearly never accept that. We like that there are no set-in stone numeric elements in the updated plan. We also like that tribal considerations are being listened to for once, and that there has been much more of an attempt to include non-killing stakeholders in the committees related to the species. We do however, think that there should be separate scientific and stakeholder committees so that there is a clear separation between the politics and the science. We also feel that there needs to be more emphasis on non-lethal deterrents and less emphasis on using the contracted USDA Wildlife services to lethally resolve conflicts. The 65 wolves

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
				killed by the feds and landowners in 2021 seem to be more for revenge rather than for deterrence or mitigation. That being said, my written comments will go into greater detail on the pros and cons of this plan. However, our stance leans towards support with caveats. Thank you for your time.
Cynthia Samels	Public	Yes	Bayfield County	My name's Cynthia Samels. I am from Bayfield County Zone 1A at the top of the list for wolf populations. And kind of a depredation, hot hotspot. I guess I'm speaking for those of us living in this county, farmers. Hunters, just friends, people that I live with, that I communicate with on a daily basis. I have yet to meet someone who has spoken adamantly negatively about having wolves on the landscape. The only people that seem to be voicing some of these 350 populations, please keep those et cetera, are sadly the only people, I don't know them, but they are the wolf hunters, and they are the bear people who use hounds to chase wolves. I'm very pleased with some of the things that have done especially the removal of the numeric population goal, the low quota zones around the tribal lands. The plan is very rightly focused on ecological benefit of wolves, and the education component is something that is truly important and missing. I'm excited to see that implemented. The plan is reflective of the public opinion and it has expressed commitment to science, which, you know, the science is clear about the 350 number and it's really time that science play a much bigger, bigger role in the way that wolves are viewed that they are welcomed on this landscape and that we learn to coexist. The farmers where I live, Many that I drive by have guardian dogs. They have donkeys, they have great fencing. I just am going to encourage non-lethal, uh, methods for those who need help with fencing
Jeffrey Brown	Public	Yes	Madison, WI	My name is Jeffrey Brown. I live in Madison. I'm a climate and renewable energy investor in the state and a proud Sierra Club volunteer. I moved to Wisconsin from New York two years ago, and I wanna say you have a beautiful state full of kind people. I wanna say that I do believe that the DNR plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of the wolves. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts. But unfortunately, stop short at recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities. And with that, here are some key points. The best way to stop loss is to prevent it altogether. The focus should be on prevention, not payment for livestock loss. Scientific studies demonstrate that killing wolves, particularly through recreational hunting and trapping, can lead to increased conflicts while non-lethal deterrents can be highly effective at deterrent conflicts when used correctly. The first two sub zones one A and four A would be used to reserve the ability to direct greater harvest pressure into those areas which have been historically, historical areas of wolf and livestock conflict. Now again, research has shown that wolf hunting tends to not consistently harvest animals involved in livestock conflict anyway. Using the best available science, rather than prioritizing a wolf harvest to help with livestock conflicts, the plan should focus on non-lethal methods, creating a win-win. The plan outlines the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of non-lethal conflict deterrent techniques. There is a growth in the marketplace of non-lethal innovative technologies in the space of biodiversity protection. The DNR should be looking at all monitoring, soundscape capture, and tracking tools for implementation. Lastly, I especially support the collaborative efforts with natural resource educators to develop classroom engagement strategies with lesson plans focused on Wisconsin's native wildlife, including the wolves. Thank you.
Kelli Villis	Public	Yes	Waukesha, WI	Hi, I'm Kelly Villis. I'm a lifelong Wisconsin resident and I live in Waukesha County. Just wanna start off by saying, Wolves do not need management. The land has a carrying capacity and they will self-regulate. They don't need us to go in there and kill them to manage them. They do need safe corridors to travel and that is an issue and that is something leaders need to be looking at. the plan that you have emphasizes and promotes recreational killing, I don't support that. Um, the plan should end all lethal management of wolves. It should also, I'd like to just point out there's farmers and ranchers in Wisconsin using non-lethal management successfully. the plan should ban night vision traps, snares, and killing contests especially. The plan should require abatement, measures and non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by livestock owners in order to receive confirmed accreditation compensation. And there should be zero compensation for people who choose to put their hounds in harm's way. hounding hunting wolves and bears. The plan does not reflect public values as mentioned earlier. The public is against hounding, trapping and in general hunting of wolves. It should, the final draft should emphasize public values and not dismiss them. The scientific community has expressed some concern that the model used systematically overestimates the wolf population. That's the occupancy model. That's a concern and more needs to be done to stop poaching and address it. And then finally, I understand that the Minnesota plan is a much better plan than what we have here in Wisconsin. And I ask you to please benchmark their plan and make ours better. Use it as a challenge, use it as a guide to make our plan better in Wisconsin. Thank you.
Drew Martin	Public	No	Florida	my name is Drew Martin. And I'm a Sierra Club volunteer from Florida. But I'm a strong advocate of wolves, and I'm currently reading a book about the wolves of Yellowstone. It is my belief that wolves are beneficial to the environment and that we should encourage the wolf population in Wisconsin from what I understand of wolf culture, actually killing wolves throws off the family. And so, it's better to let wolves manage their own populations rather than having those populations managed by agencies. Further, hunting of wolves will kill the most successful dominant wolves, which are the ones that control the family. Wolves that are controlled by their own species are much less likely to cause harm. I also think that wolves are healthy for the environment and do not harm game, and so that people who suggest that wolves need to be killed to make more game available, I think are incorrect. Wolves themselves kill the weakest and actually make the species healthier. So my feeling if that, if you want to have a healthy wolf population, that you should not encourage the killing of wolves through trophy hunting or other types of hunting, but you should allow wolves to manage their own population. Thank you for allowing me to make comment, but I appreciate it very much.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Elizabeth Ward	Sierra Club Wisconsin Chapter	Yes	Fitchburg, WI	Thanks Elizabeth Ward, I'm calling right now from Fitchburg and I'm here to testify on behalf of the Sierra Club Wisconsin chapter. We will submit long, more in depth written comments later. So I'm just gonna mention a few high level points today and speak as fast as I can with the limited time. First and foremost, we wanna thank the department for listening to the call for a plan that puts science over politics, centers tribal engagement and comments, and considers public input and public opinion. These are the core tenets to natural resource management and they're especially important as we're experiencing a growing biodiversity crisis. Overall, we think the plan is well written and responsive to the things I mentioned above. We'd rate it a nine. the things we would like to see maintained in the plan and we support in the plan as you move forward is the removal of the numeric population goal. Arbitrary goals can't conform and adapt to ecological changes and best available science. Numeric population goals ignore both pack dynamics and biology, so there should not be a population number added into the plan. the low quota zones around tribal lands where requested is a fair compromise that recognize tribal authority and treaty rights, both of which supersede Wisconsin law. If it's true that the plan can't be amended once finalized, we'd encourage the department to continue to do extensive outreach and make sure all federally recognized Wisconsin tribes have their demands and requests granted to the extent possible. The plan outline strategies related to increasing public education around the implementation of non-lethal conflicted deterrent technologies. We're especially supportive of this, given that it's a win-win win for everyone with an interest in Wisconsin's wolves. while again, we support the plan, there are a few things we'd like added or changed to make it even better. Those include, your recommendations, the department's recommendations for changes to Wisconsin Act 169. Though the plan must follow the current law, DNR's voice on these issues will be important throughout the life of the plan. The plan should also outline a way to regulate updated and a provision for one. As I said, we'll follow up in more writing. Thanks for hosting this hearing and listening to all of us.
Saundra Holloway	Public	No	El Cajon, CA	Thank you so much. My name is Saundra Holloway and I live in El Cajon, California. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal [01:48:00] conflict interventions and banning recreational killing. The current draft does not reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentient, sapience, sociability, agency, and wellbeing. It is missing literature on the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to the lethal ones, and it is missing scientific literature on the impact of widespread killing on wolves, physiology, behavior, wellbeing, their social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. These scientific omissions combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and a and consumptive users as a main management strategy result in a bias plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous, and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail an illegal management of wolves, except an extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Research has shown that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves has shown results in a direct increase in the hazard and incidents of illegal killings. Hounding, or hound training should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Several studies have proven a proactive, non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan, and the dismissal of public values and concerns towards wolves points towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. Thank you for letting me speak for the wolves today.
Steve Suchomel	Public	Yes	Medford, WI	The draft- Wolf management plan- unacceptable. The population of wolves goals would to be 350 with the draft proposal is a wolf expansion social analysis, three. Human slash wolf [indiscernible] must be up to a minimum public opinion from those people living- with wolves dramatically supports this. Four. There's no scientific rationale for expansion of the buffer zones, only political. Five. The plan does not address the economic impact of the wolf expansion plan in those expanded areas. Six. The plan the quality of wolf life- in northern Wisconsin is predominantly- owned with an existence-presence. Seven. The draft Wolf management plan is not the product of the committee involved. Eight. There are minimal-existing wolf programs in other states and nine without proper management tools and Wolf, human safety is an issue. Thank you for letting me have my, uh, two minutes.
Allyson Dallmann	Public	Yes	Cambria, WI	Okay, thank you. Hi. I appreciate the removal of the numerical goal for wolves, but I'm deeply concerned about the lack of best available science on their suffering and family dynamic when one family member is killed. It also lacks evidence-based highly efficacious, non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts. As a veterinarian, I have witnessed non-human animal suffering their sensitivity concern for others, care for their young playfulness, personalities and affection. Just because humans don't understand wolf speak body language and other nonverbal forms of communication does not mean they don't do and feel it. We have documented that cortisol, heart and respiratory rates, blood pressure, all increase under duress. But do you really need to see a heart monitor to know that if your foot is in a trap or you are being chased by dogs, see your son or spouse screaming in pain to know that you and they will feel great pain? Do you need your spouse to die to know that you and your children will suffer and your lives be forever diminished? The majority of the public don't want wolves hunted, trapped, or hounded. So protecting them allows wolves to maintain their families, which then benefit ecosystems. It reduces poaching, it respects their inherent right to live, encourages non-lethal management, aiding all species and demonstrates our growth as a society choosing to step away from barbaric behaviors such as hounding, trapping, and hunting this keystone apex icon who thinks, feels, loves and cares for family just as we do. Broadly, protecting wolves demonstrates the capacity to be more accepting of others which we need greatly. Thank you so much for your time. Bye-bye.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Anne Edwardson	Public	Yes	Madison, WI	Okay. Anne Edwardson from Madison, Wisconsin, and a lifelong Wisconsin resident. Thanks for this opportunity to speak and for the thoroughness of the draft plan. Um, we must never again have a hunt that is a national disgrace. And I'm concerned that if the wolf is no longer listed as endangered, the mandated wolf hunt seems contrary to this plan. Somehow through either legislative action, administrative rule or something, the provision of the mandated hunt needs to be modified, if not eliminated. Maybe something like if three or more stakeholder groups determine that a hunt is not advisable or is not likely to be well regulated, then a hunt shall not be held. I'm also concerned about the non-resident licenses. I understand they permit, they generate revenue, allow for reciprocal hunting, but they should be limited to a percentage of resident licenses, I feel. Say maybe for every five resident licenses given out, maybe one non-resident license maybe issued. And it should be well communicated that non-residents are guests and do not have rights that precede residents rights. The Animal Legal Defense Fund has a bill of rights for animals. One is the right of animals in the wild to self-determination and an environment that allows them to engage in behavior natural to their species. Now it's not to dismiss or minimize the impact of wolf predation. Yet, wolves have a role in the balance of nature, which may not always be apparent, and some attribute as a factor in the increase of Lyme disease, the extinction of the passenger pigeon, for example. We each enjoy the Wisconsin woods for a variety of reasons, and we need to find a way for all of us to share nature with respect for each other and the people and wildlife who live here. Thank you.
Barbra Voigtman	Public	Yes	Forest County	Sure. Thank you. This is Barb Voigtman. I live in Forest County. I wanna thank you for the opportunity to speak today, and thank you to the DNR and the Wolf Management Committee for putting this plan together with the focus on ecology, stewardship, and science, however, I encourage additional focus on the following four areas. The first is education. I live in Wolf Range in a wooded rural area, and sadly, I hear countless inaccurate comments from members in my own community related to wolves. I feel that the DNR is in an ideal position to promote positive PR for wolves, and I would encourage more funding and emphasis on education in this plan. Secondly, the use of non-lethal methods. I grew up in a farming community and know how important each farm animal is to the farmer. Where wolf attacks on livestock are rare, research has shown that the use of non-lethal methods to prevent a predator attack are many times superior to the use of lethal methods. As, as you've heard today, at the other, needs to be more emphasis on education and funding for non-lethal protection of live stock in this plan. Thirdly, ecohealth and ecotourism. With the decreased interest in hunting overall, having a healthy wolf population is key to the ecological health of our wildlife. As a keystone species, wolves provide a balance in nature that humans are not able to obtain. In addition, we in Wisconsin have a unique opportunity to create an industry around ecotourism. Similar to what has happened in Yellowstone since the reintroduction of wolves there. This ecotourism industry could potentially make up for lost revenue from declining hunting and could support the overall ecological health of Wisconsin's Wildlife. And finally, the tribal perspective of wolves. As one learns more about wolves, it becomes clear why the indigenous tribes of Wisconsin have such a deep cultural connection and high regard for wolves. The tribes have centuries of experience of living in harmony with wolves, and as a result, tribal experience and perspectives should be more heavily considered in the Wolf plan. Thank you.
Melissa Smith	Great Lakes Wildlife Alliance	Yes	Madison, WI	So my first comment is, I'm sad there's not video. Cause I had a whole interpretive dance set to recreational hunting does not reduce conflict. I guess we won't see that tonight. My first comment is, I appreciate you putting the tribal representatives first on this call, right? Like you respect them and give them preference, but you don't do that in policy. While I like what you've done in the plan, moreover, as a white girl for Madison, you haven't done enough, you haven't done enough in this plan to restore indigenous rights. We're still working on a Eurocentric plan and don't get rid of me, but if I had come out and said what Mike Brust said in the beginning, I would've been kicked out of this meeting. I would, I guarantee it. That kind of negative speak towards the agency who's hosting this meeting, which I thank you for hosting that wouldn't have, that wouldn't have been okay for me to say. No, we're not PETA eating, tree hugging, celery eating people we're Wisconsinites. It doesn't matter if I live in Madison, we pay for up north. Now I understand those effects matter up north. What my comment is, I would've liked to see value studied in the social, the social survey because, and I understand that the agency, you're traditionalists, that's how you view it. But the public views wildlife is mutualists. We don't see this the same way. So I really do appreciate the social survey being done before this. But I do have to say, you have to think about this. It's not that we're, I'm here for wolves. Wolves aren't more important than a squirrel or the Alvin and the chipmunks we heard earlier, they're not more important. But the culture has changed, the culture has shifted. And I'd like to see the agency overall shift and wolves are a symptom of this problem. I do not think you can guarantee what happened in the wolf hunt over a quota with dogs. I don't see in this plan how you can prevent that because you told us you could prevent that in the first place and you didn't. And it was, as I'll quote the DNR in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, it was an f'ing abomination. That was from the higher ups. So please consider this with the plan and consider being conservative. A thousand wolves. I mean, that's nothing. Think about 8 billion people. A thousand wolves. Nope. A million deer, a thousand wolves. Please be conservative in this study with your model that hasn't been tested.
Megan Swearingen	Public	No	Alaska	Thanks so much. My name is Megan. I'm actually calling from Alaska. I am doing a career change to wildlife conservation and I'm very concerned about wolves in Alaska as well as wolves in the general US on the continental US as well. And I just wanna say I do not support lethal management of wolves. I do believe that coexistence is possible and we should above other methods that are lethal, we should encourage coexistence as much as possible. like many other speakers have said, wolves are very similar to us. They rely heavily on their, their family connections. They are very vulnerable to being over harvested and depleted. And we have populations out here in Alaska that have been severely depleted, in the interests of people. And it's about time that we consider other species as worthy, just like we do our own. And I really appreciate the chance to be able to speak all the way from Alaska and thanks so much for letting me speak.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Kathleen Presnell	Public	Yes	Bayfield County	my name is Kathleen Presnell. I reside in Bayfield County. just as a sidebar, I am also a delegate to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress. I do not speak for them. Um, just a [02:08:00] another sidebar. Um, I do not support the policy that was put forward by the district leadership council at their last meeting. that was made in support of the erroneous number of 350 wolves in Wisconsin. I think that the plan is actually really amazing considering how much had to be put together, how many people had be pulled into a circle to try and get some kind of, not necessarily consensus, but at least direction. So, kudos to all of you and thank you for this listening session. I also understand that the DNR cannot do anything about hounding. It is a part of state law. so there's no way to really argue that point. It is something that the legislation has to be changed. However, after reviewing the plan, my sense is that product C2H, that allows dog owners to train hounds for the wolf hunt after the deer hunt is redundant and disruptive to wildlife and it is not directed by state law. You don't have to do this. It doesn't have to be in there. I think it was kind of something that was given to the hounding community to make them feel a little bit better about losing their 350 wolf limit. Um, like again, I wanna say thank you very much for all of your efforts. I will look forward to the final draft and we'll support you always. Thank you.
John Ulferts	Public	No	Rockford, IL	Hello, my name is John Ulferts and I'm calling from Rockford, Illinois. Although my family owned land in Sawyer County in Hayward for 60 years, and I started teaching in Milwaukee. I'd like to recognize the WDNR staff and thank them for updating this wolf management plan, which is a significant improvement over the old one. As many people commented, like many Wisconsinite's concern with conservation, I'm particularly concerned about some of the cruel inhumane methods that have been legalized to hunt wolves. The use of dogs is not just cruel to wolves, it is also cruel to the dogs. And trapping should not be allowed, nor should night hunting and wolf contests. Wolf hunting contest are particularly repugnant. It is imperative that a healthy wolf population be maintained. Wolves are highly intelligent social animals, and the widespread killing of wolves can have a profound impact on their social dynamics and wellbeing. Much like the culling effects of behavior of elephant herds, wolves are a keystone species in North America. It's hard to imagine the North woods being truly wild without them. It would be like visiting the Serengeti without lions or hyenas. Much like Africa, the WDNR should consider the tourist money that can be brought into the state if wolf populations are allowed to grow. Tourists from around the world would pay top dollar to see wolves in the wild, much as they do at Yellowstone. The WDNR plan needs to give more consideration to how repugnant wolf hunting is to the Native American tribes who consider wolves to be their spiritual brothers. Wolves play an important role in Native American religion. How can we say we promote religious tolerance and freedom if we're allowed to desecrate one of the central animals to their religion? I applaud the WDNR for introducing buffer zones to reservations in this plan. I also fear that the liberal hunting plans will result in illegal poaching of wolves. Research has documented that this has happened in many states, including Wisconsin. In conclusion, we've worked so hard to reintroduce wolves in the wild. Nobody eats wolf meat. Trophy hunting of such a magnificent keystone species should be discouraged, not promoted. Wisconsin has much more to gain by keeping a healthy wolf population both ecologically and in tourist dollars than in promoting their slaughter by hunters. While Act 169 mandates a wolf hunting season, the WDNR must regulate it with an eye to preservation of a species, ensuring that inhumane techniques are that, that timing methods and quotas do not adversely impact the continuation of a sustainable population. Wisconsin will benefit far more from tourists like my family, anxious to explore your beautiful north woods, populated with a majestic wolf. Thank you.
Caleb Tydrick	Public	Yes	Milwaukee, WI	My name is Caleb Tydrick. I'm in Milwaukee County and I'd like to start by saying thank you to Randy and his team for drafting this great plan, and also to you, Ryan, for hosting this session. so I'd like to start off by saying Wolf conflict between both, especially humans and also livestock is smaller than many times made by the media, and it's also funded by state sponsored plans like the Wolf Degradation Fund. many times that takes precedent over non-consumptive measures like wildlife viewing by people like me who actually, unlike some people in this chat, do live in the state and have always lived here and recreated here. I'd also like to thank the tribal leaders for viewing, for stating their issues with the plan, as I believe they have an important place and are important stakeholders in our society. And I'd also like to state that as a resident of the state, the wolf holds a special place in my heart as well. And I think we can all agree that 2021 season was a pretty awful debacle and was not a good display from both the DNR and everybody involved. I think this plan will help prevent that in the future. I would like to see more effective buffer zones, ideally a functional DNR board, which I believe with the recent developments can happen. I think the ecological impact of having too many deer on the landscape can be seen in lots of parts of the state, especially parts of the state that I live in, in southern Wisconsin where some plant species have essentially been extirpated off of the landscape by deer. I'd also like to say that lethal measures are always, made most vocal by those who favor them. But many times non-lethal measures can be more effective in the long term. So I think that covers it. Thank you guys.
Linda Hiller Deppe	Public	Yes	Pewaukee, WI	It's Linda Hiller Deppe. I'm from Pewaukee, Wisconsin. I've lived in Wisconsin my whole life. I'd like to thank the DNR for this opportunity, for this meeting on the plan is very encouraging, very comprehensive, great improvement. so much work went into it is very thorough. with that, I did have a couple of thoughts. I do some writing, freelance writing, and so I do think that terminology matters. And because we have a new plan, a better plan, I wonder if it would be appropriate to have another name for it, such as Wolf Sustainability Plan, Wolf Inclusion Plan, Wolf Stewardship Plan, or Wolf Ecology Plan. Those are just some suggestions. the other terminology that continues to be troubling is the use of the euphemistic apologetic metaphorical word harvest. I think we should call it what it is. it's a wolf hunting season and there are take or kill rates. I think that's just more accurate and, and more transparent and more sensible. I'm wondering about the wolf caution areas, how the people could be incentivized not to enter those caution areas. maybe there could be some kind of tiered compensation for varying between family pets, bird dogs versus hunting hounds that are, that are put into the situation when it's a known conflict area. And, finally in the plan, under the section of costs and benefits. I was really impressed by this sentence. The wolf is viewed by many as a symbol of wildness and ecological integrity, and its recovery provides certain psychological benefits and spiritual wellbeing. I think that really holds true for a lot of people. I'm just glad that that was included and it is very meaningful for a lot of us. Thank you.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Judy Aughey	Public	Yes	Madison, WI	My name is Judy Aughey, and I'm from Madison, Wisconsin. And I too have been a lifelong Wisconsin resident. Um, I want to thank Randy for the opportunity to share our thoughts on the Wolf Management plan. I hope that you will all take this. I'm sorry. I hope that you will take all of our concerns and comments to heart. I was glad to see that the new plan acknowledged the positive ecological benefit of wolves on the landscape. However, there are still concerns that need to be addressed. I feel that the population of our Wisconsin wolves cannot be accurately estimated. Hound hunting and training in Wisconsin takes an unaccountable toll on our wolf population. Wolves move their spring pups to the rendezvous sites in mid-June. Pups at this time are only six to eight weeks old. Bear Hound training starts July 1st and runs through August 31st, and then the actual bear hunt starts shortly after. When hounds are run through the rendezvous sites, fights occur between the hounds and wolves while trying to protect their pups. How many wolves and pups are killed during this time that aren't reported? The same holds true during the bear hunting season. There isn't a wolf mortality count taken into consideration during this time. Hunters complain that their hounds are harmed or killed by wolves, yet they put them out there in harm's way. If they lose a hound to wolf or bear, they are compensated $2,500. Yet the wolf or bear's life is worth nothing. I say hound hunting and hound hunting training needs to stop. It should be illegal to run dogs on our wildlife to confront and kill them for a sport. How many wolves are being killed by hounds or their owners who will shoot them for attacking their dogs? Stop hounding in Wisconsin. It's barbaric and results in the killing of our wildlife. I say no to any wolf hunt in the future. And to quote the DNR mission statement, to protect and enhance our natural resources, our air, land, and water, our wildlife fish and forests, and the ecosystems that sustain all life. Thank you.
Neil Messerschmidt	Public	Yes	Edgerton, WI	My name is Neil Messerschmidt. I'm from Edgerton, Wisconsin. Keep this under two minutes unlike most. We are never going to know what the sustainable wolf harvest is until we have a regular season, which are based on the rise and fall of animals taken from year to year. That system worked for deer management. With that said, if over 600,000 deer hunters across all the seasons spanning four months only harvest approximately 25% of the 1.5 million deer in the state, how can anyone realistically think hunters took out 25% of the wolf population in two days during the 2022 hunt? Either wolves are the dumbest animal on four legs, or there are far more wolves than we are led to believe. It would seem that money is no object with the DNR when it comes to wolf management. So as an avid hunter, I would like to see the state actively pursuing the de-listing of wolves in the courts as opposed to waiting for the federal government to move on it. Once de-listing happens, schedule hunting and trapping seasons with a balanced allocation of harvest tags made available to accommodate callers, trappers, and hound hunters. Set the harvest goal at 29% of the estimated fall population of wolves yearly until the over winter population estimate nears the 350 animals, which was the social carrying capacity numbers sold to the public when the wolf free introduction got started. Lastly, I'd like to say that while hunting is considered cruel by many who don't, the harvesting of game by hunters rarely approaches the brutality which takes place when wolves kill deer. Once a deer is brought down the pack begins to devour it savagely. One bite at a time until it expires, which can range from several minutes to several hours or more. I challenge any wolf supporter to go online and after watching 30 minutes of videos of wolves taking down deer, see if you come away still feeling the same towards that animal. Thank you.
Bethany Holmes	Public	No	Ohio	Hello, my name is Bethany. I'm calling from Ohio, and I'm very concerned about the wolves in Wisconsin. The thing I will acknowledge in this speech is the lack of consideration for individual wolves and the health of the wolf population. There's a reason why the quote for the strength of the wolf is the pack and the strength of the pack is the wolf exists. If this plan does not consider wolves as individuals, the wolf population will not be healthy. This is where the amount of wolves killed is important. Sure, killing one wolf can be recorded as one wolf dead in terms of the wolf population, but that one wolf can affect how the pack functions. That one wolf's death could lead to more deaths in the wolf pack. And that was just one wolf. Imagine what it would be like if multiple wolves were killed. That would not be a healthy wolf population. So to maintain a healthy wolf population, you need healthy wolves. And to have healthy wolves, it is a wise idea to not kill the wolves and coexist with them instead. Not every problem needs to be solved with a bullet. That's all I have for my speech. Thank you for listening.
Steve Pearson	Public	Yes	Danbury, WI	I've lived in Wolf Country on wooded acreage for the past 44 years, and I've watched the wolf population grow as a result of the protections of the Endangered Species Act. I raised two children here and now I have two grandchildren living nearby. It's a good day when I see evidence of wolves, which I often do when winter camping on the St. Croix River near my home and on occasion on our property. It should be noted that not one human life has been lost to a wild wolf in the lower 48 states in the last 50 years compared to the 44 people killed by dogs in the US in a recent year alone. The new draft plan, for the most part, does what I hoped it would. It's science-based. It's allowed for considerable public input, and it's the result of a collaborative process with the tribes. I appreciate the hard work of all involved. Some of the things I like include the removal of the numeric population goal, which was arbitrary, not based on the best available science. I like that the plan creates low quota zones around tribal lands where the tribes requested it. It's good to see that the plan reflects public opinion and was released along with a plan that showed opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable toward wolves. And I like the strong commitment to science and continued research on wolves. Things I would change. Hounds chasing wolves for months is inhumane to both species as well as other species they encounter. I'm against using dogs to hunt wolves. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season across the entire state until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter and break up well-established packs. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts. But I do recognize that sometimes lethal means must be employed. Farmers should be able to protect their farm animals using lethal means if necessary, and should be compensated for their losses. Having said that, I hope we never see a repeat of the wolf slaughter of 2021. Thank you very much for your time.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Gloriann Klein	Public	Yes	Milwauke, WI	My name is Gloriann Klein. I'm from Milwaukee County. I have worked with wolves and observed wolves since 1988 for hundreds of hours so I speak from experience. I've also been a Wisconsin Wolf stakeholder and I have been involved in wolf issues for the last few decades. I, first of all, would like to compliment the DNR on the current draft wolf management plan. It has come a long way, and it has showed the willingness to grow since the 1999 plan. I'd also like to commend them on eliminating the numeric goal of 350. Again, wolf, we have learned a lot about wolves, and we have also learned that wolves can exist beyond just wilderness areas. We have learned that we need to adapt, and wolves can also adapt to not only wilderness areas, but rural areas and as they're coming and growing their population. So the focus on sustainability is a good thing. I also wanna commend them on the inclusion of tribal perspectives and cultural, the necessity of including that is with the Native American. We have 11 tribes and they've been consulted with and they're being included, and that's important. it's imperative that we continue to use the best available science and also sound biological principles. Regarding some of the more specific issues with the hound hunting, I've been a vocal opponent of hound hunting, because it has been proven to alter wolf behavior. Hound hunting is not necessary. And so we've been proven that it's not needed to meet the quota. I also just wanted to say I echo the Wisconsin Green Fire recommendations and thank you for letting me speak tonight.
Jean Voss	Public	Yes	Pleasant Springs, WI	Okay. Thank you. My name is Jean Voss. I'm calling from the town of Pleasant Springs in Wisconsin. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Wolf Management draft acknowledges that wolves are attracted to bear baits. That is a problem. Wisconsin law states that baits toxic to wolves, are illegal when used during a wolf hunt, yet the DNR does not prohibit the use of bear bait toxic tools, during the off season. This is an extreme contradiction and should be seriously addressed in the finalized wolf management plan. No bait toxic to wolves in our state's forest during any time of the year should be allowed. Please incorporate a ban on chocolate and xylitol products year round to prevent unnecessary toxicosis in wolves and other wildlife. Thank you.
Lois Lehmann	Public	Yes	Madison, WI	Yes, thank you. I am Lois Lehmann, lifelong resident of Madison, Wisconsin. And the work that I have done around wolves and other wildlife was not sitting on a sofa. Pardon me for that, but I had to say it. I want to quote Jim Brandenburg. “The cornerstone of ecology is that all creatures are dependent on each other. A deer, for example, has died in the fall. Ravens, eagles, coyotes, fishers, martins, chickadees, and the wolves have eaten. The long winter sets in and spring arrives. The mice, voles, insects and microbes turn what is left of the carcass into new life. The enriched soil pushes up new growth that will one day be eaten by the deer, which will itself be eaten.” Page 129 of Jim Brandon Berg's book. All species matter and I couldn't help but note there is no want and waste as in killing contests. Thank you very much for the plan developers. I very much appreciate it and read all. I want to commend them for their courage to hang onto maintain the non-numerical population goal even after the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Leadership Council- I do not support the current law 169 and I want to see legislative changes, um, and also to remove dogs or hounds from national forest land, which creates pressure on not only the wolves, but other wildlife as well. Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak, and I will send my comments in to the plan developers for further consideration.
Logan Huse	Public	Yes	Portage County	Sure thing. Good evening. Uh, my name is Logan Huse from Portage County. Uh, but currently I'm on the beach in California. I'm only joking, first off, I just wanna say, yeah, great job to all the DNR folks that worked on this plan. like many people said, it's a significant improvement from 1999 plan by adopting the current scientific evidence, but there are a few things that I would like added into the plan. one being, since a common misconception with wolves is that they decimate the deer herds, we need a clear outline of what the deer carrying capacity is in each county or region based off forest health, browse availability and average adult deer weight, because according to Donald Waller, who is a botany professor from the University of Wisconsin Madison, who published a paper in 2015, found that the forest health in northern Wisconsin has been severely degraded by the overabundance of deer. So having that just clearly outlined, perhaps like in the appendices of the plan would be great just to have that data available. two. the wolf hunt should really only be concentrated in areas where livestock depredation events have exceeded acceptable levels rather than a general statewide hunt. Why are we killing wolves in areas where they're not causing a problem? I don't think that's really proper management. in regards to the overhunting and poaching, if over harvest occurs, the number of wolves that exceeded the quota should be removed from the following hunt season. Same goes for poaching. Any wolf that's discovered throughout the year that was deemed poached shall be removed from the following quota. For example, if the quota is a hundred wolves this year and we kill 120, while an additional 20 wolves were found to be poached throughout the year, and the following hunt quota is a hundred, we should subtract the 20 over harvest and the 20 poached from the next season, giving us 60 tags rather than the full hundred again. That's all I have. Thank you

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Patricia Pesko	Public	Yes	Rice Lake, WI	My name is Patricia Pesko and I live in Rice Lake, Wisconsin. this plan has many components that are much appreciated and I feel needed. I appreciate the fact that this plan is focused on the ecological benefits of wolves, namely, keeping ecosystems healthy. They're a keystone species. They keep deer, elk populations in check, which can benefit many other animals species. I also thought it was great to include low quota zones around tribal lands. These lands are treaty protected with documented wolf packs. I feel the plan should expand these zones beyond the few listed, I support a plan to remove the numeric population goals, which ensures the numbers of wolves are adaptable so they can be based on the best available science and ecological changes. I feel that the population, the wolf population, you mentioned public opinion. I feel that the public opinion is positive towards the wolves and talking to people in my area, there are many, many who I feel appreciate them and value them as opposed to hunting them. There are things that I'd like to have changed. the plan needs to prioritize opportunities for responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts. There should be no dollars paid for hound loss. I also would like to see added if there is going to be hound hunting, then the DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. They should close wolf focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes rather than until the very last wolf zone is closed. Um, I noticed there's no plan for the next review, and that's really important. There should be a plan to regularly update, including a science committee. And then one final thing. I am in favor of increasing protections for wolves. I very much oppose the hunting with dogs. I oppose night hunting and trapping. So, thank you.
Chuck Raykovich	Public	Yes	Chippewa County	Chuck Raykovich, Chippewa County, Wisconsin. 70 years old, I grew up in Wisconsin. As a kid ran through the woods whenever we wanted to. We never had such a thing as a Wolf Depredation report. And all of all, I'd like to ask everybody that's on this forum, everybody that's watching, listening or whatever, please go and look at the DNR's Wolf Depredation report and don't, just go back to this year. Go back for 10, 12 years. And I, the other thing I would like to see, I'd like to see the DNR make that depredation report a lot more I guess, friendly to people that aren't real good on computers to find. You have to work to find it, but I think if, people would take a look at the Wolf Depredation report going back a dozen years, I think there'd be some eyes opened up. And that's all I gotta say. Thank you guys.
Jessica	Public	No	Connecticut	Okay. So I am definitely a calf searching wolf activist from Connecticut. I'm gonna focus on the wolf hounding. If the state's gonna hand out $2,500, in my opinion, of misappropriated funds, which is equaling up to 2.3 million to date, to irresponsible wolf hounders, they might as well pass out participation awards to hunters who use household pets for all the hard work. I'm gonna focus on two fundamental facts. Dog fighting is a felony in all 50 states. This also falls under the Animal Welfare Act, which includes abuse for profit. Allowing untrained household pets to partake in such deadly activities is no different, and the state is allowing brutal, glorified dog fighting. Number two, humans have killed humans for much less than $2,500. So it's no surprise that the same human species will exploit domesticated dogs for the same means, especially when there's a possibility of financial gain. Hound hunting is animal abuse. The pet owners of these hounds are the abusers. Thank you for taking my comments.
Garrett Laskowski	Public	Yes	Chippewa County	Hi, this is Garrett Laskowski and I'm calling from Chippewa County. this plan and the methods and studies, it is based upon as full of holes and contradictions, the largest of them being that wolves don't affect the deer population. The plan suggests there are remarkable cost savings of having wolves because it reduces the amount of car collisions. Yet the study proves the relationship. The wolves can be used as a population control tool. How can that work? 34% of elk mortalities in the northern herd were due to wolf kills, particularly in 2009 to 2015, yet they don't impact the deer herd? The plan cited a study that said wolves were not identified as a predator in any fawn mortality. In the northern area, unidentified predators were 37% of mortalities, and in the Eastern zone that 60% were due to coyotes. Coyotes prefer fawns, but wolves don't? We know they consume 17 to 25 deer per year. What is sad about all this is that the DNR is using narrow, misleading information and adhering to people uneducated on this topic that don't live in wolf territory. To simply summarize the survey as most citizens want wolves in Wisconsin is a gross mischaracterization of those results. Those on the call that live in Wolf Range and are outdoors men and women already know this, and it is clearly represented in the survey. But those that don't live in the territory rely on the DNR to give them accurate information in which the DNR has failed miserably. The studies cited are not thorough and don't address all the variables. The DNR needs to rectify this by giving more weight to those that live in wolf territory. This affects their livelihood, whether it's directly through depredation or the indirect costs like the loss of small businesses and tourism due to the diminished deer herd. Someone from Kentucky or from their office in Madison should not have a say like land owners in wolf territory. Perhaps as a good non-lethal method of control, we should transport these wolves to Madison, Kentucky, California, Ohio, or Illinois, where they all want them. Our northern citizens' livelihood should not be jeopardized by others who don't live there and by an agency that does not provide quality information. This plan is a sham and a joke.
Dan Laskowski	Public	Yes	Pulaski, WI	Okay. I do not support the Wolf plan as there are many flaws in it. What we need to do is start working together as a team instead of ignoring the issues with, of the ever increasing wolf population in order for a wolf management plan to be successful. All elected officials who include our legislators need to be involved and should be pushing for a sound wolf management plan. Wisconsin should seize the opportunity to be an example for all of the wolf inhabited states by having a plan that has a wolf population that is grounded in reality and not as not at the expense of the citizens. Wisconsin has well surpassed the federal requirements to have them delisted as an endangered species. So the state should be focusing their effort on getting them delisted so that they can manage them appropriately. If you were to ask me what I think the number of wolves should be in the state, I would tell you zero. Because I have been an avid deer hunter in the northern most part of Wisconsin and have been a landowner in Bayfield County for the past 28 years. My opinion is one extreme and is very selfish and irresponsible one at that. And if you were to talk to the anti hunters, which is the majority speaking tonight, you would get that no wolves should be harmed, which is the other extreme and also a very selfish and irresponsible opinion. The difference is I get and understand that there is a need for the wolf, but it needs to be managed like all other natural resources, which the antis will never agree with. The wolf and the deer are both a natural resource and the DNR cannot continue to sacrifice one natural resource for another. For the DNR to say that they do not want to have a wolf population goal is very irresponsible and goes against every natural resource they currently manage. DNR uses population goals to manage fish, deer, bear, et cetera. How can they throw that out the window for wolf management. That is ridiculous. I hope that with the new DNR Secretary, we'll see a change in how Wolf management program progresses so that the public does not get biased data from the agency or other special interest groups trying to sway the public, especially for those who did not hunt, or not aware of truly how many wolves are out there. I have learned one thing over the years. Figures lie and liars figure. So let's do

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
				what's right and become a leader and manage this national resource properly and responsibly. It's not surprising that majority of the wolf lovers is commenting tonight, live in the southern part of the state where there are no wolves. The amount of surveys sent to each area should be proportional to where the wolves reside. Thank you.
Elaine Swanson	Public	Yes	Pickett, WI	Sure. we live in rural Pickett east Central Wisconsin. thank you for allowing additional discussion about the Wolf plan. I speak from the viewpoint, not of a scientist or a carnivore specialist, but as a naturalist and I strongly object to hunting practices that inflict fear and pain under the name of sporting heritage. I am very concerned about the in recent news of shootings at a high school in the Midwest revealed the shooter had a history of torturing wildlife. Children learn from a young age maybe sharing space with pets or creating habitat for wild species. They learn that non-human animals experience fear and pain just as we do. Studies have shown that cruelty to animals is often a warning of more violence to come. I'd like to see the updated wolf plan reflect not merely tolerance, but respect and reverence for wolves, and a recognition of their superior ability to regulate their own numbers. I support only non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts. I'd like to see greater wolf protections, not biased privileges for hunters. I feel that experts in the field and peer-reviewed research should be the overwhelming guide for a model wolf plan. Mental health within our society should be everyone's responsibility. Thank you for considering these comments.
Rick Shroyer	Public	Yes	Abrams, WI	Rick Schroer from Abrams, Wisconsin. several things that I don't agree with the new wolf plan here. Just gonna go down as a bullet point, with the two minutes that we have. let's start with the buffer zone. You know, I personally, I don't believe in the buffer zone. I think it's ridiculous if I own land right outside the reservation line, what's good for someone 10 miles away should be good for me as well. I personally wish all the wolves lived on the reservation, but you know, they don't understand the boundary lines either. the population goal, how do we not have a population number? How do we manage to something with no goal or no number as a goal? Every other animal that we manage has a population goal but the wolf is just special. I hear a lot of comments on here tonight about the wolf's feelings. Well, how about the other animal's feelings? You know, I hear that the wolf is the spiritual brother of some people. Well, maybe the whitetail deer is my spiritual brother, and the wolves are eating my brothers. We have to get out of this ridiculous mindset and look at it as a realistic thing. It every animal needs to be managed. I question the economic impact. You know, more wolves in Northern Wisconsin equals more, less deer. Less deer equals less hunters. If people aren't coming up and spending their money in these small towns, I think that that's really gonna, have an impact. And I guess lastly, I'd like to just mention my own personal opinion. I could care less what somebody from California, Utah, Illinois, whatever thinks about this, I think the marriage should put, be put on the people who live in the wolf zones and have to deal with it. The wolf is a beautiful animal. There is a place for it, but like everything, it needs to be managed. Thank you for your time. That's all I got.
Mark Silverman	Wisconsin Animal Protection Society	Yes	Milwaukee, WI	Thank you very much. this is Mark Silverman from Milwaukee. I'm the president of the Wisconsin Animal Protection Society. We're a nonprofit organization that's been around since the early nineties, and I didn't know about the star six way to unmute on my phone before, and so I've switched over to a different device that worked. So thank you very much and thank you for spending a considerable time and effort to create such a comprehensive plan. As the Humane Society of United States suggests in their comments, we feel the plan should include a provision that it be updated at least every five to 10 years. Initially, we must point out that the Wisconsin Animal Protection Society opposes the intentional killing of wildlife by humans. Population control is no more justification for killing wolves than it would be for killing humans. We're concerned with the use of the word harvest, not just by DNR, but we see that that's become very popular as a way to refer to the killing of wild animals. we wish that the plan would be ethics driven, in addition to its being science driven, and that the DNR would recommend that the state law be changed so it does not require a wolf hunting season when gray wolves are delisted from the endangered Species Act. With regard to trapping. Trapping is an inherently violent practice. Traps that are used, including body gripping traps, are inhumane devices that inflict great pain and suffering. In a letter to Congress, Dr. Colin Wolf, who is a board-certified veterinary surgeon, quote, the undeniable truth is that these bone crushing devices are inherently indiscriminate and inhumane. We encourage the DNR'S exploration of additional funding options as the plan suggests in product B four D to prevent the need to prorate wolf damage claims. Additionally, the DNR should explore the request for donations from conservationists who oppose hunting. This could be similar to the sale of endangered resources license plate. Alternative funding option could lessen the reliance upon funding from the sale of wolf hunting licenses and permits. In other words, instead of a license to kill, will be a licensed to save. While we appreciate the plan to reference to the pursuit of administrative rules to limit the time period within which dogs may be trained for wolf hunting activities. My last sentence is that we wish the department would pursue regulations, rules prohibiting the use of dogs to hunt wolves. Again, thank you very much and we really like the long-term stewardship and sustainable management approach. And thank you very much for your time.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Comment
Scott McAuley	Public	Yes	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	Okay. Scott McCarley, Wisconsin Rapids. with this plan, I agree with the Wildlife Federation, the Bow Hunters, and the Wisconsin Trappers Board of Directors, that there's more, more needed to be done. But myself, I don't like the 350 number going away. We don't think the public is ready for that when you're only trying to manage a thousand, 2000 animals. it's just not good enough. I mean, with the CDAC stuff, with the county deer committees, I mean, we're working with thousands of deer and nobody ever agrees whether we should go up or down with the goals anyway. But, with wolves, some of the comments have been, I just don't think trying to manage that small of a population with the adaptive management goal is gonna work. but they're always saying that you shoot some wolves, you chase some wolves, and the pack is, goes to heck. Well, they did a, what was her name? Ellen Hyhickler? Hiheckler? grad student years ago, did a study on pups survival in Wisconsin. Half the pups out every pack that year died before they reached one year old. And one of the comments was a third of the adults die every year. So those, the packs are in the constant flux, you know, they're never stable. So that's about all I have. Thank you very much for letting me talk and finding a way to get me in here. Thank you.
Mike Robers	Public	Yes	Exeland, WI	Okay, thank you. my name's Mike Robers. I'm from Sawyer County. Exeland, Wisconsin. I'd like to talk about, about the depredation. I'm kind of disappointed in the lack of the fact that we're not going after a number goal. How do you know where you're headed if you don't have some kind of a goal out there? Our particular farm in 2021 had a cow killed not more than 30 feet from our dairy barn. And there's tracks just outside our calf hutches, had wolves on our silage bags four different times during that year. And to see wolf tracks almost every day within a hundred yards of our barn is getting to be a little bit nerve wracking. Also, in the last two years, we've had two beef cows and three calves confirmed, a numerous killed suspect by wolves within a 20 mile radius of our farm. Another farmer has also had wolves tearing into his feed bags as well. I also sit on the CDAC committee, and probably the biggest complaint on that is the deer herd. The biggest complaint on the CDAC committee is that the deer herd is in depredation by wolves and bear. It's nothing to, for us to find at least a dozen deer carcasses in our fields every spring. The next biggest complaint in Sawyer County is the lack of deer and the wolves. I think a person's way of making a living should rate high on the list of the priorities on wolves. I also don't think, or I also don't know how it's physically and financially possible to fence all the grazing and pasturing areas that cattle are in and keep the wolves out. And that's extent of my comments. Thank you very much.

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Pat Quaintance	President Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	Yes	Bayfield Co.	Pat - I live by the Echo Valley Pack on [redacted] and so far the Echo Valley pack has split down into three different packs. There's a pack east of [redacted] then there's the Echo Valley pack, and then there's another pack it runs all the way over, so there's three different packs or, but they're kind of cool, man. The way it looks. They're all kind of one, but they're supposedly separate. So I don't know how to relate to that. I got tons of pictures where the wolves are within 50 yards. My house, my son's house. I'm constantly getting them coming through. Within a hundred yards of the house. West of me, there's a guy that's got horses. Last year, not just last year, the year before he lost five horses. farm to the south of me, two years ago they lost five horses. And this last year they can't account for two calves. Place to the north of me. The farm there, they lost five calves two years ago, and this last year they lost three. So there's quite a bit of depredation right in and amongst my house. But then if you go even further to the east, there's been some problems there also. I don't know exactly how many, animals they've lost there. But they've had quite a bit of problems. The Echo Valley pack did kill one hound here a couple years ago. Why I'm kind of referring to this is because this whole area is considered a subzone. Put this in the wolf management plan. Um, at one time it was supposed to be a six mile buffer zone. Well, this buffer zone extends, I would say probably almost 17 to 18 miles from the reservation. The one that's in the wolf management plan, the one that's coming out. So I explained a little bit about this buffer zone. And what happens with this buffer zone is that there's a total of four reservations that have this buffer zone that they're gonna be putting, that they wanna implement. They're gonna issue five tags for all five of those buffer zones. When those five wolves are killed, shuts down the season for those buffer zones. Okay? If they have problems with depredation, then Wildlife Services can come in and take care of the problem. That's how they're gonna work this. But once they shut down that season, I own 200 acres, right amongst this is buffer. So they're not gonna allow me to hunt a trap wolves from my land. It's gonna be shut down. Cause those five tags, doesn't matter what reservation or where those wolves are killed. Once those five are dead, that's it. Okay? So unless they have depredation, they're gonna call in Wildlife services and take care of the wolves. I disagree with that in a lot of ways cause it's, you know, they're taking my private property rights away or they're not allowing for me to hunt or trap a wolf. They're gonna allow Wildlife Services to take care of this and I disagree with that. We gotta end up for that too. So there's some discrepancies among this. but this is part of, we've had Randy Johnson came to one of our board directors gave us the spill on wolves, I definitely express my dissatisfaction about the subzones. and it is it's kinda and iffy type thing. So I don't know what's gonna happen with this. All we could do is we have until February 28th. Go ahead. Go ahead and express our concerns with this wolf management plan. also, they're not gonna have no numberic numbers like we've all talked about for years. The 350 or less, they're not gonna have that with this management plan. So there's a lot of concerns with this, but right now the biggest thing that we're trying to do, Tom Tiffany's got a bill to try to eliminate the judicial process, the pro-expansionist took us to court to put wolves back on the endangered species list. And we wanna end that so we can have a season be managed by the state. So, that's some of the things that are happening right now. That's gonna go, God only knows. But in the meantime, I heard this, that the new Wolf National Plan is not gonna be coming in front of the Natural, Resources Board until May of '24. According to Randy Johnson, they gotta look at all the comments, periods and cypher through all all this, and hopefully some things change, but god only knows if that's gonna happen. But I know I'm not gonna sit back and, and just, you know, allow them to take my property rights away from the end and not be able to hunt and trap my own land. You know, right now the tribes, the Red Cliff band is we trying to trap wolves 365 days outta the year. And they got a number of collared wolves. In fact, we got more wolves collared on in my area there than they do the whole state. I know they had, they just obtained number eight collars put 'em on these GPS collars so you can sit on your computer and watch where they so on. I'm. I'm not standing up here saying I want all the wolves to be eradicated. I don't want that at all. And everybody that I've talked to, everybody doesn't wanna see that happen either. But we need to, we need to get the, wolves managed. we need to do it in a way that everybody's more content about what this wold management plan is.
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	When it comes to these judges that are stopping this process of the species, is there any way that could be regulated? The point where only judges from the state that they're like, we've got a California judge, we've had Michigan Judge a stop. Is that correct?
Laurie Groskopf	Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	Yes	Lincoln Co.	I think, the shame if we put that in our statement from the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, that they should rely more on collar wolves for data. I feel as a tracker. You know, I go out and track 30, 60 miles and I don't see a wolf track anywhere. That doesn't mean they aren't there. Anybody who's a hound hunter knows exactly what that's all about. So that's how that happened. The count too, keep in mind that we're, we're measuring this at the lowest point of its population. This does not include lone wolves and dispersers and it does not include the young that are gonna be born in another month or two each year. So that raises the population quite a bit, Thats also not pups that were born last spring. Cause I got into an argument with, and I proved using their numbers, they want go to 350, that we actually had 700 on ground at that time. And I asked Adrian the number of questions about all the study and how they come up with that number that was on the ground at that time
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Using DNR numbers, putting it together, we proved right in that meeting that there were 700 wolves on the ground not coming the pups born the year of, that's how bad the DNR is at counting. When we've had guys, Walk and actually track for 'em, they discounted all the tracks. I've called Adrian on that. Jeff, you're as known about it. They did the same thing as if we don't know what Wolf tracks are.I'm not gonna talk anymore about this, but I just wanted to get that clear that they lie about that number because they say it's a minimal count and that's how they get by with it. Thank you.
Mike	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	So not necessarily looking for questions. This is just some of my feelings about this. The draft management plan, so read through it again. It's 178 pages. It really feels like expansion plan. Nothing in there really talks about population control. Its open-ended, no numerical goal.

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				The Wolf Advisory Committee that met on this, last realm you know, pretty much every, outdoor, hunting, fishing group, agriculture group requested, demanded, a numeric population 350 to be back. back on the tribes and the, the expansionist groups. They fought, matter of fact you know, they asked for. You know, the top three issues are important to every organization in many 350 Wildlife Federation are right off the bat choose another top three or try to find ways to get us to move off of that stance. So that's a big concern. Mine mentioned earlier about sub zones. you know its really unequal treatment. You know, everybody deserves opportunity to harvest the wolf off their own property if their tags available. And limiting the amount tags there, I feel it's unequal treatment, unequal opportunities and, personally that's illegal. Some, the survey data in there, it really felt biased. You know, they didn't come to Solon Springs and ask these questions. They mailed it out all over the place. And, you know, just cause a person has a piece of property or a PO box or mailbox up in the territory doesn't mean, they're necessarily affected by wolves. If they're, you know, driving back and forth from S. Wi or, they keep themselves out the woods. I mean, they're not gonna experience it. Tracking was talked about, tracking you at the tracking zones. The entire area isn't track and the areas that are clearly under tracked. You and I understand together the minimum over winter count. It's just that it's, it's minimal. We know it's much, much higher. You know, talking to, the DNR themselves, they understand that as well. But the minimums is the number tracks get right percentage on that or, try to get some sort of realistic number off of there. But I haven't had success with that. Conflict management, so reading through plan, they talk about, you know, contract, like payment methods and, and they really focus on cattle, which is great. There's nothing in there that, that I find really for conflict management on hunting dogs, I run hounds. You know, we've had hounds murdered, I dunno else to say, I mean, just murdered by wolves. There's nothing in there addressing that. I'm a landowner. I should be able to use public land in any, you know, legal hunting method, and be able to do without, you know, fear of, of losing or having a dog injured. So there's really nothing I saw in there that addressed, you know, management or conflict management in there. Or even, you know, packs that are habitual murders. Taking care of those problems. Depredation alerts; so I'm not sure how many get the alerts. I get'em, you knows they put a 4mi buffer around hound depredations. We primarily have private properties around farmland. We've got great network of landowners and, you know, lot of ideal farms. I don't understand why there's not similar alerts out there and when cattle are killed or harassed be available for all of us. Cause you know, I don't wanna put my dog where there's been livestock killed. I don't wanna put one near where cows been killed. So, I really, that whole process needs to be improved. That's pretty much all we know. So, you encourage everybody, make sure you check out the new zone maps. They're in the back leave on the side of the room here. You'll see those little sub zones and you know, but you know of 'em around private areas. Feels like, management in those areas given to the tribes not property. So thank you.
Corky Meyer	Past Wisconsin Wildlife Federation President	Yes	Douglas Co.	I'm Corky, past president of the federation. I've got something they call the central Tremors, so I'm not afraid to talk to people. I encourage you to talk. I made a trip, 5 hours plus to get here. I'm thrilled to see that this group of people, and I'm gonna say you're mostly locals I've been to wolf meetings since the eighties. They used to be called wolf stakeholders meetings. No I didn't hold the stakes. So, I encourage you, please tell your stories. I've been telling stories. I live in Washington Co. I was told that, oh that's Milwaukee. No it aint. I got 20 acres next to the Kettle Marine, Northern State Forest. I'm surrounded by farms. And guess what the said? The DNR said they no wolves out there. Well, I'm sorry. I called, I seen it. I've got coyote buddies that have seen wolves. People aren't calling in down there. Why? Because they say wolves don't exist down there. It's not the territory. There's wolves in Jefferson County, Manitowoc County, Ozakee County, Shaboygan County. They're around me. I can almost reach and touch Sheboygan and Fond Du Lac from where I live, but there's no wolves down there. Were told that no, its coyotes. No, it's, I'm sorry. I've been in the woods for, I'd say a couple years. My pa started me when I was about this big. I'm up here to listen to you. I've listened to enough stories. That's the politest way I can say it. I can say from people in Milwaukee that have the Disneyland dream, that the, pbs, that wolves should be everywhere so we can go and see them. You ever see the pictures of the tourists that go to Yellowstone and wanna pet the buffalo? Okay. We have, and by the chuckled. We're of a different group. What I see here today, I haven't seen in one place. It's a trip for you all to go to some of these. You've got cattle to feed, you've got business up here, and like I said, it's a five and half hour trip for me, but I can make it. Glad to, glad come up here just to see you and to let you know we're in it with you. Were here to support you. A lady ive know today that I've known since she was this big, she lives in an area that's not wolf country, but she sees em too. and these are the stories that we're looking for from you. Yeah, I got stories as my granddaughters and friends say, get a campfire going in court you'll talk all night old. This is your opportunity, I guarantee you. And if I can get up front and sound like a great school kid, afraid that the class laugh, there's nobody gonna laugh. We want your input, the Departments got that microscope look. They budget concerns, they got all the excuses, but as I heard the math don't work. You can get a grade school kid to say 250 packs. Okay? Four pups per pack. Okay, that's a thousand. So why did the population only go up by a hundred? A hundred? What's the answer you get? Well, some of them will die. That's true. Some of them will die. They worry about us and our dogs not being vaccinated. Dogs have to be vaccinated by law. Well wait a minute. Dogs is a canine right? Wolves are a canine. The law says I have to vaccinate. But all these wild wolves that aren't vaccinated don't spread disease. There's a lot of misinformation. What we came here for today is to get your first hand stories. Now I'm gonna hand out the mic and go hide in the corner and shake some more. So do you feel vibrations, don't worry its not an earthquake.
Hazel McClaire	N/A	Yes	Mellen, WI	Hi, I'm Hazel McCalire, Mellen, Wisconsin. So, we have a bit of a trek up here today too. Um, not as far as he came, thank God. We used to raise, I say used to, because our pack was killed off. We went to our grandson's football game. The dogs all safely in the kennel and when we came home, the pack was gone. The wolf had come in and dug under the kennel. And chased all the dogs into woods. We hunted for days and days and days and days.

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				Fortunately, three of the females got to a home somewhere near where they had been chased, but the leader of our pack was killed and never seen or heard from again. I'm sure he bet the young. They were pets, but they also were taken to no-kill hunts around the area, to chase rabbits. And they got, points for how well they tracked the rabbit without losing them and how well they would stay on that track and so forth. It was a great time to go with them. They enjoyed it. We enjoyed it. We traveled all over the Midwest to these hunts. We went to, some/one out east, and to come home and find our kennel just totally decimated. Just not only heartbreaking, but it really made me angry. And our pack leader never came back. Like I said, fortunately, some of 'em did get to a neighbor's house and they were rescued there, and he brought them back the next day in the back of his truck. But without the pack leader, you don't have a pack. You got a bunch of dogs, but you don't have a pack. So I took one of the dogs with me and we went out to look for our pack leader because we didn't know if he was dead or if he was somewhere in woods yet or where. And while I was out with one, one of the other dogs, suddenly this huge animal came and started circling us. There was no question in my mind what it was. It was a wolf. And he was certainly mean. He was certainly mean. I sang every song I could think of from grade school through high school and into college to keep that wolf far enough away from me knowing that I was a human and not another critter, that he was going to take down easily. Finally my husband came in the woods and found me and the dog I had with me trying to track the other one. But we never ever found the pack leader. Rudy (pack leader) was a hero. He saved the rest of the pack, but they never, ever hunted again. Never. Thank you.
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	I want to bring up a few things before I talk. At the end of the season in Feb. I think the quota was hundred, right around a hundred? In around hundred 36 hours. They doubled the quota killed 219 wolves. Anybody here who has any mathematical ability at all, which I know what percentage of the entire estimated population is that, of the whole state that they killed in 36 hours? That'll show you how far off the numbers are. I got a letter, I think it was about a year ago from the DNR. Some of you probably got it. It said 52 wolves have been found dead in Wisconsin, they knew 36 had been killed by humans. Eight or nine there was no known cause of death. There was two road kills. I've asked a lot of people that come into my taxidermy shop, what percentage of wolves that get killed in this state, do you think they would actually end up finding? Nobody thinks they could find even 10%. They found 52 dead. If that was 10%, that means 500 got killed. You know what this country is like? What are the odds you're gonna find in that wolf that somebody killed? Not very high. So, there's something wrong with, those numbers. Anyway, I've been taxidermist in Douglas Co. for 40 years and I started hunting here in 73. In 73, 4 people had to apply for party tag and you're lucky to get it. We had way more deer in our area than we do now. For the last 11 years, you haven't been able to shoot a doe with a bow, far as I know this the first time in the history of the state of Wisconsin, 11 years ago, you couldn't take a doe with a bow. Why? Wolves are the only reason why, unless you have applied for and got a doe permit. So, in my business, I would average 65 deer a year that I would do, bucks. Almost all of them came from Douglas County. The biggest one I ever did was 204 inches. Quite a few, 180s, 170s, lots of 160s inch deer. Fantastic genetics here. Now most of the deer that I get in are not from Douglas County. I'm getting old, 68 years old this spring, and I've turned away a lot of work. But I did take in 63, two falls ago. I'll never do that again. Most of them are from Missouri and Kansas and Iowa and Southern Wisconsin counties. The bucks I get in from up here now, are quite young. I haven't had, I used to get in a lot of old bucks every year. I always age 'em so people know what age is. I very seldom have old deer anymore. Most of the deer that from this area I'm in, are small deer people would've never wanted a years ago. 24 years ago, I saw my first wolf tracks behind where I lived, which was unbelievable deer hunting land, it was paradise. I'd never seen Wolf tracks before, but I knew what they were, right away. I trapped all my life. Well, they happened in impact. They're two miles behind my house. By the third year where it had been in Paradise in deer hunting it was gone. And I asked Greg Kessler about it. I told him, he said, if you live in an area where wolves are in, he said, you're pretty much screwed. They clean out. By the third year, they clean up 12 square mile area and then they moved now. A federal Trapper told me, well, don’t no worry. He said, when your deer started coming back, they'll move back in. And they did move back in and they wiped them out again. Since then, we have never had what we had. It's just, it's just, and now, this year my neighbor behind me has 145 acres of the best deer hunting land A lot of it is, oak we had a mammoth oak crop last year. Him and two of his kids hunted every day of the season. They never saw one deer. Now his relatives own 240 across the road. They never saw any deer there, there’s hardly any tracks. I own some land in Bennett and every year I would get pictures of record book bucks, so 11 falls ago, I had five bucks that were the best year I ever had for bucks. I dunno where they all came from. The next year, they were all gone. I haven't had one record book buck picture in 11 years, and I run 18 cameras on 80 acres with four acres of the only fields are out every year that comes in there. And I don’t get any pictures anymore. When I was in my business, I would have customers come in, with the same story that I have that we would see two, three and half year olds that survived to the late bow season, those are gonna be, you know, pope and young, beautiful bucks next year. Every year they're gone. Those three-and-a-half-year old’s aren't there. I have so many people who tell me that three-and-a-half-year-old, that's his home turf. He should be there the next year. They're being killed. One of our managers told me one year, if hunters knew how many trophy bucks that, wolves killed in the rut, they’d kill every wolf they see. Here's, a few statistics that worry me. If I remember right, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming had a total estimate of 1600 wolves when they delisted them and started managing. That could be off, but I think it's 1600. Right now, Idaho has a $2,500 bounty area. A $2000 Bounty area, a $1000 Bounty area and a $500 bounty area on wolves. Idaho is a fantastic example of what good, successful Wildlife game management could accomplish. Wiped out Northern Idaho is wiped out of Elk and Mule Deer. Outfitters had to leave the area. But here's the thing. Today, Wyoming has 314 estimated wolves in 40 packs. Montana has an estimated 1,100. Idaho has an estimated 1,270. That's 2,684 estimated wolves. How long have they been hunting them? They have bounty areas in Idaho. The population is a thousand more than when it started. What's gonna happen to us here? It takes an incredible effort to control a wolf population. These estimates, in Minnesota, they're estimating, I think it's 2,700 wolves, and they don't count wolves in

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				Minnesota until they make, until their second year. They're not counting juveniles. I had a guy come in, they hunt up in Minnesota. There's two groups up north of two harbors. Between the two of them, they own 500 acres. Land one's 300 and some, ones 200 and some. 12 guys hunting, none of them saw a deer there this year. I had a buddy and they had a lease up by Cook. They let it go about four years ago. There's no deer there. Two game wardens wrote letters in the newspapers up there. They were talking to hunters, they said they've never seen the moral so low. The hunters are saying they're just not seeing deer. They see more wolves and wolf sign everywhere, hardly any deer. They're not shooting any deer. I was watching a TV show, on wolves and the wolf biologist, they're a Wildlife biologist. He said, wolves are sanitizers. They kill everything until nothing is left. And then they starve to death or they move on somewhere else. That's the history of wolves in Alaska. There would be, you know, they used to drop poisons from airplanes, and then they outlawed that. The reason they did that was because it's a huge wilderness area. And outfitting is what kept most, a lot of those areas alive. How can you outfit when there's no animals? So, what happened is the wolves, you know, reaching peak, wipe out all the game, and then they starve to death. Then the game comes back. There's a book called the Alaska Wolfman; Jack Glazer. It's a true story, about Jack's life, he came to Alaska in 1915 and, it's his life in Alaska from 1915 to 1955. And when he first came there, there were Moose and Caribou wherever you were, there weren't very many wolves. Then the wolves started populating, and then they, he just tells the story. Tell the stories of scenes. The the wolves were ripping the calves out of pregnant caribou, cows, just for the fun of it. They don't need 'em. This is one thing people, the wolf lovers need to realize the lies about how they killed the sick and the old. And they keep the herds healthy. If you watch discovery, you'll see a lone wolf take down a healthy cow by itself. I watched it right on discovery and on animal plant, they run up the hamstring and ground by the throat. It's effortless for them to do it. Well, in Montana, it's been maybe seven years now, I don't know, by the time was single biggest documented joy killing a wolves. In one day they killed 100 sheep. They didn't need/eat a one, just for the she joy of it. And the other thing is now you, probably are aware. I remember a couple years ago in Adams County; the ex-military guy shot that wolf. The three of em were coming at him. He shot at point blank coming, take a chunk on him, out of his leg. The DNR called them. They came, they founded blood. They couldn't find a wolf. Later on in Adams County that same winter, five wolves came in on a guy and his son. They took warning shots, as they said, they took warning shots. There was an article in the newspaper, the Duluth Tribune about a guy that whacked the wolf over the head with the barrel because it was coming at him. That's not the true story. I got a friend who knows him. He shot that wolf in self-defense coming at point blank. But he was afraid to tell the truth. But he wanted people to know wolves are dangerous. I'm gonna ask you this question. Anybody here know which country had the most human fatalities documented by being killed by wolves, Russia? That's what I would've thought, by far France. 7,000 documented human fatalities by wolves. And it's fun to watch these wolf lovers today try to, how they try to explain a way that that's, that really would happen. This is between a five and a 600 year period of time. I was watching TV and that they said, never in the history of North America has a human been killed by a wolf. And the 22 year old in Canada just a few years ago that got killed, couple years after that, that 39 year old teacher in Alaska got killed. So we have two recent, you know, deaths. My sister-in-law was out walking with her dog and the wolf came, it was a lone wolf came and it came right up within about six feet of her. She's just screaming at the top of her lungs. You know, maybe that wouldn't have happened if her dog wasn't there. I don't know. When I had a customer one time when five wolves that kept circling in when he was on, he was walking out, they came in, he kept backing away, they kept closing in. He went back to his tree where his stand was and he went up and the circled around his for 45min. That's another aspect that isn't gonna gain a lot of traction. Cause people are just don't bunch of bologna. I'll tell you what Hunting's no fun here anymore. A lot of the guy, my customers, they don't hunt here anymore. I'm buy a bow license, I'm not buying anymore rifle license here. There's nothing to hunt. I'm gonna tell you this. We are just at the tip of the iceberg. We're headed for a desert. And all you have to do is go look at the history of wolves and what they've done, the real history. They're sanitizers, they will kill everything. And you know, the one thing. One other letter I got, I'm assuming a bunch of you got it, Last year, the DNR said that wolves in Douglas County, Douglas County, we have the most packs by far in all state. I think it said wolves are killing an equal number of deer as the hunters in Douglass County, but that's based on their low estimate number at 20 deer a year per wolf. How many you remember Buck Folows, the old federal trapper. He said they killed way more deer than they say because the kill is so enormous in the spring. He said all that. Every bit of wolf scat, you see all springs full of fawn hair. But, that estimate and was, years ago in Michigan, they had an estimate of 35 to 50 deer per year per a wolf. A wolf feeds 20 pounds of meat in one meal. How much meat is there? And wolf feeds everything on a doe he is gonna get more than, we'll get like 40 pounds out a good doe that'll feed two wolves. If the number is 30 deer per wolf, which it is minimum, and then you add the real number of wolves, wolves are killing double the deer of hunters. You cannot sustain a deer population with that. We're not gonna be able to hunt anymore. Eventually we'll be like North Dakota. You're gonna have to apply for a permit to hunt a buck, if something isn't done about this deer, about this wolf population. And, and some of the DNR guys are gonna laugh at that and say, oh, that's not true. Then you tell me why I can hardly find a deer track in my area. And Kessler, you all know him, he told me. Well, if you live in a Bennett/Hawthorn area, that's a really bad area. Well, one thing I'd like for him to do for me, quit making me have to pay property taxes, if I have to support your wolf population. Because it's whipping out everything I love
Gary	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	Gary – I've got a picture. Here's 50 yards off my edge of my yard and I live only two miles from the Minnesota border. I've been hunting in this country for 60 years. I've never seen anything like this and I've seen quite a few wolf kills but this one was on 50 yards on the edge of my yard. And my dog I've got, got a big area and I let her out and she was gone. I thought she never usually leave the yard and I call her and she came from a certain direction and let her out

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				again. Same thing, she came from the same direction and I thought, I gotta follow where she's going. And I got 50 yards from the edge of my yard and a wolf. I don't know. I think there was probably two took a huge doe and from where the blood track, where the blood started. Cause it was just a blood smear for 20 yards and her guts were laying in the snow and she still wasn't dead, another 20 yards and she laid there. That's about how far she made it after she was attacked. And we hear wolves. My, I can't hear very well. I don't have very good hearing, but my girlfriend does. And we can have our windows in our house completely closed at night and hear timber wolves and they don't sound like they're very far away, and there's an awful lot. And I don't know if anybody here knows about, well, Douglas County for sure. There's a road called Summit and it starts off of kingsdale. Does anybody know where the Kingsdale road is? Walked that every day, used to. Yeah. I've even got a picture on this phone showing 150 Mountain lion in a tree, three miles north of us. There's so many preditors now. And I got a picture on this phone also show my girlfriend's, grandson hunted, the last week of the cat season. And there's a bobcat on this phone that is big enough to kill a human being by itself. So, I got the picture here to show that. And there is a hell of a lot of bobcats now. Also, when we first started having the wolves come back into this country, it didn't take too long and there weren't very many coyotes. But now all these coyotes have learned, evidently evolution have learned to live on the outer edges of the wolf packs. We also hear the coyotes howling all the time too, and we've got wolves around the yard, all the time along with the coyotes. So, all I'm saying is that I hunted this country for, I've got two cabins here, and I hunted this country for 60 years. And like I said, this country used to be fun to hunt and we used to be able to hunt and always see bucks. All the cabins had one or two or three bucks on pole during rifle season. And I think what's happening now is that once the bucks come into rut, they stink, and I think those wolves can run those bucks down because we just are not seeing any bucks in the woods at all. I mean it's a sad deal. Rubs, Qe do a lot of scouting all the time, lot of preseason scouting and walking and are in the woods all the time. And when I'm talking about this one road down the summit. Everybody from Minnesota used to go over and get a Wisconsin license and tow campers over to in hunt Wisconsin along the Summit Road. And it's 17 miles with no cabins on. Now you can drive that road and if you see two, three deer tracks in 17 miles, you'll [redacted]lucky. And it's nothing but wolves. But there's no deer tracks there now I'm here to tell you. Correct. And also there's a bunch of hunters. Mike Edwards. He's a trapper and a hunter, and hell, a hunter, a nice guy. And now they hunt the bobcats up off the summit and off the moose road simply because there's no deer up there and all they, they run cats without having trouble with the dogs. The wolves killing their dogs very much up there. Cause there's hardly any wolves up there. They're south now. Don't probably, maybe the next 10, 12 miles. We got some deer. But that's what they're doing. And they're gonna kill all these deer because you could just look in these different areas. We went, took a ride around the other day looking for coyotes because uh, they were, they were supposedly supposed to be mating at that time of the year. We drove quite a few other roads and hardly seen any deer. Jackson box. Anybody hear about that? Anybody hear about the empire? I did find some deer on the northern end of the empire. There was a few, but you could drive those roads and they're big roads and they're big sections and there's no deer, not worth hunting for it. So that if, I mean, if we wanna have a deer herd again, have deer again, what we're getting, we're getting a snow job and [redacted]job big time from the DNR. And there's time everybody says something about it. So, if anybody wants to look at this kill here. It happened 50 yards off the edge of my yard and picture of a Mountain lion three miles north, and 42/43 lb bobcats. They're never remember to, vote for knowledge. 6, 8 years to get a Bobcat thing. And bobcats just up the kazoo, and some of are just giants. So, when you take the bobcats and they're killing a lot of deer now, and you got the coyotes and you got the timbers wolves, We aint going to have deer herd, and we aint going to have a hunting seasion. It'd be nice if everybody would really stand up. And it is nice to see this many people here. What we could use a lot. It's room full, and we need more if you wanna have a hunting season up here. So many more people we could use.
Steve	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Steve - I wish I had a lot of notes, but I don't. So I wanna talk about the management plan and I want talk about northern economics and I wanna talk about the human-wolf conflict. And I'm mentioning those three things. So if I forget 'em, you can remind me before I sit down. My Steve Solenol (Spp?), I came up with Medford Wisconsin today and I represented the Wisconsin Wolf Facts on the Advisory Committee for management plan. I'm not going to meet the drone cause you've heard it all. My comment on the management plan is twofold, One, they did not listen to all the parties represented. They did their best, in my opinion of downplaying the hunting groups that were represented and really built up the expansionist or the PETA groups that were represented. Firstly, we did not get a fair shake out of it at all. Second important thing, in my opinion, they call it a management plan. It is not a management plan because they steadfastly refuse to hear the scientific work that has been done by the Western states. I think all of us, if we got a project, will listen to other people that have done that project before. The western states have decades of good Wildlife management wolf experience. They refused, in my opinion, they refused. They did not enter any of that into the wolf management plan. As a member of the committee, it's an expansionist plan, not a management plan. Second thing, northern economy, the DNR, in my opinion, seems to work off revenue rather than management. I wish that we were like the western states that sell licenses by area. I'm not advocating we do it, but there is a benefit. If they saw how licensed sales in northern Wisconsin was going down. They might have an idea why is it going down? They might ask a question. In addition to that, the townships up here, they're losing their property value. They're losing their tax base. Deer camps are relocating, and I don't blame the deer camps that are relocating. Hunting's fun and productive. You can't have a good meal out of a virtual deer hunt. You still need animals to hunt. The last thing is the human wolf interaction. They did not value the opinion of people in wolf territory. They should have valued it higher, personal opinion. Someone from the southern part of Wisconsin or even from out state, the wolf is an apex predator. They just do not get along with people. They're the height of the food chain and we're less than them. They should value the opinion of people who have to live here more so than someone from out of the area or even out of the country.

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				And I guess the last thing is, I'm gonna go back to the economics. The management plan has no good compensation for hounds or cattle. They do not take into effect the number of years of genetics that are in those animals. Hounds, cattle primarily, and they don't take into account for cattle, the loss that a wolf pack in the area is going to have. Those animals don't eat as good. They're nervous, they're looking over their shoulder. As compared to other beef herds in non-wolf areas, and they give no compensation factor for that in this expansion plan that they have. So, as a member of Wisconsin Wolf Facts representing them, I do not advocate or endorse this management plan in the lease. It does not represent our interest. Thank you.
Jack Johnson	N/A	Yes	Taylor Co.	My name is Jack Johnson. I've got a farm in Taylor County. I'm a member of the Farm Bureau, The North Central Wisconsin Cattlemens Association and Wisconsin Cattle. I have had on my farm, a depredation a few years ago. Our farm sits about a mile and a half from Chequamegon Forest and the Wolf Pack. There are some wolf packs, I guess they say within about 20 miles of us. But as you know, they all travel. I've lost a calf. I've had one area where it was kinda wooded around where the cattle were pasture. We use low stress Cattle. We keep our cattle as calm as we can. That year along the fence there were wolf tracks along the fence. And if you would come anywhere near those cattle were run in the other direction. And that took about a year and a half to get those cattle settled down enough to where, it was easier to handle and safer to handle them. The year that we had the depredation, we moved the cattle over close to the buildings. They were there for a while and, and it was in the spring of the year. And, you know, the ground isn't very stable, and they had that all tore up. The US Wildlife Services came out. They put up the fladry, the flags and the electric wire around about 40 acres. And, that worked you know, well the wolves were moved away at that time anyway, but, after a while there was nothing left of those cattle though there, so we had to move 'em out of there. We do rotational grazing. There's certain areas now that we cannot graze on the cattle. If they're there, they don't stay there very long. They're back out of there. It has really changed the way, the way we have the farm and we can't do it the way we need to. I did represent the Wisconsin's Cattleman's Association on the Wolf Management Advisory Committee. And as it was stated earlier, I don't feel they listened to us very much. We didn't get you look at the way the plan is set all now. They're not concerned about us. They're concerned about the people that want more wolves in the area. See, I got a question for you before you leave. Uh question, does the DNR take compensation calves that cows abort due to an attack? No, they don't. No, they don't. You can't. No, I don't. I don't know how you could, but I know there's problems with that. Oh, absolutely. Your breeding cycles are disturbed. Your weight loss isn't there and you've got fence problems, you got things you gotta fix. Things that we don't need to put up with. There's no compensation for that at all. Who are these people that make up this group you're talking about? Where are they? Which group? This Wolf Management group? Just the Wolf advisory plan. Yeah. Who are these people? Well, when they were setting up the plan. I know whether we have about 26, 30 people on the, on that committee. I'll let Laurie describe that a little more. Thank you.
Laurie Groskopf	Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	Yes	Lincoln Co.	Laurie - A number of us were on the committee. Steve Supno, (sp?) was on it representing Wisconsin Wolf Facts. Pat was on it as an alternate. Matt R was on it representing the Wildlife Federation. I was on it representing the Wisconsin Farmers Union and there was 29 members; of those eight were tribal representatives. And the tribal representatives are pretty united in not wanting any harvest of wolves or any management. Then as far as the farm groups, there would've only been two on Cattlemen's and Farm Bureau, but I was working with Randy Johnson and Wisconsin Wolf Facts is a conversation group and we also sponsored some activities and that is a farm and Wildlife group. And we do a lot of talking to each other and I get all of the depredation reports and send them out to our people. If anyone wants to get on the list, I'd be glad to add. The other group was Wisconsin Farmers Union. The only reason they got in was because I was a member and I volunteered to be the representative. And there was no fee for the organization. So, they selected me. And I think, farmers are really being left out of this in a big way. So who, who wants to speak next? Laurie safe to say that over half the people on the advisory committee were non-ag, non-hunter, pro-wolf people. Fair statement? Yeah. I'd easily say it was much more than that because just under 30% were tribal representatives. So well over 50% were what I like to call the wolf expansionist people who think that this is a good way to manage Wildlife at their peak capacity. And certainly, they'll be breeding and finding new places to live in Wisconsin I'm sure of that they already have. Let's go back to the list here so we can get people to speak.
Dave Samuel	N/A	Yes	Washburn Co.	Dave Samuel - I wasn't planning on speaking, but I'm, I'm going to, hopefully I can control temper. I've had wolves kill dogs. Right on, within two miles of my property. At that time, I contacted the course of APHIS and was rewarded the $2500, which didn't cover anywhere near with the dog's worth. I turned down $10,000 for that dog. But the point I want to make on this is following year, I believe it was, they trapped nine wolves, APHIS did, less than a mile south of my house that would, they pulled the traps on Friday. I know the trapper; he lives less than a mile from me that did the trapping and they destroyed those nine wolves thank God. But the following Thursday, I've got 400 acres there. The following Thursday, I proved that I had 11 wolves on my property and I brought it to the wolf Committee. They absolutely ignored it. They said there was a convergence point of all three packs. Okay, so what does that mean? That that's the only place that converge. So, you cannot believe the thing that committee tells you. A good friend of mine was one of the head biologists in the state, Bill. He told me the biggest problem, and it goes to just what Laurie and everybody was talking about, is the biggest problem on the committees with the biologists and all those committees is they've fallen in love with the game they're supposed to be managing. They no longer manage it because they love it. They don't think it's a renewable resource. The other thing I wanna mention is they talk about the packs and when we had our season, and I don't remember the numbers, you mentioned them when we killed them. We have grown so much since then that it's unbelievable that we don't have a reasonable season to harvest them and to keep 'em under control. We're still gonna have wolves. We're never gonna get rid of them right now. And there's no way around it. I mean, you can trap, you can poison, you can do anything you want. And

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				we've got so many wolves in this state, there's no way you're gonna get rid of 'em. But we have to keep 'em under control. Wolves were living on my property and I had 'em coming within 40 to 50 yards of my house when they were coming in and I had to keep 'em. We couldn't even take our dog outside and walking because the wolves are there. So when they start talking about this, and I'm also in one of the sub zones, I've got 400 acres in the sub zone just about in Couderay. And I'm gonna tell you right now, and I'm gonna tell the DNR right now, if the wolves kill on my property, they're dead. I'm not gonna pay any attention. I'm not gonna sit here and put up with it, even though it's against the law.
Neil Schmidt	N/A	Yes	Edgerton	Neil Schmidt - I'm from Edgerton area, but I'm retired now. I cabin on 20 acres right off the northwest corner of the Chemaquegon forest. I fell in love area 1976 and it was a deer hunters paradise up until about 18 years ago and now its getting to be a deer desert, and it's not because the trees are away from the deer and the habitat isn't there. We've got better habitat than we had back then. It should be in paradise today, but it's not because wolves cleared things out. The Flag rivers start to pick up again with deer, but the, wolves will be back. They used to, that was their home territory and they've centered right around the Flag River. But they've had to move cause they can't survive in the numbers of wolves that are there. There aren't enough deer for them now they're moving outside of there. So the property I had that was on the fringe that was pretty good has gone steadily downhill every year. Reintroduction of wolves has turned out to be a Pandora's box. Originally it was dishonesty sold to people of Wisconsin on the premise that after their numbers would reach 350, there would be regular hunting seasons to hold them around that number. The number was surpassed in 2004, but the first season wasn't held in 2012. By then, we were told the estimate was over 800. The situation spiraled out control from there, with lawsuits filed outside of our state, resulting in returning the wolf to endangered species list. That has brought us to where we are today. If mounting pressure by state residents outside of wolf habitat to keep the expansion going while preventing hunters slowing it, the DNR in the media always depict wolves in the most favorable light. You have to search YouTube for the darker side of that existence to see videos of playing the prey. It's disgustingly savage and painfully long in duration. Without that part of the equation, it's natural for people to support more wolves. That's why the surveys will continue to be slanted into the wolf's favor unless the DNR establishes facts throughout southern Wisconsin. So, the wolf lovers there realize there is that dark side to having them around The draft plan mentioned in a 2015 study that said, without hunting the wolves would reach their biological carrying capacity in the state of 1,242 wolves. In 50 years, they probably reached that number by 2020. When the DNR estimated there were 316 packs, their claim of 4 to a pack would make it 1,264, at that point. Most hunters and numerous studies that weren't mentioned in the, that the average number in a pack is eight, which means we have over 2,400 wolves in 2020. By the DNR's figures, it costs the state over $200 for every out there for depredation losses as compared to just $2 for, deer damage. I would like to see the DNR's suggest. That the state pursued court action to delist the wolves and put their control back in our hands. Once delisted hold regular hunting and trapping season. So a quota of 29% of the estimated fall population until the over winter population is reduced to around the 350 that was promised that 29% is what a study cited as page 19 of their plan that said could be safely removed without causing the population to go into decline and get real if you insist on allowing half the harvest to try anyway, then double the harvest goal, by the way, establishing buffer zones, the reservation is an infringement, landowner rights and should not be done. Their treated should be honored but not arbitrarily expanded upon. Lastly, this is Wisconsin and non-taxpayers and groups from other states should not have a voice regarding wolves in the state.
Mike Miller	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Mike Miller - I retired 2012. I thought it would be a good time to buy 40 acres of land so that my daughter, my grandson, and I could hunt on a place called our own. There was some deer on it at that time. Four years later the deer herd declined very badly. The first year I owned the property, I had pictures of eight wolves in one picture. This went on where we're fortunate to see one buck. Maybe four or five deer and 6 years deer season between two or three of us. So couple years ago, my grandson and I were in our elevated blinds, he twas over and heard the wolves. All went off howling probably about a mile away. Oh, my grandson, we didn't see any here. Of course, wolves are the are in the area. You're not gonna see any deer. When my grandson in the morning you go and I'm gonna take a walk over to the east and I'm gonna see if there's deer over there. Cause they sure aren't here. So I walked approximately two and half miles that day. It quit snowing at three in the afternoon the day before, I did not see one fresh deer track and very few old ones, lots of bear track, coyote tracks. Can't say I saw any wolf tracks right there, but I heard 'em all of a mile away. So the wolves basically have cleaned the area out. There's hardly any deer left. I'm paying the bank every month on the 40 acres. I'm paying taxes at the end of the year for what? To go there and watch popple trees In Wisconsin Outdoor News approximately three months. There was an article in there, DNR is gonna quit giving their minimal wolf count and they're going to give an estimate of the wolf population. Great. They should have been doing that all along their estimate, their minimal wolf count wolf population was 1100. They gotta at least put it somewhere around 2000. I continue reading the article. They estimated the wolf population in 970. How can you have less than what the minimum wolf count was? I just shook my head in my house. I thought, what a joke. They do not want us to know how many wolves are out there. Personally, I would be surprised if we have less than 3,500 wolves in the state. I would be shocked. There are wolves everywhere you go in the on the Douglas County property, you look around, you try and look for a few deer tracks. I did it after season. I found so many wolf tracks out there was ridiculous. Every deer had to have left. Yeah, they'll probably come back, until the wolves kill a few of them. It's just ridiculous to try and hunt it. I mean, it's not worth even going hunt in the area. There's people that own land here, a lot of land. They won't even hunt in this county anymore. They wanna shoot a big but but will hunt southern part of the state to go to Iowa. They're not even hunting this area. It's a joke, and our DNR's did this to us. This, population needs to be taken down. It needs to be taken down and hurry. It's gonna take a long time. There's so many out there. Thank you.

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Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Question if this is such an important meeting, why isn't a Warden or Biologist or whatever else that we could bitch at every one of us. And is there any way that we can do a community lawsuit to save us? They ain't gonna help us. They ain't gonna do anything for us. We're gonna all have to get together and put out something, something so that everybody that lives up here, and likes to hunt and put enough pressure on those politicians so that they know that we mean business. And there should have been somebody here, wardens and somebody from the DNR on a meeting like this, and have more, more meetings like this. Up here, in the northern part of the state. Every one of us are here. Now You have one over here, over here, more will come.
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	So you guys were probably in the thick of it for how many years? 25, 30 years can come and tell the DNR or something. I, forwarded an extensive list of DNR staff to our office. They were issued an invitation. The Secretary elected reach out to by phone and asked them some questions about this session. And then the decision was made by the DNR, not to allow any staff to attend. Should be a communicative thing in this northern front of state that paying taxes. Has anybody ever to, management plan of any public hearing? I know I have plenty of them. They always have a public hearing. When this plan came out and they were not gonna have any public hearings, I contacted Randy Johnson, the large carnivore manager, and Eric Loaner, who's in the head of the Wildlife thing and said, Hey, why aren't you having any public hearings? Well, it's Christmas time and hunting season, and we think people are too busy. I said, believe me, people aren't too busy to talk about this subject. And then Eric said, well, you know, nobody comes to those public hearings anyway. I think this makes that not true. So I'm very disappointed and I think we need to make a bigger deal. So, this is something that we need to hold their feet to the fire. Keep in mind, this management plan has been worked on since 2009. They had one completely written, I have a copy of it from April, 2010 that wait, might have been did with his two, committees that he worked with, science committee and stakeholders. They had another one. I was on this committee 2012 to 2014 that was also completely written. And both times for political reasons, those just dropped off the face of the Earth. That's, that's what's gonna happen. Now we have to wait now gonna tell to wait till 2024 before we, why? That's incompetence. There's nothing short of incompetence. This is the third attempt since 2009. And now we're supposed to wait another year to get the plan. No. It's been 13 years since we've had a wolf management plan completed. I take that, I forgot it's important.
Dan Johnson	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Dan Johnson - I don't have a planned speech. There are some good speeches out there. There're too many wolves out there, someone said up to the gazoo. That was a good say. I like that. Anyway, what hasn't been addressed? I sold my place. I lived in out of town for years. I moved to town, I hunted just out outside the village. In fact, when it got dark, I could see people's yard lights and I was hunting legally. And I had a camera up, and guess what came through; A wolf. So I don't think we should wait until the wolf takes somebody's little kid. We shouldn't wait. The other day I was ice fishing, I seen a wolf cross the St. Croix. Cause there was deer out there. Someday somebody's gonna leave their little toddler out on a swing or something and they're gonna come out and it's gonna be gone. So we should be concerned about the human life. This other thing about, wolves. I don't mind wolves. Just there's too many of them. They're up the gazoo right anyway, but they should be regulated. Man was put on this earth to take care of this planet and to regulate even Wildlife. And we're allowing politics to make rules for us that just don't make sense. Anyway, the human aspect, that's what we should be concerned about. Simple as that.
Jim Soyring	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	Jim Soyring - I got a beef farm in, Douglas up there, got 200 cows. Every year, We have 15 calves, 20, 30 killed from wolves. And the compensation is only 70% of what the calf is valued at. I think, people who want wolves around should pay the bill for lost animals, problems with fences, bad health. Farmers shouldn't have to pay to feed their animals. We should make them accountable for this. That's all I have to say.
Jake Anderson	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Jake Anderson. - Thanks everybody for talking. This is going on with all of us. Im sure ill repeat everything; I'm a hunter and I'm sure as every hundred had issues with wolves, every time we bring the dogs out, they get run out, we've lost many. There's just no good way to do it. These depredation areas, there's nowhere in the whole state that isn't a depredation area up here north of 29, there's nowhere to go. I didn't get time to read this plan unless somebody says a lot of pages. I haven't heard anybody but Jim talk about accountability. Who do we hold accountable for all this? Been going on for 30 years? They set a number. They keep changing the goalpost. They keep moving the goalposts, and then they listen to the squeaky wheels, the wolf lovers. They're the only ones that talk. well they're all down in madison, they're all not in listening to all the squeaks. We have to do these meetings. We have to be vocal. We have to start squeaking more. We have to be more of a force to the government and hold them accountable for all of us. This isn't gonna go away. We're never gonna get rid of these wolves in this state. Not as it says. To have them under the federal endangered list is absolutely ridiculous. They set a goal of 350. Once it gets over that number, how is it even possible that they can get 'em put on an endangered list? The numbers are way too high. And who do we hold accountable for allowing it to happen? The DNR, the Natural Resources Board for not doing their job proper. We gotta come up with these plans and we have to stick to 'em, and we have to be able to hold the government and these boards and committees that make these choices accountable. And without having something in this wolf plan about who we can hold accountable and at what point, what good is the plan Anyway? They'll accomplish nothing other than piss everybody off. I guess that's all I have to say, but thank you.
Jennifer	N/A	Yes	Shawano Co.	Jennifer - So this is a whole new ballpark for me. I just got two hounds about two years ago from up here. I have a six-year-old grandchild three years ago, I took her out in the woods with me hunting, shot a doe husband went, to the four wheeler to drag the deer out. I walked in there, my husband yelled at me, stop. Don't move. Yelled at my granddaughter not to get off the four wheeler. There was a wolf coming at me. I had this three-year-old granddaughter out there. If I would've went in there by myself. That would've been catastrophic. I live in Shawano county. You don't hear many people talk about the wolves in Shawano County. They're there, trust me, they're there. She's six years old, this year I took her on the youth hunt. Two weeks later, my husband's uncle said that Wolf was back. He's big, he's black, but there's no problem. Tigertons just a little rinky dink town. On Facebook the other day somebody was lying was, they weren't lying. They were telling people hey, watch your kids watch dogs. These wolves are on the edge town

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				and people's backyards right in town. Yes, there is a problem, but the DNR's is telling us, no there's not. How can there not be a problem? I wanna take my granddaughter, uncle Woods, I wanna hunt with the hounds. That's why have my dog's home. But how can I take my six year-old granddaughter out in the woods and make sure she's safe if all these wolves are out there? I can't. So yes, as the gentleman in the red sweatshirt said this isn't, this is a concern for the human population, not just the cattle or hounds, but the wolves can go grab them small kids right off the right outta your yards, right off the street. Oconto Falls has coyotes running through the streets by their schools. What's next? Wolves? I didn't know where to look for it, but yes, I'm here. I'm gonna back up all you guys up because I want teach my granddaughter what I love and did when I sit with her.
Mark	Douglas County Board Chairman, Farmer's Union	Yes	Douglas Co.	Mark. - I wear three hats that I came here today. All of, I've been involved in this for a long time. I'm the Douglas County Board Chairman. Our Douglas County board passed resolutions demanding that the DNR enforce, their management plan immediately. That was kind of a thing that I was a little worried about. Cause over half of the Douglas Co Board of supervisors lived in the city, Superior. I thought, oh, we're gonna have a real problem with that. We only had one person who was, had any opposition to that. And I didn't even have to hardly talk. Cause almost every member who lived in the country had a wolf tail that they wanted to tell how their dog was chased home, that they were followed up their driveway. How he cattle had been lost. Everybody had that. I'm also the County Farmer's Union president. And at one of our annual meetings, we were trying to get state farmers Union to start being serious about managing the helpless, manage the DNR, to managing wolves. Um, they were up here and I think at our annual meeting we had nine families. Well, maybe it was more than nine families. Cause there was about 40 people there. Of these families, every member of that group were beef farmers. Every member had a wolf kill that year; this is big Jim Soyring. He's probably one of our, bigger losers as far as farmers. He's losing 25. We had a lot of farmers who aren't here today because they have given up asking the Natural Resources Board, asking the DNR to do anything. And some of them are being forced to take matters in their own hands. So they're trying to make sure nobody even knows they got a problem. That's too bad that that's where we're at. The other one is, I am a farmer. And I myself have had problems for years. I thought I was doing a really good job doing rotational grazing in my beef herds. There's 50 animals on an acre and then the next acre somewhere else. And I thought the way I managed; I would never have a problem with the wolves. I was mistaken. What had happened is that I was in the middle of two different packs. For some reason they were leaving the me alone. Getting the farmers on this side, the farmer on that side, I went around and see if you knew what I knew, they won't have problems. And then all of a sudden a new pack moved in the middle, and started attacking my cattle. My family's been on that farm over 120 years. I was this close to stop farming. It was that stressful. I have a job. I'm also county board chair. I've had the farm. Not that farmers don't work hard enough as it is, but to be woken up at three o'clock in the morning, the neighbors calling. You better go out here. They're chasing your cattle again. I mean, I use electric once strand, barb wire fence. And when cattle are chased, they can tend to run through that. It changed how my docile cattle, when somebody talked about it was Jack talked about all cattles behavior. I sell direct market beef meat and one person handles it and I got our old corral and the first year the wolves moved in. When I went to, group up my cattle in the corral to sort, they destroyed the corral. They're that they were that panicky. My dog can't go out with me anymore because the cows will chase the dog. Sometimes my dog won't go out with me because he knows the wolves are there. I was lucky because the pack that was bothering me, used Highway 2 and 53 junction as one their Crosspoint, and a couple of them got run over too bad that doesn’t happen. That's what happened, the pack busted up and I haven't had problems since. I see some wolf wounds coming through there, but I lucky right now I do not have wolves that are attacked by cattle. My neighbors still have that. I was involved when the wolf management plan that started when Adrian, started with the management plan and I listened to a USDA, person from Minnesota. At that time, Minnesota was claiming they had a thousand wolves, only a thousand wolves. They were killing, legally removing 250 wolves a year. And that was when they were claiming there was a thousand. So I said, you're killing 25% wolves a year, and you're still killing 25% and then 25% and 25%, you're still having all these people with issues. But I sold a bull in Minnesota and when I went up there in June to deliver the bull, the guy had 50 cows in feed lot. In a farm yards. And I said, well, you put the bull right in. No, I can't let the cows out for another month until the calves are bigger. Im having so many problems with wolves. He had gun in and capable, have the, the DNR to shoot the wolves that he could see, which is a hard job to try to have done available when the wolves are following animals. So I asked Adrian when the plant came out, I said, in your plan, the original wolf management plant at 350 had nothing in there for lethal control. And he said, well, we don't think we're gonna have the same problems they had in Minnesota. I said, well wait a minute. You're not gonna have the same problem with kills. And he said, well, we don't think so. And I said, we're gonna have more cause we have agricultural property mixed in smaller amounts of woods. We are going have more problem than Minnesota does. And he said well no I don’t think so. That should show you how naive they were when they came up with the plan. How mistaken. So a few years back I saw Adrian over in, I forget which another management meeting and conversation where I reminded that he said they would've actually followed the plan, and kept the numbers at 350, wouldn't we having the problems we're having today. So even the maker of the plan admitted that the plan hasn't been followed. If it would've, we might saw a different result. A good example this, and again, Douglas County is Wolf Central. If you go up the road here, the last wolf in Wisconsin, that was kille, was killed in Douglas County not far from there. I forget the year, sixties or seventies. You up the road here you'll see the three-way, separates and, equally part separated. That was because the DNR in their wisdom thought that the only, the first wolf plant, which was again just a few miles down the road, probably couldn't figure out how to cross four lanes of traffic that would restrict their movement and thus they would be inhibited.

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				So they had to change the road plan, which cost millions dollars for us taxpayers, somebody died in traffic while they were trying to figure out what they were gonna do there and they built that road because they didn't think wolves were smart enough to cross four lanes and that they wouldn't do that. So stop there area. We now have wolves in Duluth. In the city of Superior wolves are not a wilderness animal. The reason they were living in the wilderness when we started this is because they don't make good neighbors and farmers looking out for their own wellbeing. Hunters looking out for their land prosecuted them wolves pretty hard and eliminated from we could catch up. The only thing they had left was the wilderness. Now they're coming in and remember they do not make good neighbors. And the problem is that nobody is addressing this. We have a tolerance was based on how many wolves you have to deal with. And Madison, they got great wolf tolerance. We, Douglas County, we're done. We're tired of it. I don't run into very many people anymore that say wolves are really cute, are nice. The reality is we have to take care of the problem. We need the DNR to do a wolf management plan and to actually have a way to eliminate wolves down to those numbers that are manageable. In Alberta Canada, I have a friend of mine's hunting up there, just to show you, somebody talked about it, was Mark talked about they're all out of control and we might not never get it back. I mean, I've killed coyotes all my life. There's always another one there. New one's come in the next day. I mean, it's just crazy. In Alberta, Canada, you can buy, I think it's two licenses to shoot two wolves. You can, my friend was hunting with a guy who part-time guides, and then in the winter he works for the DNR, USDA, whoever, or whatever their equivalent is. He flys in helicopters and shoots wolves from helicopters because they can't control the numbers with the two tags that they sell to hunters. And then he says that they get an area where there's actually really a problem. They use strychnine. Strychnine is still being used to control wolves. And its not working. He said, yeah. He says they only leave it on the carcass for about five days cause then it starts killing other things. But he said they can kill the whole pack of wolves if they poison that carcass. So that's what they're doing in other parts of the country and they're still not controlling the numbers. They're still too many, I think we went too here to get it back. And the temper of the DNR to actually do something about this does not seem to be there. We need to change that. I think that's probably all I gotta say, Thanks.
John	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	John - Lived here all my life. Live west of town now, but I think the DNR been pretty much in denial since the seventies with the wolves. My dad got one in a trap the late seventies and they said, are you sure it's a wolf, he said yup. He turned it in, said he didn't want any trouble, they read him his rights and Everything else and let the wolf out of the trap. But my thing is I think they've been in denial for a long time and it's just gotten worse, we've hunted west of town here for some time, and we got a lot to prove everything that we see every year, start of year quality and quantity goes and it's dominantly nothing. I mean my girlfriend hunts with us. Some people you don't even see a deer, you know, but we're still hunting all day there and it's like what? Is there nothing that's beyond point of proving anything anymore? And as far as the people in the room here, most, I don't know. And I do know a few, but unfortunately people I talked about coming said, why bother. Because nothing's been getting done, nothing. They've got the way they want it. And unfortunately, we're a small part of the people and until the bigger part of the people join it, nothing will probably get done. I don't see it happening when the majority rules, it's a no-brainer. And the majority is gonna rule. And if the majority is, tree huggers and wolf lovers and people in big cities where it can't happen to them, you know, what are you gonna do? You know, and until it affects them, then it's a different story. But you know, and they run bears off. I seen it with my own eyes. We were baiting, me and my girlfriend put your bait out, the bears will come in, knock over your bait and the wolves will come in and push the bears off. Well, we've seen it. We've watched it, but they don't care. You know what I mean? So you want everybody to give up on cause they have nothing left on and hope that all people up their big money from a big cities are gonna support the rest of what happens up here. Why lose what we all tried so hard to have, you know? And that's basically all I gotta say. But one more thing, I don't think this was publicized s well enough. I mean, you look around on Solon Springs Community Center site, there's nothing about this meeting. Um, I found about it through Gary and my sister last wekend. Otherwise I wouldn't be here. I, you know, I don't know. I didn't even look when I came in. If there's anything on the information sign outside here, you know, they've put all this other stuff on their signs that they're having, but conveniently or inconveniently, it wasn't advertised very well. Sure. You know, and I'm glad the people are here that are here. And just my last thing, it's really, ironic this morning I got up usually ahead my girlfriend anyways and I'm sitting on the couch and as you can tell, I can't hear very well. And I'm sitting seven o'clock, what the hell? I woke up and there's two or three different wolves howling here over there. So they're communicating, you know, and were only four miles out town. So now you got a dog and horses and chickens and possibly more farm animals. And like the one guy said, if it comes down to it. [redacted] aside. And I think most people wouldn't do it. I would take care of the problem myself if they come on my land, you know, that's just the way it is, that's all I got.
Crystal	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	Crystal – Ive lived here all my life, I followed my dad in the woods since I probably, since I could walk. I've never been afraid to be in the woods. The reason why I bought a gun was because I ride horses and I spend a lot of time hunting in the woods and I take my dog out in the woods with me and I actually bought a gun to take out with me so something attacked my horse or the dog. It'll be shot I mean, it's bad when you can't go out in the woods anymore because you think that your dog is gonna get attacked or your horse is gonna get attacked. My grandkids ask me all the time, well, grandma, what about the wolves out there? And yeah, and as my boyfriend said, I've always had a wolf where I live now, and it's always been him and just him. Well now, like he said this morning there was at least three howling. So is that a new pack? But then there's a pack on the town, green Road. Then there's a pack down here by the street Old Deer Farm. Well then there's a pack on the other side of the river. So I did the map and Google. It says Douglas County's 4180 acres. That's me including the water. So you take the water out there, that's less. So then I said earlier today, that's 36 miles per a pack range that comes to 41 packs in Douglas County. I believe there's probably a 41 packs in Douglas County minus Lakes. So there're gonna be a lot. I mean, I seen them. I sit out in the woods. I have bear they're afraid when they smell you. I've had bobcats come by me, They're afraid. When you smell you This year, season, I had wolf come by me. He walked right behind me.

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				Smelled where I was. You think he ran? No, he just walked up my trail where I went. Just walked away. So you gotta learn there is no fear. We're supposed to be on the top of the food chain, we're not anymore.
Mr. Brown	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Mr. Brown? - I got a comment on what this gal just said about wolves not being afraid of you. She's 1000% right? I'm on the woods quite often, see quite a few wolves. And to this day I have not one wolf, not a one bolt run from me. Out trapping I've have one from here, to the wall from you. They stand there, look at you like what are you doing here? They show no fear and they show aggression. That bother is the [redacted] out me. I carry a gun wherever I go because for one reason I don't wanna miss the opportunity to shoot one of them, the law is not taken care of em. Its time for us to take care of em because the law isn't. I make sure I tell every warden than that. I blame all this [redacted] on the biologist, the warden, I respect the hell outta law enforcement. They enforcement laws, they don't believe in. The biologists and idiots put these studies out there how our laws are created they're the ones fault and they're lying us. I went to a wolf deal out Montana on how to kill wolves, they get certified, for killing wolves. loved it. Anyway, it was a three. We had the Alaskan Trackers association teach us that and now these boys know wolves way better than you and I down here. They just laughed. They call this America down here. I told some of the stuff our biologists were telling us, they just shook their head and laughs. He said, you know, you guys down here in America, they call us America down here, your biologists are pulling your eyes. And it is pathetic, its the truth. Back in 96, whenever they reintroduced them wolves to Yellowstone. There was like three females that bred out one pack. All the environmentalist, tree huggers were just ecstatic old gods. And after God, They laugh when they read that in papers. We've known that for years, and more than one female will breed out the pack. I mean, they're a freaking canine. They come and eat, they go and screw. Simple as that. It is, lets use some common sense. I was over in Hayward, when they wanted to increase it from, 348 or no, 350 was magic number. They wanted to increase it to 500. And there was a fellow from Old Lithy there. He'd had a cow and calf preyed on by wolves, DNR said they'd take care of ya, reimburse ya, had farmers and ranches having a problem. We'll be there to take care of the problem. Well, that was like three months prior to that. Three weeks prior to this meeting, he faced on another wolf there. This is way down by Old Lithy with me. And he, they hadn't seen anybody. And I asked, I said why. And remember the whole meeting was on how to raise from 350 to 500 men. Remember? I said, why wasn't that farmer taken care of? He said, Mr. Brown were just so overwhelmed with calls and can't keep up. and you wanna raise it for 500. Ya knotheads. I mean, don't take rocket science to figure how badly these boys are lying to if you cannot leave. The original plan was 80 wolves, not 80 Pairs, 80 wolves. That was the original plan. Them son of a guns there. Just like I say, we gotta take it into our own hands. The hell with the law. Tell ya one thing on my land. I take care of my own, I mean, it's simple as that. I've had it, we've had it right here, to our eyeballs with the bs.
John Romans	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	John Romans - Got a couple quick comments to make. I was lucky to recently retired, saved all my bobcat points for 13 years. A neighbor has the dogs. The problem was, I didn't know how it all works. So I'm a bow hunter, gun hunter, and now I'm a dog hunter. So Drive in the truck. Find bobcat tracks. Make sure it's Bobcat. See wolf tracks, and he'd say 'not hunting here, were not losing our hounds.' Well this happened time and time again. Bobcat hunt turned out to be, let's look for Wolf to make sure we don't go get it. Well that's kinda [redacted] So then I'm thinking just some more and all wolves were seeing are up north and I'm hunting over a county as well, Dunam. Wild wolves there too. So I have a couples sons in the thirties, one son stopped hunting with us. Why didn't you come up? Deer Camp? Oh, I haven't been telling you guys this is, but I shoot deer, you're lucky if you even see a deer. The other son, bow hunts and gun hunts with me. Well, pretty soon my grandson is gonna be of age to come hunting with us. I was excited to show him the things I do. I want my son to have hunt. As one person said, sitting in the woods staring at popal trees. Well, that'll break your heart. Remember this land, we might own it, but we only preserve it for our grandchildren. So all this land ignored is gonna be our grandkids. Let's look at some numbers, I have buck kills. And I have doe kills and I have muzzleloader kills and I have winter kills, but I'd rather bow and muzzleloader over kills all these others. Jam them together there's all the deer numbers from the state. Same department and they won't give us a wolf number. What do they protect again? Madison, Milwaukee. All the squeaky wheels down there. Well, up here where we live, we see it every day. We've heard from lot you, but yet they send a tag or let's say a letter or form fill out. And I might look at Madison. I live on a lake where I'll never step foot in a woods ever. I'm gonna say I love this. Well, yeah, we all wanna see wolves I guess. But those people will never see a wolf from the wild. Cause they're not gonna walk over land. You walk to your tree stand, you walk across those trails where we used to have deer yards and stuff in the winter, there's no deer anymore drive around Douglas County on the snowmobile trail, trying to get back in there. Those are deer are gone. Those are century old deer yards. They're gone. So like I said, we can talk what we want until people in Madison and the DNR, Natural Resources Board start to take our word gospel. That this is what's happening. This is just old.
Trevor	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Trevor - I more have questions as far as the tribal buffer area you touched on earlier. his summer was unfortunate enough to have my first dog get attacked by wolves. Fortunate I was in there, I got him away. I seen it happen. I able to get the dog away. I lose her physically, but I lost her mentally. This dog, it's scared of every twig that snaps. It's scared of every dog that runs by it. This is a dog that would previously stand toe to toe with 400lb Bear. No, it's scared of the Woods. If that doesn't say the power of a wolf right there. But come to find out when you sent us this packet to look at, we're in that zone, the buffer zone where this happened. Where do we push back to keep that from growing and growing and growing? They already get part of the quota. Why are we not allowed to go after these wolves in these areas? They're, they're part of the quota should count for that, and I'm hoping you can give us some insight on how tp pushback on that

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Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	I used to have more and so they have more or so moved. Moved by Jimmy Soyring's. Moved to the southern part of the county because we have less deer than we used to have. I look at a different perspective. So I have a farm, I'm working with farmers and various people around, but you know, we feed them; ducks, turkeys, we feed the ducks, we feed the animal that come across and feed the deer. We feed any animal that comes and grazes and then wolves come and graze our animals, you know, and it gets to be expensive. Not only is it expensive, but also the lost of the meat that the wolves take, but the time that we have to put in managing so we can keep the wolves away or keep 'em from doing that. But yet they have management plans, but they don't take the time to assess what is happening to you, the individual in the country. And right now, this management plan is affecting me less than another management plan on my farm that they've got going. Thank you.
Randy	N/A	Yes	Bayfield Co.	Randy - On the same page as everybody here 15 years ago had a wolf right next to my truck, the middle of the woods in Bayfield County. It's, we've all heard stories, myself included. I'm not walking outta the woods at night without a firearm. A hunter afraid to walk outta the woods at night. And same stories everybody else has got. There's too many.
Chanz Green	Member WI State Assmebly	Yes	Douglas Co.	Chanz Green - Ladies and gentlemen, I'm Representative Chanz Green. I represent this area. I, live in Grandview, Wisconsin, originally from Polk County where there are wolves. I've seen them. I wanna thank everybody for coming. Thank you guys for putting this on. This is how we get things started. A little bit more about me. Like I say, I live over by the cable area, Grandview area. I run hounds, I'm a Wisconsin Bear Hunter Association Member, Hunter Nation member. And, we need to speak up. This is how we get started. So, a little legislative update. We're working on this, of course. Congressman Tiffany is taking legal action at a congress level at a federal level. He's constantly taking legal action to delist the wolves. We need to show support. We need to support him. We need to write letters, you need to get out there. We need to be vocal about this stuff. At a state level, we had a meeting this week regarding the deer population. We had a lot of members of Price County, Taylor County, over in Vilas county come down and speak on the fact that there's no deer. What we learned from there is that deer hunting is a 2.3 billion industry, and we aren't taking any account Wolf depredations. We're not even taking, factoring them in. We are also not, putting people in the field to count deer. So if we are not putting people in the field to count our deer population, that brings in $2.3 billion. How many biologists outta Madison do you think are coming to Northern Wisconsin and counting wolves? When I put my dogs in the box or my coffee cup and start checking roads in the morning, I find wolf tracks within a quarter mile of my house. There's four to six in my five by six section. They've been there for two to three years. A few years ago I took part in the last wolf season we had, and that Wolf Rug now hangs in my office in Madison. So people know what I stand. The fight continues. We need to get them to be listed. I love the conversations we have about even just stepping them down. These are things we're working on. Me and Senator Rob Stashold, he's the head of the Senate, Sporting Heritage Committee. He and I are, are discussing including we want to see in part of this plan a number. We wanna see a goal. This plan has no direction without a goal. So we are drafting legislation to do that. Representative Rob Swearington and Mary Valswalski is a Senator to my east, they have already dropped the bill with all the recommendations that the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association recommended. They drafted a nice analysis, if you have some free time, read it. They make a nice, synopsis, I guess you could say, of this plan. And they have made adjustments that they want to see in that bill. So, legislation is happening, but we need to be louder. We can't just meet the room in northern Wisconsin. You need to call your representatives. You need to call your senators. You need to be respectful. you know, kill with kindness. But, let 'em know that we need to manage our wolves. They're, they're decimating our deer populations and we manage everything from panfish and Lakes to our extremely expensive elk herd in Clam Lake. But we don't manage wolves. So we need to get on board, but we need to be louder. And I encourage everybody to reach out to representatives, to their senators and be bold. Write letters. The wolf comment on the 28th. I want to see 6,000 and 3,000 of us come from us. Those comments come from us. They need to hear our side because Madison, and Milwaukee doesn't care and they don't roll their head from their ass. So we need to make sure that we represent Northern Wisconsin and we need to tell them what's going on. Thank, I appreciate your time. Thank you. The question was, sorry. Um, if we have any hard numbers on what the effect of the wolves are on our elk, I don't know that we have that information. I haven't seen it myself, but I can definitely look into that. According to the Elk Manager, the greatest source of mortality for our elk is wolves. (Laurie) This 36 years, we've been Democrat led up here. I represent Wolf Country. This, we're sitting in my district right now and I represent all the way to the Michigan border. This is we Bayfield Ashland Price, iron County by Democrats who are in favor population. They love wolves. They haven't been out there to fight. Now we're here. Me, Senator Romaine Gwen. We do not like wolves. He has a cabin in Barnes and he goes deer hunting. That's a family cabin that they go to every year and they more or less play cards and watch trees, girls. So he, he's affected by the student. We are adamant about making this happen.
Paul	N/A	Yes	N. Wi	Paul - I've been a hound man since 1958. I still hunt them at 82, and I see a lot of what's going out there and its not good. It's all in Washington and Madison and someone that made comment who do we talked to. We are the silent majority. We've been silent too god [redacted] long. This is what we need. We need a lot of it. Now other comment that gentleman made about predation and the studies that go on with the DNR. I personally called some of 'em and asked them, well, we're still studying. If you go out to Montana, Wyoming, Utah, five or six other states, they've all done these studies. And if you read 'em, the one thing they come down to is every single Mountain lion and wolf needs the equivalent of a deer every five to seven days; divide that out. They won't listen to that here. I sent a copy of a study in Idaho, and I imagine one that's the problem. Were too quiet, make noise.
Bruce Brown	N/A	No	Houston, MN	Bruce Brown - I'm out Houston, Minnesota. You guys probably don't feel that I should have a say here, but I've been a member Wisconsin Bear Hunters for 35 years also been avid lobbyist at the state Minneapolis also introduced bills, and I see how things are done. A lot of times what a guy don't get to see is the stuff that when you have a bill in office and you have it in front of the subcommittee and full committee, all of a sudden you bring a

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				bunch of people in to listen to that bill and you'll see the speaker, they'll wrap the gavel and then pull the whole bill off to the side. And it's heartbreaking to bring a lot of people together to listen to what's going to happen, when they don't put you on the agenda until at the end of the day. People that you from out of state to speak on your behalf, they gotta catch a plane and go back to California, or back out to Oregon and you spent a lot of money to have them guys there. So what I'm saying to you guys today, like you said, and all these guys are staying glad to see you guys are getting together, having town hall meetings and speaking. These gentlemen here, this lady over here, it helps. Now on a personal note, I've hunted here and outside of Solar Springs, about six miles out to the west and back in the nineties I had a hunting buddy. Had a real good young dog coming up and we were all standing off the of Road Tom Green. The dog was working a track through, all of a sudden he heard a yip. That was it. And he wasn't much more than 100 yards off the road. We started wondering, started looking at each other. Somebody went in and the wolves had it down, was able to take back the camp, was able to try to save the dog, but it wasn't able to be saved. Had another incident where we're standing on Tom Green, we're listening to the dogs and one of the guys in the group had a young son, got out the pickup truck, started walking to the east on Tom Green was walking down that way and all of sudden Wolf come out on the road. Dad says get back here. He just stood there. The kid did. Now the wolf started walking toward him. Then we knew what happened. We got the kid back. What would've happen if that kid would've stayed longer? That's question. Thirdly, I was at one of the wolf meetings they had here in Wisconsin, and had a gentleman there that was a biologist from out of Minnesota and he brung out several photographs. The photographs that he out was that they were doing an aerial search on bears and wolves and one pack wolves was by Covington, Kingsdale area the 17mi area. First pass they went by and they could see the wolves and that they were by a den. Second pass they made through there they could see that they had pulled out the bear cubs and killed the bear cubs, third pass when they came through, they pulled the sow and killed her. Now that's documented. So, like you guys are saying, doesn't state a lot help of bear, even us guys that bear hunt and I've been doing it ever since the seventies. That's not helping us out. It's not, and that's over here. We used to call the area outside of town here to the west; the ruber, because we had a lot of sows with cubs in there. Now in the last five years, I want to say personally I've seen our bear population drop in this area.
Rachel	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	My name is Rachel and, I am a tree hugger. But I am not pro this plan at all. Primarily because it does not reflect the reality of what we're living with. And it does not, I think honor the way that we live up here and the way that we, live and the way that we hunt and the way that we, whatever. And so I am mom. We live in, Douglas County. We have, we're living in basically whole country and we have, deer tracks in our driveway. And I have kids and I have a dog. And, I love being in the woods, but I'm often afraid to like, question the safety of being in the woods without a firearm. And the other thing, reading about the plan and reading part of the plan, I realized that they broke it down. Do you do, identify as a hunter or a enthusiast where you live, blah, blah, blah. And what I think the plan does not reflect is the fact that a lot of people from the city come up here and hike our trails. Hike and use our water and don't really understand the reality of what it is to be in the woods and what it is to hike a Trail without, protection, without safety. And I think it's not a good plan. It's not good for us. It's not good for the people that come to visit. And, it's a disappointment and I don't think it's, it's something that we wanna do.
Brian Johnson	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	Brian Johnson – Old family farm been in the family 130 years. I moved back about six and a half years ago. Used to hunt there a lot growing up and do so now again, but I've been able to look up in the fields years ago. And, between my field and the neighbors fields would be unusual to see a hundred deer. And now if you've seen maybe 10 or deer, even at the prime time, it's pretty rare. Last summer looking out, and I happened to see him, you know, several hundred yards out. I couldn't tell right away if it was a coyote or not, but then all of a sudden there's another one and another one. Now I know it's wolves, all of a sudden they disappeared in the woods. But about oh, 15 minutes later, I looked out the window and they're walking through my yard. And what really pissed me off, it's, I don't move as fast, getting my gun. I'm not advocating breaking the law, but I do advocate protecting your property, protecting your, your, cattle, your livestock, your livelihood. I'm glad that Chanz is here and I know Tom Tiffany too. And so the one thing that we can do is when it comes to election day, make decision heard at the ballot box, we get people like Chanz and Tom more of them. And then once they get in, twist their ears, hold their feet to the fire. Then start changing these things. So thank you
Pat	N/A	Yes	Douglas Co.	Pat - Rachel's, my wife. We have a few acres in Maple, you know, two plots, five acres each. Wolf tracks right down the driveway. I mean, we have farms around us. Jim Soyring is one of our neighbors. We get calls, you know, well, the cow got out the fence and there's a point that might replace the cost of the cattle if it's killed, but takes a lot of time in the community, you know, chasing cows, fix fences. Anybody who's built the fence, it's expensive piece of equipment. Those aren't being compensated like Rachel alluded to. You know, we live in the woods. This is where we live. It's natural resources. It's managing those resources. So that's good plans. Actually, having a plan. Now, there isn't one in place, 250 pages. Now what do you need to hide? That it has to take 250 pages to do something that know other states are doing. This isn't rocket science. Im a carpenter, I hire crews. If it took me 13 years to do a project. I'd be fired. 13 years, to come up with a policy. I write proposals for projects. You sometimes two or three a day for a project. Doesn't take that long. I mean, especially when you have feedback. This is, America, government. We're the Government, we are the people. So we need to participate like we've been saying, we definitely have to participate. An issue with the DNR little bit, they did listen to because there's public pushback. One of the comments that was made was, something about these resources was in referring to the deer. Well, these are the states deer. Well my brother said, whoa, whoa, hold on they're not the states deer. These are the people's deer, these are the people's wolves. People saying we definitely have to participate. We have old dog, 13 years old was still very healthy. We lost her, couldn't

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Commenter
				save her. Three days, three day talking to her. If I only have five acre piece of land, I think my dog should be able to be on the back of my five acre piece property with pastures all around, should be able to go out without being hit.
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Im going to start off by thanking you. For all we do, were a small group. So see this? That's one hand, right? But it's got five fingers. I got another hand. Its got five fingers. And you're looking at me like duuuh. Understand the point im making, each one of you contact 10 people send something to the DNR. I heard this one thing, it wasn't well advertised. Well, we got this group now count for people, times 10 for each person. In each of them, times 10. We got to let the DNR, The Natural Resources Board know that this plan is bad. We haven't heard somebody saying, oh, go for it. It's a good idea. And they say, science based. My idea of science is a field that's got holes in it. They look in one hole to find the answer they want, but they never look in the rest of the holes. Were he rest of the holes, make more holes to spread it out. Contact the DNR, you don't need to write a book, just tell them. You oppose the plan as written. One line, one sentence. Tell then where you are from.
Bill Smith	Natural Resources Board, Chair	Yes	N. Wi	Bill Smith – Chair on Natural Resources Board. I Live Northern Wisconsin. I hunt in wolf country, and I wanna hear firsthand your stories. You talked a lot about the department and the board. This plan is coming to the board eventually. It's not there yet. It's got more work to be done. But this was an opportunity to come here firsthand, and hear your experiences, your ideas, and I appreciate your time and your energy very much. And this input will be very helpful as we look at future drafts of the plan and try and find something that's gonna be acceptable. I'd like to add one comment to this. One of the big difficulties that we've all faced is oftentimes the court system intervenes on this. Some people have mentioned it, there are court cases out of the state, around the country that have affected and limited our ability to manage wolves. The message I hear today, the most important one I hear is that wolf predation is big problem and we need to have the authority to deal with it. In order to get that it's going take federal delisting or down listing, and it's gonna take a management plan that we can defend successfully in the court system because throughout the years, this issue has been litigated time and time again. And I expect that that will continue from one side or the other. People have very strong opinions and sometimes we're not happy with the, the current management plan and the current litigation, but i ask you to think about, where we want to go with this. And if you're interested in having the full array of tools, including, tools that allow us to take wolves off the landscape. Tools that enable a hunting season. If you want those tools sustained in the future, we need to have a management plan that, we can defend, legally and retain state authority. And part of that plan is gonna have to be a sustainable wolf population. I'm not an expert. I'm not gonna argue for numbers. I'm just saying think long term. Think big picture about what you gonna want out this, and we can continue to argue. But if you wanna look for solutions, we gotta find something that's gonna be legally defendable or it's gonna be, wolf season this year and maybe nothing after we get litigated and, and some court intervenes and stops, whatever we're doing. I don't have the answer for that. And just raise it as an issue and ask for your thoughtful consideration as we work through this process. I have a question. So the DNR, they have regulations on the fish, all the other animals except for the wolves. How is anything never gonna get done at the DNR was supposed to be in charge. We have legislators that, you know, Chanz maybe, but we have people that are above him that drop that ball at anytime. How is anything get, get done. Like somebody said, we've been to all these meetings, been all these different, I've been the CDACs and stuff. Nobody listens. So can you listen? Can you get something done? I'm here to listen. I'm not mean, I'm not in the position to have direct authority over this until this plan hits the board as a recommended plan for voting and both, I, Sandy Naas are here today. We're both Northern Board members. We're here very early in the process. It's not in our hands right now. Okay. But as I said, we're here to listen and to hear firsthand your experiences with wolves and what you think needs to be done. And I appreciate very much your time and effort. Thank you. Thanks for being here. Thanks for being here. If this plan, which we're all in agreement isn't satisfactory or plan of some sort like this gets to the Natural Resources Board, what's the right Natural? Resources Board, it stands on this. Are you gonna reject it and send it back to the beginning? Again? As I said, we're very early in the process. The department has the lead on draft plan and they're working on it. They're still going through public input, they're still considering language in the draft, and the plan has not come to the board. As a board member, I need to be open-minded and receptive and non-committed until I hear full testimony, coming into the board. And I pledge to do that. I cannot speak for the other board members. there's seven of us. We each have a vote. We each have an opinion. And I think when the time is done and the draft is before us as a decision, and we've had a chance to hear and consider the full range of public input, each of us are gonna have to decide how to vote on that. And today will be influential. And how I look at the plan and some of the things that are gonna be important to advocate for. So I'm here to listen, not to answer questions I wish I had more answers for you, but it's too early for me to speak on that. I'm just in the learning mode right now. So thank you very much
Laurie Groskopf	Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	Yes	Lincoln Co.	Laurie - I just wanna clarify some stuff about the listing. I attended a meeting in Ashland way back in 2011 prior to the listing that happened in 2012. And the expert from US Mission Wildlife Service said there's never been a re-listing that's due to a biological reason. Wolves are recovered in these three states. And this is what happened with the California judge. Everybody likes to blame him, but the US Fish and Wildlife service forgot to put something in the plan that got us back on the list. And that was, they didn't address what would happen in areas where wolves are not recovered. Couple paragraphs would've done it. Wolves dispersed very readily. They have no problem occupying new territory and not all places are suitable to wolves. That probably would've covered it, but they didn't put that in there. This is not the same about by biology. This is about procedural issues and it always has been. So we don't have to defend our biological program. We've got a ton of wolves. They're connected to Canada, Minnesota, and Michigan. There's no problem. And they're ever evolving.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Commenter
Sandra Naas	Natural Resources Board Member	Yes	Bayfield Co.	Sandra - Resource Board member. Thank you. I don't really have anything to add to what Bill said because he's so eloquent. But I did wanna introduce myself. My name is Sandra Naas. I'm from the Ashland Bay area. I live in Bayfield county. I've been here for about 34 years. I was appointed by Governor Evers to the board and just, began taking my seat, at the January meeting. I'm taking information in here and along with Bill, open minded, listening to people, I understand what you're saying. I have, I'm a hunter, a trapper, and I have about 80 acres in Bayfield County. And so we see wolves on the regular. And so I understand, um, everything that you've, talked about today. So I just wanted to, to share that. I've known Pat a long time. He's taught my daughter and took my daughter bobcat hunting, I believe, with dogs. So, I'm aware of the issues that are out there. We bird hunt too, and I have dogs and, my kid is growing up. But, but I do appreciate everything that I heard today and hope that you can trust us to take this information back. And I'm glad that it's going to be, turned into the DNR so that they can listen to your testimony, and trust us to take that information back and, do good things with it.
Stacy	Representative for Senator Quinn	Yes		Stacy - I represent, Senator Quinn. And just make your voice heard. We as employees and the elected officials and all the state and federal agencies, they work for you because you're the taxpayer. So just remember that.
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	I just wanna say this, this meeting is picking up for the DNR failed, right? So Wildlife Federation tried to coordinate this session to hear everybody, ultimately the DNR should have been doing this, they failed us. So please keep that in mind.
Jim Miller	Representative for Congressmen Tiffany	Yes		Jim Miller – Congressman Tiffany's office I don't mean to talk on anyone, but there's basically civics 1 0 1 lesson, right? So we've got some legislators here. I represent a legislator. We've got remains office, we've got county board legislators, marks on legislators, some degree. Uh, we've got executive branch, which is representative to those board appointments to the DNR. And so they're barrier. And then we've also, we've talked about a lot of the frustrations about the courts, both state and federal. And that's a big barrier. Those people aren't represented at the table. So what I, wanna remind you all of is that courts is always a problem, but that's a co-equal branch of government. One third co-equal branch. We have a primary coming up next Tuesday. We have another election this April. So, and it hasn't been brought up. I think you know, the balance of our state Supreme Court at least. And we talked about the problems with Madison and problems with Milwaukee. And if we get another representative from Madison or Milwaukee under this, posted to the state Supreme Court, they know where they're gonna be. So I can't tell you who to vote for, but I'm gonna remind you Tuesday to get on Vote and vote in April. And again, that 10 fingers, right?
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	At that time, they said 30% survival rate for wolves. And I'm gonna talk these guys up in Alaska, I said, what is survivor rate? He said, I'll guarantee you the survivor rate 80% if they've done good food and we got food.
Lauren Vrany	N/A	Yes	S. Wi	My name is Lauren Vrany and I haven't really prepared anything, but I'm a little bit different than anybody that has attended this meeting. And thank you to everybody that has showed up. First of all, I'm a new hunter. I have only been hunting for five years. And the reason I started hunting is because I adopted a Blue Tick Coonhound from the Humane Society in Milwaukee as a pet. And she actually taught me what hunting was. It's a beautiful bond that I have with my dogs. I'm actually looking at three of my female dogs inside right now. Basking in the sun in my bedroom. These dogs mean everything to me. I, hunt raccoons and I show my dogs in, big shows. And I also hunt bear. Another difference. There's not a whole lot of women here, so I'm happy to be a woman, kind of just supporting that demographic. And another difference, I don't live where y'all live. I hunt where you all live, but I don't live there. And one thing that kind of irked me along with the other same points that the Wildlife Federation made with the 32 points, is the whole counting with lone and dispersing wolves. Western states do it and we're not doing it. I used to train my puppies on public ground in a kettle marine forest down by me. And one night I was hunting with three other folks and we all had young dogs and I heard a wolf and we knew it wasn't a coyote. There's coyotes everywhere. I'm not scared of coyotes. I will go coon hunting and we will hear the coyotes going crazy and I've never had a problem. I knew that was a wolf and the hair stood up on the back of my neck and we ran to get our dogs. And I will not go back there, with adult dogs or most importantly puppies that are not confident. So wolves in the Kettle Marine, they're down here. There was a wolf hit probably two years ago on State Road 33 down the road from me, maybe 10 miles by the Horicon Marsh. There's wolves in the marsh. There was a wolf in Albany, Southern Wisconsin, south of Madison. So they're down there. I mean, we kind of wish we could put 'em right in the city of Madison or whatever, but they're down here. I pretty much now only hunt private ground when I'm hunting raccoon because I know what's there. That's kind of my story with wolves. Thankfully; bear hunting, knock on wood, I have not had a dog killed. I know quite a few people that have, keep in mind, and we do everything to try and protect our dogs from, from the wolves. But like many people have said, the whole northern half of Wisconsin is a depredation zone. And it, it's just not fair. Now here's one, one thing, um, kind of a unpopular opinion amongst, amongst houndsmen. And I'm gonna have the unpopular opinion. I'm okay with wolves being out there, and I'm okay with the depredation payment going away, IF Wolves are managed to an agreed upon level. And I would think that's around 350, what was agreed upon when this whole reintroduction happened or around that number. So, you know, there's a lot of people that don't like paying out to begin with. If we can get wolves down to a number, I'm okay with taking that responsibility and doing away with that payment. But that's just my opinion. I think that's all I have to share. I think there's been some really nice comments made by everybody. There was the story about the woman that told, about her whole kennel being demolished by wolves, that that made me cry. And I think that's an experience that we can all relate to. So thank you for your time.

Name	Commenter Affiliation/Type	Wisconsin Resident	Location	Commenter
Duane Harpster	N/A	Yes		Duane Harpster - If nothing else the Department should get this message from the meeting: there is a huge disconnect between the a large portion of their constituents and them. The Department has lost the one on one connection that they use to have. Field people are the core of a good relationship, once you move above that neighbor like relationship, you lose trust. Most people in Vilas County don't know their fish or game managers and techs and the same goes for the Game Wardens. You can't sell this plan from Madison. My old college professor told us "a good state conservation agency is a inverted pyramid. You live and die by the work of your front line people".

The following are comments collected via the online comment tool available on the department's wolf management plan webpage during the public comment period. They are provided below in reverse chronological order.

To make the columns fit, the actual questions asked in the comment tool have been replaced with a simple letter and summary. The following is a key to the column labels; these are the exact questions as asked in the comment tool.

- A. Your Name: (Optional)
- B. How much of the draft plan have you read before completing this survey?
- C. Are you a Wisconsin resident?
- D. Overall, what elements from the draft plan do you LIKE? Being specific is most useful to our team.
- E. Overall, what elements from the draft plan do you DISLIKE? Again, being specific is most useful to our team.
- F. On a scale from 1-10, how would you rate your overall support for the draft wolf management plan as written?<-- 1 Very little support; the plan reflects nothing of what I'd like to see--> 10: Very high support; the plan reflects everything I'd like to see
- G. Please provide any other comments related to the current draft wolf management plan here.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Stephanie Eastwood	Most of it	Yes	All of the ecological info is so valuable to have in one place. appreciated the summary of the human attitudes study. 59% reponse rate is hard to believe but makes me love Wisconsinites. The plan is really well written, well organized and the background info is so interesting. I had to skim it, but look forward to reading the final plan.	Didn't find anything in the mgmt plan I object to. Please do what you can to stop hunting with dogs. Also, snowmobile chasing of animals = awful. But I did not see this in plan.	9	
	Most of it	Yes		I am ashamed to be a WI resident due to this plan	0	leave the wolves alone to live and prosper in WI
	All of it	Yes	Thoughtful inclusion of many aspects and biewpoints	Stating that state statues donor influence plan, yet advocate for rules	5	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		IT SUCKS	0	STOP KiLLING WOLVES especially with hunting dogs
	All of it	Yes	NOTHING	WHY can't the DNR do something for the environment? WHY cant the DRN protect wolves instead of subjecting them to hunters	0	The DNR should retitle its name and just admit it all about protecting the agency's own special interests - not about wildlife management
Pamela Saulnier	Most of it	Yes	I like the inclusion of Historic and Current Distribution of wolf range; Habitat Use Requirements; Wolf Social System, Communication, Reproduction, Den, and Dispersal information. I like the Ecological Influences and Trophic Cascade information, Predator/Prey dynamics, Wolf population dynamics, Media portrayals as "muddying the waters,"Public Attitudes and the inclusion of the 2014 Wolf Attitudes survey results. I also like (and feel it is very important to include) tribal statements regarding significance of the gray wolf. Also like the impact on livestock including non-depredation information, as well as the inclusion of abatement options that include non-lethal methods. Thorough and comprehensive document.	I do not feel there is any information that should be eliminated.	9	
cathy monahan	Most of it	Yes	I like the emphasis on monitoring the population using GPS satellite tracking on collared wolves. The emphasis on understanding the ecology of wolves in area with both timbered wilderness and agriculture I hope the plan addresses the effective regulation of a wolf hunt to acceptable limits.	I want to replace the word harvest with kill. Harvest is what you do with wheat or corn. Kill is what you do to something with a heart. Give the act the weight it deserves. Forbid trapping in all its forms. It has no place in modern use or treatment of animals. It cannot be defended	7	I live in an urban area but can appreciate the wolf as an efficient and beautiful animal. I appreciate the effort of the agency to allow wolves to exist in wisconsin and allow them to continue in their historic ecological role.
Frank G.	Most of it	Yes	Considerable background information was included. Especially appreciated the tribal input.	I would like to see the end to the dog training and hunting with dogs. And an end to payments for dogs injured or killed by wolves. Better yet, follow the tribal words and leave the wolves to manage for themselves.	7	
Karin Mahuna	Most of it	No	I am grateful that a numerical population objective was removed and transition was made to impact based management.I thought a good job was done in presenting the different perspectives people have on wolves and on the ecological importance of wolves as well as their importance to Native Americans and others. Thank you for including some type of buffer zone around tribal nations. In all it was a much more thoughtful plan than most I have read.	Despite all the acknowledgement of wolves ecological importance and people's desire to see the same number or more wolves in WIsconsin I am very disappointed to see that providing recreational opportunity so hunters and trappers can kill wolves for fun still has such a large role in management. I realize there are issues with the law and pressure from the commissioners but I do believe there must be ways to minimize those factors. I would like to especially see hound hunting eliminated and most certainly they should not be allowed to train hounds in areas already closed. Trapping is also barbaric and needs to be eliminated. Please prioritize the use of non lethal conflict minimization and use lethal control as a last resort.	7	
	All of it	Yes	That you don't set an arbitrary limit on Wisconsin's wolf population.	Nothing worth mentioning.	9	It amazes me how many people think that any wolf predation that affects their own hunting success is inherently bad. Do bluegill fisherpersons want to kill all Largemouth bass to increase their bluegill fishing? Do walleye fisherpersons want to kill all muskies to improve their successful walleye fishing? This twisted "thinking" that views wolves as a harmful species is biologically absurd and should be ignored and rejected by those managing the wolf population.
Liam M.	Most of it	Yes	Elimination of set number of wolf population, larger buffer zones around Tribal areas.	Lethal methods of culling, focus on economic factors over ecological ones, the actual harvest itself.	6	Larger buffer zones around Tribal lands, more non-lethal methods of depredation before lethal euthanasia measures are used, focus on ecological equilibrium. I want to see the healthiest wolf population currently achievable through pragmatic and realistic means.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	The graph on page 101 seems reasonable, but the plan is to kill wolves under the guise of management of wolves	state government sanctioned killing of the gray wolf by Wisconsinites who are desperate to use their guns to take down an appex predator that we brought back to our state after making them nearly extinct.	0	I am saying a prayer tonight for the gray wolves that are about to be slaughtered so the DNR can keep hunters happy and secure their hunting fees. The wolves don't need human intervention and maangemnt -- we skrewed up enough with their populations and should just let them thrive in Wisconsin. American Family and other insurance agencies want to keep deer and wolves off the roads so they can limit payouts. This plan is nothing more than sanctioned killing of a beautiful creature to appease hunters and insurance companies and farmers. Leave Wisconsin wolves alone. Keep the hunting dogs out of the hunt as involving them is cruel and unethical to both the wolves and the dogs. This is no different that the unethical seal hunts in Canada and the unethical whale hunts in Japan.
	All of it	Yes	Adaptable management goals which can be altered when found necessary to change. The continuation of the advisory team. As such, I am under the impression I will have an ongoing opportunity for representation through my local DNR wildlife staff.	Failure to recognize additional social and economic effects of residents and landowners in the northern zones. Issues of existing deerless areas which do exist (Monico block east of HWY 45 in addition to others) which effect land values and use. Although briefly mentioned, it appears evident northern deer management and deer hunting is a lesser priority than than wolf management. Although the draft plan cites many studies, many appear outdated in relationship to environment and current increasing wolf populations. Many of the goals of the plan will require staff and money for implementation. However, recent history of DNR Wildlife staffing has been in decline towards 50% since the late 90's, especially in the North. Most staff are funded by hunters and sports people through licences and taxes, with deer hunting being a primary source. It has become evident the deer hunting tradition, especially in the north has changed significantly since CWD, elimination of the SAK and other mis-manangement since 2008, and the DNR's inability to accurately asses the winter kill index's (2013 - 2014). There is much work committed to be done, however, recent department history of funding staff and following through with enough properly trained staff has been lacking for sometime. (your technicians made less than Walmart stockers) GOOD Boots on the ground still means something when asking others to trust your decisions. Those boots are not there anymore. Question? why was is it stated potential future harvest goals in zones 1 and 2 would be less than others? This did not make sense to me a person who lives in there as the wolf population is established and will only continue to grow unchecked.	5	Wolves are here to stay in Wisconsin, and it is recognized the department is not going to set a specific population number, and will try it's best to dance the fine line to make everyone happy. However, your job is your mission as identified previously while trying to maintain a ecological balance and equilibrium which is nearly impossible. Wolves have value, and as we all are entrusted to be good stewards, management by harvest is a necessary tool to maintain this majestic animal's place on this earth. Wolves are cool animals, but they can do their share of damage to the environment if left uncontrolled. (Too much of something good will become a bad thing.) I live in the north, I hear and see too many too often, as my property on the edge of the northern forest has also seen a precipitous decline in deer, except the few who find safe refuge near a home or two. If it is believed we need an increasing wolf population, please encourage more migration and suitable habitat to the southern part of the state. I know yours is a difficult and thankless job, do your best, and thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Anna Niblack	All of it	Yes	I like that there is no cap.on the acceptable number of wolves. I like that the Native tribes concerns and rights are addressed. I like that there is a proposed buffer zone around tribal land.	Too much emphasis on the trophy hunters desires rather than scientific data. Trophy hunting is barbaric.	7	The DNR too quickly resorts to lethal means when there are conflicts. Most of the time the hounder or farmer has taken few steps to keep their animals protected through commons sense and basic tools like good fences and livestock protection dogs.
Edward Sternberg PhD	All of it	Yes	The fact that DNR is tracking these issues, the increasing acceptance of wolves across the state, findings about wolves recognizing and culling CWD-infected deer, and tribal perspectives on living with wolves.	Recent fudging of pretty clear data that wolves select against CWD-infected deer, while human hunters don't.	4	I've studied wildlife ecology with Aldo Leopold's successor, studied and been a wolf-tourist in Wisconsin, am a trip leader for the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, and greatly value proximity to wolves. There is a substantial and growing market for these values, perhaps larger than that of deer hunting and certainly larger than that of wolf hunting, that is ignored if not suppressed in this plan.
Katiya Fosdick	All of it	Yes		Hunting wolves is unethical. It feels like you are just pandering to hunters in the state while people are allowed to use dogs to hunt wolves in very high numbers. Since wolves play such an important role in controlling our deer populations and other prey animals, why are we allowing people to hunt them in the first place? Are the tribes in Wisconsin and other people besides hunters in favor of this, or do we just not get a say? It seems like the hunters shouldn't be part of this plan at all. What does our ecological wellbeing gain from them?	1	
	Most of it	Yes	clever use of language in covering up the plan to allow for the slaughter beautiful creatures just to keep hunters interested in and supportive of the DNR	government chasing a mission so they can continue to be relevant to the hicks who will be out hunting wolves once this is enacted.	0	How do DNR employees sleep soundly at night while "doing nothing right" / DNR for the beautiful wolves that are now gracing the lands of Wisconsin after being hunted to near extinction.
Lee Anderson	All of it	Yes	I like the ability to have different goals for different zones. I am surprised it's something I can tolerate. If I had my way there would be no hunting. But it seems you are looking out for the wolves best interests while obeying restrictions (laws) that exist.	I don't dislike any part of plan. I know it's not part of plan but I dislike killing wolves by trapping. It is cruel. I dislike using hunting dogs. it's cruel to the dogs and the wolves.	8	I feel more confident in your departments management of wolves in WI. A detailed and well considered plan. Decisions are based on science and research with the under pinning of respect and appreciation for the wolves.
	Most of it	Yes	The goal of this Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan is to effectively balance the tradeoffs between the following key objectives: • Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role (Objective A) • Address and reduce wolf-related conflict (Objective B) • Provide multiple benefits associated with the wolf population (Objective C) In support of these primary objectives, the plan also strives to: • Increase public	There is nothing in the euphemism-ladden overall goals cited above that speak to kiling wolves with vicious hunting practices which don't offer the wolves a chance, but which are meant to pander to the hunters.	0	Are we really to believe this is about anything other than 1) pandering to sportsmen who take pleasure in killing wolves and deer and to 2) the insurance industry who doesn't like too much wildlife that might run into cars traveling in areas where the wolves live/

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			understanding of wolves in Wisconsin (Objective D) • Conduct scientific research to inform wolf management and stewardship (Objective E) • Provide leadership			
Rene Hersey	All of it	No	Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the draft plan. Firstly, this draft plan is extremely well written, I could read the entire draft and understand the proposal very easily. I for one am still recovering from the trauma I felt when I learned of the 2021 wolf hunt in Wisconsin. It's a positive to see that Wolves no longer have the number 350 hanging over the population. Wolves don't require a cap, they self regulate their populations, just give them the opportunity. The involvement of the Tribal Nations is a big plus, big step in the right direction because the the inter Tribal consultations w all 11 federally recognized Tribal Nations shows their deep regard and affiliation with wolves as family, as a relation and they have an ancient history of coexisting with wolves and all the wildlife. An example for us to follow. I applaud this inclusion, which was long over due. The social surveys are very encouraging, the broad public input by Wisconsinites was impressive. Your supportive numbers for wolves are ticking up from 2014 to 2022. Respect and wanting wolves on the landscape has become a dominant theme as is a recognition that wolves are ecologically primary to a healthy ecosystem. Objective D~to increase public understanding of wolves with consistent education, wolf summits, which will affirm your commitment to long term wolf "stewardship" to work collaboratively with WI citizens has to be a primary focus. That's a big plus to include this in the draft plan. Including the buffer zones around Tribal lands is a great step. The zone system and shortening reporting is a necessary step to have in place, but, I am opposed to any recreational wolf hunts and all mitigation should be non-lethal deterrents only. Page 140~Objective D~is great, increase public understanding of wolves. Please add their intrinsic value as sentient beings.	No to Strategy C1~NO WOLF HARVEST SEASON when wolves are not state protected or federally listed to ESL. Science has shown us that cryptic poaching increases when protections for wolves are decreased. The plan needs to bump up the non-lethal stewardship. Your draft even states the example that "over a 7 year period in Idaho that non-lethal methods were 3X as effective at reducing wolf predation vs lethal methods." No to hound training and using dogs EVER to chase wolves, this is just dog fighting, a terrible and destructive practice not to mention the infringement on private property, it's frightening to wolves, bears, and people. Page 135~No to trapping, it is not an activity, it is lethal torture & a practice which kills more than their intended targets. No to recreational hunting of wolves! The science is clear, a family pack can rebalance when one lower pack member is lost for any reason, but, when you begin to kill 2 or more in one family, the bounce back effect becomes less reliable, and fragmentation is a probability when you factor in other factors of mortality i.e. death from injury, automobile strikes, cryptic poaching and any mortalities from the DNR. Please read: (Kira Cassidy, et.al. "Human-caused mortality triggers pack instability in gray wolves" first published 17 January, 2023) Pages 30-32 are evidence that hunting and killing wolves will disrupt family structures which many family packs cannot recover from. The plan must avoid all lethal management of wolves. Wolves individual lives matter, their well being matters & considering them as co-inhabitants is paramount to changing public opinion and taking those census numbers even higher. The Committee lacked enough scientists from NGO's and advocates for wolves, I only saw the Sierra Club, but, beyond them, the Committee was heavy on trophy hunting groups along with government organizations. In the past 2 years a plethora of new U.S. science papers have been published which delve into the importance of pack dynamics, the pressure on the pack structure when loosing members, and the evolving understanding that wolves may help mitigate CWD, these research papers need to be read before a final draft plan is written. Wisconsin can become a true success story, there is much in the draft plan heading in that direction, but, tip the balance again toward hunting wolves and you'll loose all respect by the youth, and people who, in the majority, support a larger population of wolves living in WI.	7	I would like to see a lot more citizen scientists out on the landscape, particularly when snow is on the ground. Their presence discourages poachers. The PDM annual report should include how much education, on-going education and outreach to farmers, rural residents about increasing cohabitation & tolerance is completed each year. People need to be reminded and repetition is key. Thank you again for including my comments in the public record. Please don't go back to old policies, it is time with the growing positive feedback from youth and the public that wolves deserve protection and coexistence. Thank you.
Kara	All of it	Yes	Having researched wolves for over four decades (in my home state of MN and here in WI beginning in the late 80's) AND being a Psych. Researcher as well, I am uniquely positioned to speak with expertise about our wolves well-being. I found your document thorough, yet repetitive in many places. This causes most concerned citizens to give up due to its excessive length. I am very familiar with city/county/state documents, most of which are similar to this one. Unfortunately, if the DNR truly wants excellent feedback, I would highly recommend that you put out a brief Summary Document with links to the full copy. Especially when enacting such an important feedback survey. Thanks for listening! I liked the pertinent info. which began around page 102…quite helpful; good job. Studying wolf behaviors and what they realistically are and are Not doing to the state of WI is a key factor listed. Most people have NO true understanding of wolves…just heresay and stereotypes based on Fear.. it is long past time for Everyone to see wolves as they are: 1) They manage excessive populations (like deer/deer with wasting disease), 2) The alpha male and alpha female Mate For Life,	Well, it's getting late, so I'll cut to the chase of DNR actual practice over the past several years. To be clear,I DO like your proposed layout of all the ways you will study wolves now. Also, all the ways you will convey Factual Stats/Information to the public who desperately need it. As for Dislike, never again do I want to read about litters of pups being murdered in their dens. Reminds me of the harp seal clubbing. Your staff/hunters will need some serious mental health help, which is my field. Never again should WI, unlike MN, authorize annihilation numbers for its wolf hunt. After the past 2-3 years, our wolf numbers are approaching Extinction Status. Remember: this is not opinion, it's a researched Fact. I hope the WI DNR is sincere, as this document suggests, in changing its stance on these incredible wolves. I and others will be watching what is actually practiced. As a seasoned social worker and advocate, I can gather a large group in a heartbeat. The WI DNR should hopefully want to do the Right, Just, Humane thing in the treatment of wolves. If you wouldn't do it to your Beloved Dog, do Not do it to wolves (guideline).	7	Just that I am happy to work with the DNR regarding Any wolf plans. I am used to consensus planning at the city/county levels. I know my wolf knowledge base, longterm research, and psychology background could be both unique and invaluable to any further planning . Please feel free to contact me at my work cell: [redacted] if I can be helpful in any way. Like my GSDs, wolves are precious and priceless to me and I am committed to making sure they are understood accurately. Thank You, most sincerely, for taking the time to peruse my important feedback!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			keeping packs stable and definitely non-threatening to humans 3) Also, if wolves are allowed to do their jobs and hunters not given an horrific over-kill upon them, then ALL is in balance within our eco-system. Including no 'bothering' of any livestock, another falsehood about wolves. 4) Wolves live in family systems, caring for each other and caretaking for their precious cubs. Being a Family Therapist I can tell you withLots of research, that wolves take better care of their young then most people. Seriously! As the DNR, I certainly hope that you all understand by now that wolves (And All animals) Love just like we do; Grieve just like we do. 2023 is way past time to acknowledge the human qualities of wolf packs.			
	Most of it	Yes		it is appauling that Wisconsin is so driven by the desires of some to hunt and shoot, that it has a wolf harvesting plan that is put together under the guise of "A plan for stewardship, conservation, and management of the gray wolf in Wisconsin"	1	Its sad that there is such a focus on meeting the desires of hunters by the DNR that such a plan would be developed. Couldn't the wolves hunt the deer if WI had some management objective other than appeasing hunters and sportsmen who take pride in killing such magestic creatures.
Walt Christensen	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The recognition of the multiple ecological benefits of a healthy wolf population.		8	I favor increased reliance on wolves to improve ecological health and balance. The Plan is a great opportunity to educate the public away from the present high level of fear and even hatred of wolves. I would prefer the reduction or elimination of trapping wolves as an unnecessarily cruel practice. Thank you
Sandra Pella	All of it	No	- The previous plan referred to a specific wolf population goal. That population goal has been eliminated. - The ecological benefits of wolves (should be priority) which were understated previously and should be top priority. - Social survey which shows that the majority of people's opinions are now guided by science, ethics, and education resulting in positive support for the wolf population. - Increased acknowledgement and inclusion of tribal values - I am against any hunting of wolves, including recreational. While the zone system is important and the shortening of reporting periods a positive step, ultimately the goal must be NO hunting of wolves. - Non-lethal methods in conflict reduction.	- Hound training/hound hunting must be stopped. - Recreational hunting & trapping has no scientific basis whatsoever and must be banned. - Pro-hunting groups are clearly biased and fail the further advancement of a truly democratic and fair wolf plan. - Any committee / oversight committee should include a combination of biologists, scientists, professional, and I do see a need for relevant opinions from tribes and the public in protecting wolf recovery. - Absolutely NO HOUND HUNTERS. NO bounty hunters, no trapping.	6	This plan has made many advancements - I truly believe ethics must also play a crucial role when considering these wonderful sentient beings whom without the ecological places they belong to could not survive.
Linda Moore	All of it	Yes	Educate - important to inform public of benefits the wolves provide to the ecosystem and the negative results from previous wolf conflict mismanagement. Science based and working with tribes for planning.	I had limited time to read entire document. I may have missed it but would have found a condensed version covering overall basic planned strategy you are pursuing. Many examples of stewardship of others, not sure if those were some of the science based planning you are referring to.	7	End hunting. Use Non Lethal means only if science proves need for action.
	All of it	Yes				Wolves are dope
Genie Ogden	Most of it	Yes	It is very detailed. The data about the wolves,and whether they have an effect on CWD.		5	I was upset by the wolf hunt a couple of years ago. Many wolves were killed, more than the number called for. And this also happened when there were the annual wolf hunts, before the federal government outlawed them. Wolves kill the weakest and sickest deer and so the deer herd becomes more healthy. Aldo Leopard talked about this in his essay, Thinking Like a Mountain.

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Concerned citizen	All of it	No	Recognizing the ecological benefits of wolves. Also, realizing and appreciating the cultural values of some of our Native American tribes who also consider wolves as a Sacred species by setting buffers around tribal lands. I am a Native American that considers them to be one of our most Sacred species. Acknowledging the importance of public input and the fact that the vast majority of Wisconsinites and the American people don't want wolves hunted.	Not acknowledging that wolves self-regulate their numbers. Self-regulation in large carnivores like wolves ensures that the largest and the fiercest do not overexploit their resources. According to a recent work published in OIKOS, population control is what distinguishes wolves and other "apex predators" from the rest. Wolves are highly social animals that live in well-organized family units called packs. Cooperative living gives wolf families a number of benefits. In addition to facilitating successful hunting, pup-rearing, and defending pack territory, cooperative living allows wolves to limit their own population – for example, they control the numbers within their group by only letting certain members breed. Using recreational wolf hunting as a conflict resolution tool doesn't work. On the contrary, killing wolves can break up packs, and smaller packs have a harder time successfully bringing down large prey. Smaller packs are often forced to find prey that's easier to kill, such as livestock. Here are a few examples of what can happen when individual pack members are lost to hunting, A research paper published in the Journal of Animal Ecology in 2014, similarly demonstrated that the death of a single wolf can impact the entire pack. Using data from a long-term study of wolves in Denali National Park, wildlife biologist Bridget Borg, with Scott Brainerd, Thomas Meier and Laura Prugh, studied what happens to packs when one of the alphas are killed. They found that although loss of a single breeding wolf may not adversely affect the overall wolf population, it can cause the dissolution of the pack, given the right context (small pack size and mortality occurring during breeding season). In most cases where a pack broke apart, the dissolution was preceded by a loss of an alpha (especially when the pack was small to begin with). They found that out of 70 packs in Denali National Park, the death of an alpha was associated with 77% of packs that split up. Moreover, the pack was more likely to dissolve if it was the alpha female (mother) that died or if the pack was small. snaring, or trapping. Borg, B. L., Brainerd, S. M., Meier, T. J., Prugh, L. R. (2015), Impacts of breeder loss on social structure, reproduction and population growth in a social canid. Journal of Animal Ecology, 84: 177–187. doi: 10.1111/1365-2656.12256 Researchers at Washington State University found that killing wolves to keep them from predating on livestock is counter-productive. In other words, the killing of wolves to protect livestock can actually cause more sheep and cattle deaths the following year. Wildlife biologist Rob Wielgus and Kaylie Peebles studied 25 years of lethal control data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Interagency Annual Wolf Reports in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. Wielgus et. al. found that killing 1 wolf increases the likelihood of attacks on sheep by 4% and on cattle by 5-6%. The reason for this is likely that indiscriminately killing wolves disrupts the social cohesion of the pack. Moreover, in intact families, offspring tend to stay with their pack longer and breed much later. When packs are disrupted, and dissolve, offspring tend to breed younger and there are subsequently more breeding pairs and packs of younger wolves without older, more experienced wolves to guide them. These packs can become bound to one place when pups are born and occasionally turn to livestock as an easier food source than elk and deer. Wielgus, B., Robert, Peebles, K. A. (2014), Effects of Wolf Mortality on Livestock Depredations. PLOS One, 9(12). doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0113505 Not prohibiting hunting with hounds. If you've ever seen what's done to an animal using this method - it's one of the most abhorrent things anyone has seen in there lifetime. Not only cruel to animals hunted, but also to the dog trained to hunt them down putting them in harms way. This practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the public.	3	Acknowledge the fact that wildlife belongs to all American and most of us want to see wolves alive
Caleb Tydrick	All of it	Yes	I like the elimination of a numerical threshold which is used to weaponize against wolves. I think buffer zones should be enlarged. I think that there should be more of an emphasis on the ecological and evolutionary importance of a large wolf population. Deer have become a nuisance and are destroying wisconsin ecosystems.	I dislike the predominant focus on economics of a few farmers, when wolves are a public resource to all Wisconsinites. More should be focused on creating sustainable tourism economies that promote Wisconsin's wildlife and natural resources including wolves. Non lethal measures should be a top priority in depredation prevention. Native American input should also be held to the highest regard.	8	I love wolves. They are an intelligent beautiful and important species. They represent the best of the state and country when private and public organizations come together to promote conservation. Wolves belong here as do all Americans. They have a right to prosper as all wildlife deserves. They should always be he'd to a high regard.
Dave k.	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Having a lower population.	Having any wolves at all.	1	The Willow flowage area deer population has been destroyed by wolves.

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	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the plan's thorough overview of wolf history and behavior in Wisconsin, the input from the tribes, and the consideration of the public's opinion. The education of all those potentially affected and the cooperation between all groups is crucial and will remain so going forward. Specifically... 1. I support the effort to assess the local wolf population on a small scale basis rather than meeting a statewide pre-set quota. 2. As a member of the farming community in Northern Wisconsin myself, I would encourage other farmers to use several non-lethal strategies, listed in the document to discourage and prevent wolf depredation in advance, not only after, problems take place. Livestock guardian dogs can be highly effective in maintaining a perimeter around your farm. 3. If zones are put in place limiting the wolves allowed to be removed, all efforts should be made to actively work with farmers in and directly around those zones to provide information on the packs and their specific radio-collared location in relation to the farms. A specific and consistent online method to provide this data to farm owners would be beneficial. 4. I encourage continued education of the general public to provide opportunities for understanding of how people can safely live alongside the wolf and prevent misconceptions.	I would discourage the disruption of wolf families/groups as much as possible to prevent negative effects on their ecosystem and respect their importance to the tribes. Providing additional funding to educate hunters and to prevent dog and livestock depredation prior to it becoming a problem may be a helpful tool.	7	Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please continue to work with the public.
Kenneth A Block	All of it	Yes	- The reasonable integration of the Social Sciences Survey results into the draft plan as a whole. I do question the validity of its findings however (see #5). - The clear identification that wolf capacity and range in the state has perhaps reached its limits and maintaining present day levels is the ongoing goal - not continued expansion. - Acknowledging that BOTH lethal and non-lethal methods of management are valid within their identified constraints and application to specific situations. - The subzones utilized to protect wolf ranges in proximity to federally recognized American Indian reservations, as well as to allow greater flexibility to reduce wolf populations near higher human / domesticated animal interaction areas near the center of the state. - I like to expand my life experiences and have worked in large public natural areas as a ranger, I was a raw food vegan for two years until my hair started falling out, and my latest adventure has been to install (come on they are really non-green) lithium storage batteries and solar panels on my farm so I am not dependent on the grid, and I grow all my food, including meat. Life offers so many opportunities; unfortunately, for many advocates of anything, they too often have a one side, very unbalanced life experience. I have passionately experienced both sides of this wildlife predator situation - as a conservation employed ranger on the county, state and federal level in numerous states east, west, middle, north and south. I moved to Northern Wisconsin in part because wolves were present and I took the leap to start a multi-species farm - including sheep, the ultimate prey animal. It has been quite the experience. I do however see a lack of well-rounded perspectives from that survey of course, but so too I know that exists in government agencies and NGOs / conservation / wildlife advocacy organizations - especially with wildlife biologists. What is good in this plan is that you DO balance all the sides and perspectives concerning wolves. See # 7 for a caveat to this.	- The Social Sciences Survey NOT keeping the same questions / language the 2014 survey, then the INTERPRETATION of the new survey answers to compare to the 2014 answers. This huge subjectivity is NOT "scientific" and lends to a cloud of purposefully crafting OPEN ENDED questions to enable interpretations that might please special interest groups pressuring the DNR - most likely the supposed urban / "better educated" and urbane (supposed and self-anointed) protectors and appreciators lovers of wildlife. I do however laud the DNR for not allowing any such bias to unduly slant the actual objectives and goals of the actual draft plan. - There is absolutely no explanation of the liability for adverse human injuries and perhaps some future "virtually non-existent chance" of human death by wolf to the various governmental agencies involved in promoting reintroduction and maintaining wolf populations in Wisconsin. Depredations and human fatalities cause by bears and especially domesticated dogs are highlighted in this plan. YES - they happen, but they are never highlighted in reports by conservation groups or conservation agencies - if not for public media reports, we'd almost never hear about those. I suspect those are not reported because that would create a reality of dangerous interactions and perhaps negatively impact conservation efforts concerning bears and especially mountain lions. As to domesticated dogs; when pit bulls maul a person to death, usually its owner is prosecuted and sued in civil court for negligence. Funny, "Playing God in Yellowstone" is highlighted in this draft, yet the plan concerns not a bounded national park, but one third of an entire long settled and populated state. Compensation for livestock and pet depredation is not the same thing as liability for human injuries and death. Bear and mountain lion / human interactions will take place - however, they do not hunt in packs and maul their prey to death in packs. The public reacting to a pack of pit bulls mauling a human to death are not good. Sooner or later, with endangered species protections and the resulting the natural expansion of northern Minnesota wolf population into Wisconsin and the UP, and the ensuing spread in range virtually to the Dane County line, regardless of statistical probability, something will happen. Since the historic range of Gray will most likely will never infiltrate the northeast, especially in what I consider our sister state of Pennsylvania, the Wolf Range in Wisconsin is a huge gamble over the long term. The ever growing overpopulated (by "better educated wildlife and environmental advocates) urban sink hole of the Milwaukee / Madison region will prevent range creep between the cities and to the south. However, as it is now, the third most wolf pack population in the state surrounds Wisconsin Rapids, and is a stones throw from the Portage / Steven's Point corridor. Ironically, the Chicago / urban pit of the frozen north, Minneapolis / St. Paul / Rochester, is keeping the range of wolvers in that state to less than in Wisconsin it seems. God Bless your efforts at managing this range; a range much more difficult to manage and control than simply in a NPS unit such as Yellowstone of the isolated Isle Royal. Even up in	8	"Human intolerance". That term is so planned to evoke a biased perspective as does "human caused climate change". I had to smile every time I read that. It would be hard for me to work in this field nowadays. Of course - urban, educated wildlife and nature lovers are "tolerant humans" at least conceptually and aesthetically... Approval of this publicly proposed and commented on plan: Please have some semblance of ethics, morals, character and honor. Do not allow the NRB to substantially change this plan with amendments and approve it simultaneously without further public input - as was done with the Rib Mountains Master Plan.

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				the Wisconsin north woods (in the Chicago vacation home seasonal suburbs) we have managed to make a vast area of state and national forests into a patchwork of public lands and residential / mini urban intrusions. So too in zone 5, and the buffer zone 4A is proof there is danger between places like Necedah and Steven's Point - AND - the closing gap between Point and the Wausau area. - I doubt "ecotourism" will be successful in encountering wolves, but I am sure those educated urban wildlife lovers and national conservation organization members, sporting their REI caps and Subaru Outback's (with kayak racks) will try. They will find it harder to actually observe wolves in these generic patches of public wolf habitat. These are not an isolated Island, a million + acre NP. As it is it is hard enough to run into the right timing to see the huge herds of Bison at Custer State Park, Badlands or Wind Cave NP. So, I suppose I am pointing out the unfortunate tendency of the DNR to overplay economic development when supporting conservation plans, and "ecotourism" is just becoming double talk for crowding natural areas, destroying natural quiet and introducing economic development (hotels, crowded campgrounds, fast food, etc.) in the name of conservation and appreciating "wildlife". - I feel you are confusing American Indian Treaty law with "Sovereign Nations". Ther needs be a good Treaty Lawyer involved to add a synopsis of the actual status of Federally Recognized tribes under Treaty Law. They are technically "domestic dependent nations" that exist through the continuing good will of Congress. Yes - there are government to government relations - which does NOT make them "partners" (a term you use in several places), and that relationship is different between American Indian nations and the Federal Government than with State Governments. I also appreciate your respectful use of 'First Nations" mentions in the plan. However, like the Feds - and so many in our Congress and Executive that ignore / incorrectly apply Treaty Law and the Constitution itself, if you are speaking in Terms of American Indian Treaty Law, and you are in this plan, the reference is "American Indian", not First nations or Native Americans. Of course, since the rest of us are naive Americans - the use of those other terms are not surprising. - The Social Sciences Survey NOT keeping the same questions / language the 2014 survey, then the INTERPRETATION of the new survey answers to compare to the 2014 answers. This huge subjectivity is NOT "scientific" and lends to a cloud of purposefully crafting OPEN ENDED questions to enable interpretations that might please special interest groups pressuring the DNR - most likely the supposed urban / "better educated" and urbane (supposed and self-anointed) protectors and appreciators lovers of wildlife. I do however laud the DNR for not allowing any such bias to unduly slant the actual objectives and goals of the actual draft plan. - There is absolutely no explanation of the liability for adverse human injuries and perhaps some future "virtually non-existent chance" of human death by wolf to the various governmental agencies involved in promoting reintroduction and maintaining wolf populations in Wisconsin. Depredations and human fatalities cause by bears and especially domesticated dogs are highlighted in this plan. YES - they happen, but they are never highlighted in reports by conservation groups or conservation agencies - if not for public media reports, we'd almost never hear about those. I suspect those are not reported because that would create a reality of dangerous interactions and perhaps negatively impact conservation efforts concerning bears and especially mountain lions. As to domesticated dogs; when pit bulls maul a person to death, usually its owner is prosecuted and sued in civil court for negligence. Funny, "Playing God in Yellowstone", as some people perceive it still, is highlighted in this draft, yet the plan concerns not a bounded national park, but one third of an entire long settled and populated state. Technically the range spreads over at least half of the state regardless of exactly how many acres wolves occupy in that range. Compensation for livestock and pet depredation is not the same thing as liability for human injuries and death. Bear and mountain lion / human interactions will take place - however, they do not hunt in packs and maul their prey to death in packs. The public reacting to a pack of pit bulls mauling a human to death are not good. Sooner or later, with endangered species protections and the resulting the natural expansion of northern Minnesota wolf population into Wisconsin and the UP, and the ensuing spread in range virtually to the Dane County line, regardless of statistical probability, something will happen. Since the historic range of Gray will most likely will never infiltrate the northeast, especially in what I consider our sister state of Pennsylvania, the Wolf Range in Wisconsin is a huge gamble over the long term. The ever growing overpopulated (by "better educated wildlife and environmental advocates) urban sink hole of the Milwaukee / Madison region will prevent range creep between the cities and to the south. However, as it is now, the third most wolf pack population in the state surrounds		

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				Wisconsin Rapids and is a stone's throw from the Portage / Steven's Point corridor. God Bless your efforts at managing this range; a range much more difficult to manage and control than simply in a NPS unit such as Yellowstone of the isolated Isle Royal. In a way, you are making Wisconsin as settled and populated into a "public lands or park" for wolves with millions of people and hundreds of towns and cities as inholdings. Like those who dare to light "controlled burns" - sooner or later one "gets away". Someone has to pay the price - a manager, a person in addition to the pay or from the State / Federal treasury. Even up in the Wisconsin north woods (in the Chicago vacation home seasonal suburbs) we have managed to make a vast area of state and national forests into a patchwork of public lands and residential / mini urban intrusions. So too in zone 5, and the buffer zone 4A is proof there is danger between places like Necedah and Steven's Point - AND - the closing gap between Point and the Wausau area. Hint: all of those special interest groups like the Sierra Club who apply pressure to government officials and employees to take all of the risks implementing their appreciation for the environment and wildlife - will fade into the shadows and leave all the fingers pointing at those government employees if something tragic results. - I doubt "ecotourism" will be successful in encountering wolves, but I am sure those educated urban wildlife lovers and national conservation organization members, sporting their REI caps and Subaru Outback's (with kayak racks) will try. They will find it harder to actually observe wolves in these generic patches of public wolf habitat. These are not an isolated Island, a million + acre NP. As it is it is hard enough to run into the right timing to see the huge herds of Bison at Custer State Park, Badlands or Wind Cave NP. So, I suppose I am pointing out the unfortunate tendency of the DNR to overplay economic development when supporting conservation plans, and "ecotourism" is just becoming double talk for crowding natural areas, destroying natural quiet and introducing economic development (hotels, crowded campgrounds, fast food, etc.) in the name of conservation and appreciating "wildlife". - The recent amendments made after the DNRs Rib Mountain master Plan was submitted to the NRB comes into play at this point in my comments. The DNR used COVID and a mysterious reduction in previously approved funding as a pretext to allow the Chamber of Commerce in Wausau to hire an alpine ski development firm to produce the planning document for the DNR that the DNR lost funding to do on their own. This sham was so obvious, and although the DNR came to the NRB after years of planning and public input with a plan balancing special economic development / high resource, scenic view and natural quiet impact interests with extreme conservative / non-development interests, the NRB amended the plan then approved it making it the largest expansion option possible and negating all the balanced work the DNR presented to the board. In this move, the NRB actually developed most of what tiny designated "natural area" existed in Rib Mountain. Then, of course the NRB presented a planning award to the DNRs planner. Okay, so the old Potomac two-step is now the old Wisconsin two-step? Will lethal options also be eliminated through amendment in Madison once this plan gets under the nose of those educated and wildlife loving urban folks? - I am also pointing out the HUGE ongoing investment in personnel and funding to continue and maintain the wolf program in Wisconsin. I am sure the budget for those involved from the State itself has to be significant and thew goals of this plan can only indicate much more will be requested. I feel the actual cost of developing and implementing this plan going forward should be included as an appendix. - I feel you are confusing American Indian Treaty law with "Sovereign Nations". There needs be a good Treaty Lawyer involved to add a synopsis of the actual status of Federally Recognized tribes under Treaty Law. They are technically "domestic dependent nations" that exist through the continuing good will of Congress. Yes - there are government to government relations - which does NOT make them "partners" (a term you use in several places), and that relationship is different between American Indian nations and the Federal Government than with State Governments. I also appreciate your respectful use of 'First Nations" mentions in the plan. However, like the Feds - and so many in our Congress and Executive that ignore / incorrectly apply Treaty Law and the Constitution itself, if you are speaking in Terms of American Indian Treaty Law, and you are in this plan, the reference is "American Indian", not First nations or Native Americans. Of course, since the rest of us are naive Americans - the use of those other terms is not surprising. - Product B4c: Support increased congressional funding for USDA Wildlife Services. Yes, domesticated livestock falls under the auspices of the USDA. As it is their "Wildlife Services" division is total mission creep / overlap with the USFWS. That is not surprising, since the BLM, US Forest Service and USFWS began overlapping with the NPS by building visitor centers, and		

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				developing educational programs, etc. All agencies do everything - we all have a "mission" to educate" the public. I am not saying that is a bad thing, it is simply a thing. Where the heck else are all of these continuing UW Steven's Point and Penn State Wildlife Biology and Forestry graduates going to get a job beside Animal Control for local law enforcements agencies, huh? Oh yeah, the DNR's Wolf Program! Sorry, I overlooked that. However, since you are all in this together while setting up your retirement jobs with those NGO not-for-profit "partner' conservation / wildlife groups, you should explain fully the ROLE the USFWS play in all of this. After all the USDA and DNR need agreements from the USFWS, as do the Tribes, to manage any wildlife in the good old US of A. That really seems to be missing here. Why? - "Another study attributed a 24% average reduction in county deer-vehicle collisions to changes in deer behavior associated with the areas being occupied by wolves": Look - the local police in most of the range will not pull over anyone unless they are driving more than 11 MPH OVER the posted limit. I have never lived in a state that has so many small towns and police departments who know everyone in the town somehow. Drunk driving, tailgating, illegal passing, and not enforcing posted speed limits in a reasonable manner contributes to this citing. Point? Anecdotal statements that do not consider all the obvious alternative contributing factors is propaganda purposefully cited to reach or support a preconceived end. In this case wolves might not impact deer hits; just enforce the MV laws and a lot of people and wildlife will be spared - including wolves. I saw a black bear on a forest road in Ashland County once - it was about to cross the road about 100 yards ahead. Some guy was tailgating me (45 MPH posted road), then passed me doing at least 60 MPH and missed the bear buy inches. A BEAR! Opps - he swerved so hard he failed to avoid a tree though! Maybe he was an urban educated tree hugger? - ..."avoiding letting pets out at night or unsupervised,..": Your plan referenced materials mention the psychological impact of depredations on land / farm owners. However, the goals and objectives of the draft itself only mention monetary compensation. You do mention and no-lethal abatement by using guardian dogs. These by nature must be out all night and not confined or near a building, even if your livestock are in proximity to, but cannot be placed in a building at night. As it is, many old farmer will swear they shed no tears when butchering or dropping off an animal at a locker for processing. Regardless of what PETA folks and Vegans might think, locker personnel always tell they see many a farmer tear up when unloading the stack trailer at the locker. You can tell yourself not to become familiar to that point with animals raised for slaughter. However - for two years or so you do everything to keep them healthy and protected from predators. After all of that concern and care - all people have feelings; we are all the same emotionally under the surface. That needs to be included in educating all sides - to provide a common ground and understanding. My Marama Sheep Guardian dog behind my woven wire electric fencing - if a lone wolf gets in, the wolf will lose. If a pack gets in - my kids will be forever scarred of she gets mauled to death. Protections need to be a little more lenient in specific situations. I'd much rather see a wolf pack remain free and alive. Heck, I see no need to shoot coyotes unless they jump over my fencing somehow and attack my livestock or pets. I think this plan should lobby for some more leeway in the ESA for specific situations, such as guardian dogs on private property. If you are going to lobby for more USDA Wildlife Services Funding, why not lobby congress on behalf of the state for amendments to the ESA? The is a lot of stress and remorse over the loss of livestock and guardian dogs / pets taken by any predator - and I am fully aware of those many other predators besides wolves. - As usually - plans always purposefully evade a premise that worldwide or even continental populations should be in the equation. There are plenty of gray wolves on Canada and Alaska to be sufficient for species survival. The Lower 48? I feel if you are making a claim that the developed state of Wisconsin has an "ecosystem" intact that can be improved or rejuvenated by wolves, and that Minnesota and especially Wisconsin should shoulder almost the entire recovery of the original range of wolves for the entire eastern woodlands of the United States - you need to say it and support that, This plan obviously infers that, but carefully avoids saying that in plain English or even Ojibwe!		
Clint Blackburn	Most of it	Yes	I don't like much of it. The plan still intends to annihilate a large segment of a species that has no intention of sending any other species to extinction.	It does not address the fact that wolves mate for like. The Alphas of a pack are a couple that, unlike most humans will be together and will both lead the pack for the reset of their lives. If the alphas are removed, the pack itself has little to no chance of survival	3	Remove any "Wolf Management Plan" and allow the wolves to survive in nature. It is not up to humans to decide what species survives and how many of them should be allowed. We are not superior to any other species.

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Kjerstin Bell	All of it	Yes	Continuing to monitor and learn from existing wolf populations. Overall, though, there should be no management plan.	All of it. Why even include the statements from the tribal nations when you completely ignore all they say? Leave the wolves alone. They can "manage" themselves. Studying, monitoring, is important but can certainly be readily accomplished without annual planned slaughters. Indeed, the two have nothing to do with each other.	0	
Pamela W	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the details & explanations of Wisconsin-specific wolf biology and history. I appreciate the acknowledgement that wolves are a keystone species and an important component of healthy ecosystems. I especially like the sidebar on pg 13/14 that describes wolves' ecosystem services. I appreciate that you have acknowledged tourism and spiritual aspects, wolves' role in reducing disease transmission, and possibly reducing deer-vehicle collisions. I like that you recognize public repulsion for vicious practices like pursuit with hounds and trapping and snaring. I like that you seem well aware of illegal kills and do not conceal the problem. I like that you seem to have surveyed many academic and scientific studies and include their findings in the Plan. I like your consultation with Tribes and study of public attitudes toward wolves.	I dislike the following: -No acknowledgement that wolf populations are self-regulating -It is offensive to describe hunting and trapping as "multiple benefits" -"Harvest" is an offensive and misleading term. Identify the actions as what they are: killings. -The composition of the Wolf Management Planning Committee is clearly biased, with only 2 or 3 token advocates among 29 committee members. It is disingenuous to describe the committee as "inclusive." -No apparent requirements or expectations of livestock producers and hunters with respect to compensation. I realize that compensation is mandated by statute, but surely administrative rules can establish responsibilities for livestock producers & hunters to properly steward their animals. -The Plan downplays nonlethal methods. -No acknowledgement of wolves as sentient beings. -Apparently, very inadequate enforcement, as evidenced by illegal killings. The number of collared wolves killed illegally between 1979 and 2021 is atrocious and shocking (p 53). -Killing of pups is unacceptable. -Awful "allowed methods of take" (foothold traps, snares, bait, electronic calls, pursuit by hounds). Each of these ignores fair chase principles.	6	I am impressed by the comprehensiveness of this Plan but troubled that you miss a glaring, screaming question: Yes, it may be possible for wolves to survive relentless persecution via recreational hunts, but why? Who does this serve? Doesn't this ignore majority public sentiment against recreational killing? On page xi "species management should…accurately reflect the ecological and social landscapes in which they are applied." In this respect, the Plan falls short.
Alexander Vaeth	Most of it	Yes	1. The overall emphasis on ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population that can fulfill its ecological role (vs. using subjective/political population targets). 2. Respect shown for the cultural significance of wolves, most importantly for First Nations members, and especially as evidenced in the inclusion of "buffer" zones around First Nation land where wolves may not be hunted. 3. The inclusion of Strategy B5- Continue to research conflict mitigation, prevention measures and develop new techniques for addressing conflicts. 4. The emphasis on educating the public about wolves and non-consumptive "uses" of wolves.	1. I think Strategy B5 should be the priority in mitigating livestock loss. That is, I think non-lethal prevention should be the primary strategy for reducing wolf-related conflict and explicitly outweigh all the rest. 2. I do not believe the plan mentions addressing the main source of wolf-related conflict: human encroachment on wildlife and lack of planning for sustainable human development. What can this plan and the Department do to advocate for more sustainable human development in Wisconsin? 3. I do not like that the wolf remains a game species in Wisconsin. 4. I do not like that the use of hounds for hunting wolves (or any other species for that matter) remains legal and enshrined in law in Wisconsin.	8	I believe this plan represents a step in the right direction for wolf management in Wisconsin. However, I think it remains hindered by its apparent orientation toward wildlife and wildlands in general as resources to be exploited. A more ambitious plan would consider more urgent aspects of wildlife management such as habitat protection and restoration, and the relationship between predators such as wolves and ecosystems that may prove more resilient in the face of climate change and species extinction.
	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the efforts made in the objectives and strategies listed at the end of the document. Its important, specifically, to inform the general public of the benefits of wolves to the entire ecosystem using science and data. The great thing about science is that it's true, whether or not you believe in it, and its important to show that wolves are not the enemy, as they are so often portrayed.	I have a concern regarding the current use of either the Adams or Fuller models in forecasting/determining this years quota. It doesn't seem, from what I read or saw, take into account the 2021 harvest season. If I follow the trend-line, would 2021 be considered an outlier? If so, what safe-guards would be in place so that the number of kills doesn't exceed the number of licenses?	7	I concerned with what exactly the motivation is on killing wolves. Maybe I missed it, but I didn't see it in this document, besides the studies referenced. It appears special interest groups and lobbyists have clouded the water with the notion that wolves are killing all the deer and that's why there's no deer for hunters, so it becomes just revenge killing. There really needs to be an emphasis made on getting facts based on science and data out to the public on the importance of wolves to the entire ecosystem. What actions are being put in place for poaching and falsifying killings or not reporting killings? There seems to be a lot of trust built in this plan that these hunters are going to follow the 24 hr call-in, assuming they call at all.
Jesse Niemeier	Most of it	Yes	N/A	No population goal or not a low enough population goal	1	I'd like to see the original population goal of 350
William McConnell	Most of it	Yes	The portions of the scientific background which are peer reviewed.	All three objectives seem to revolve around and depend on killing wolves in order to manage the population.	3	The courts have to manage wolf populations in WI because the WI DNR is politicized and science is often overruled. The WI DNR is beholden mainly to the hook and bullet crowd. The WI DNR conducted the outrageous 2021 "legal" wolf slaughter. The commission overseeing the WI DNR is highly political. Wolf-human conflict should be addressed by live trapping and relocation if possible. No hunting of wolves. No hunting wolves with dogs. No reimbursement for injured or killed dogs. No trapping whatsoever. Wolves are already heavily managed by automobile collision and poaching, neither of which is really managed or enforced against. The ridiculous, purposefully managed overpopulation of whitetail deer contributes to a higher wolf population. Many mammals are heavily over trapped. If this were not the case, wolves would have access to a more natural food source and may be less likely to encroach on domestic livestock. I believe there should be some large wild habitat areas where wolves are left to themselves and not managed by humans. They were here first.
Travis leuzinger	All of it	Yes	I liked the information on how harvest influenced the hierarchy of newly established packs. I think that is important information when considering the expansion of the grey wolf's range in Wisconsin.	I see why the social impact of grey wolf management is discussed in the draft, however I am much more concerned with the scientific and ecological management of the animal. If the goal is to create a cohesive ecosystem with grey wolves on the landscape then I believe that is best done through logical decision making rather than emotional persuasion.	8	I believe that the reinstatement of a managed harvest season is vital in effectively managing our grey wolf population. Wisconsin was once home to the grey wolf and should always be home to the grey wolf. I hope to have a healthy and managed population on the landscape for generations to come.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I think a lot of work has gone into the plan. It attempts to find a balance between maintaining a viable wolf population and minimizing depredations and other negative impacts of living with wolves.	Specifically the collective quota of only 4 wolves for all 1B zones is too few. I raise sheep and cattle in a 1B subzone. Several of my neighbors have experienced significant losses of cows, calves, chickens, and even horses from wolf depredation, yet now we are placed within a 1B refuge zone.?? I am generally in favor of maintaining a healthy wolf population in WI. However I would think it more prudent to allow a certain number of wolves taken, per each 1B subzone. So if 4 wolves are taken in the 1B subzone around Bad River for example, close that subzone only, etc.	5	Thanks for all the work that has gone into drafting this plan.
Carol Johnson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		10	
Jim Yates	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Keep harvesting using the zone maps according to needs	Trial area should have some harvest management	6	Keep managing with harvest maps proposed. Thanks
John shipley	Most of it	Yes	Long range plan	Really nothing		Please..NO hunting wolves with dogs…this is NOT hunting…no sportsman could advocate for that.
		Yes				Wolfs range bull.I'm 70. In the 60s and 70s there were no wolves in Rock county. Then came the DNR and the wolf. Calves and cattle have been dying ever since . And it's not feral dogs .
Julie Clare Zachman	Most of it	Yes	Sound science, better understanding of what the population numbers should look like, citizen input, respect for tribal input and treaty rights, better understanding of how wolves fit into the environments they inhabit.	Don't like a wolf hunt at all. I'd like to see plans for permanent and complete funding of research, studies, etc. Stop, stop, stop the hounding. Also, I'm surprised there are no veterinary groups in the Plan Committee.	8	As a Wisconsin resident and as a person concerned with the ways humans affect, and sometimes damage, the environment I would like to see no wolf harvest, and lethal control of wolves kept to the absolute minimum. I am pleased to see scientific knowledge play a central role in the wolf management plan, and I strongly support its continued centrality. The traditions and ways of knowing of native tribes are of great value as well. It's good that the Wisconsin tribes are being consulted, as they should be per their treaty rights, and that low quota zones are being established around reservations. While I am not a member of a tribe, my ancestors generations back no doubt had a close connections to their native places, the British Isles and Western Europe. They may have thought of some native animal as a brother, and had cultural traditions around them. There is no reason I shouldn't feel the same here in Wisconsin. My own religious tradition teaches about love that should be given to animals and nature. My birthdate and one of my given names relate to St. Francis of Assisi, whose life and teachings showed a love and respect for many animals — Sister Cricket, Brother Pheasant, Sister Swallows, and of course, Brother Wolf. Whether or not the many stories are apocryphal does not take away from the long history of humans desiring to live in love and harmony with the natural world, including scary predators. Being apex predators, highly intelligent, and near relatives of the animal species most beloved of all by humans, puts the wolf in a special spot, indeed. My admiration and respect for wolves does not mean I think everyone must love or even liked them. To have your farm animals killed by wolves has got to be horrific. It stands to reason that there should be the ability to control and compensate, as well as train, support, and educate those whose animals may become prey. Continuous scientific studies in this area must be funded as well. It also makes sense to me that those who live in wolf range should feel heard. It is nevertheless true that all Wisconsinites have a legitimate interest — economic, environmental, and emotional — in preserving our great forests, our unique trio of biomes, and the enjoyment of all sorts of visitors to our wilder places, including tourists, birders, vacationers, and other non consumptive appreciators of nature. I am very supportive of hunting in general. My sympathy for deer hunters, trappers, and other consumers of forest animals is tempered by my awareness that the fees and licenses purchased by such are sometimes used as a reason for a minority to have the primary say in wolf and herd management. The economic benefit of non-consumptive users are enormous, and the health, balance, and wise management of the ecosystem are important to all citizens. Your draft report touched on aspects of the effect of wolves on forests that greatly interest me. That their presence changes browsing habits of ungulates, predation of mice and voles, thus affecting seed dispersal, and no doubt many other effects, seems to me like a very big deal. This section followed a tempered account of claims made about changes to plant life in Yellowstone following the reintroduction of wolves. But I notice that the better quality data and methodology that have been used to study northern forests after wolves came back have resulted and findings of the same general nature, albeit less dramatically stated: wolf presence has an effect on the plants of the forest. This may be me romanticizing, but I think of apex predators like wolves as 'Protectors of the Plants'. I cannot imagine that we would ever have a full

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						understanding of our own Wisconsin biomes if a keystone species that is supposed to be there is driven to a population that it wouldn't arrive at naturally. Finally, I believe there is a connection to mental health and hunting practices. I have heard of the "shoot, shovel, and shut up" saying of vengeful, illegal wolf killers. I've read truly vicious trolling of papers out of (I think) Michigan Tech that come to the 'wrong' conclusion Isle Royals wolves. I've read about bear hounding and the horrific regulations around putting trapped animals (feral cats, bear cubs) in roll cages to be terrorized for hours on end as part of hound 'training'. I'm sure there's more. Some day the full suite of inconsistent, and at times inhumane, regulations around the treatment of animals large and small in Wisconsin will become widely known, and it will be a shame and a stain on our culture. What's the mental health connection to wolves? Fair chase, and ethical hunting practices feed the soul. My very stressed out Dad would go hunting with his buddies on fall Saturdays and come back with pheasant and squirrel for Sunday dinner. Those Saturdays were good days, he was happy and at peace. If he ran around with a wolf-hating crowd of hounders, he would not have been the better for it, and those Saturdays and Sundays would not have been the pleasant memories they are.
Lee Robinson	All of it	No	The new plan removes an arbitrary population goal, ensuring wolf management is adaptive and based upon the best science; recognizes the ecological benefits of wolves; emphasizes reducing poaching; acknowledges successful wolf recovery requires engaging the steadily growing , and favorable public support of a viable wolf population; creates overdue buffer zones around tribal lands (add/expand); and notes accountable farming practices, such as proper carcass disposal, equates to fewer wolf-livestock conflicts.	I would like to see higher priority placed on proven, science -based non -lethal methods to reduce wolf depredation; permanent, stakeholder and scientific oversight boards of the wolf plan; and a framework to ensure it is regularly updated based upon the best available science.	9	I want to thank the WDNR for writing a wolf management plan that centers on science, public input, and Tribal engagement- all of which are the pillars of the best practices to protect, conserve, and sustain gray wolves, and other natural resources , in Wisconsin.
Keith Caulfield	Most of it	Yes	None.	The plan was written in an office by office dwellers, not in the woods by people that need to deal with the consequences of the poor judgment of others.	1	Please consider the number of communities in this state that prohibit specific breeds of domesticated dogs on the premise of safety. How is a wild wolf more compatible with a settled territory of Wisconsin than a pit bull?
Casey	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Focus on using coexistence strategy when dealing with wolves, eliminating population goals	Still allowing recreational wolf hunting. I think wolves can manage themselves well, and for problem wolves they can be dealt with on as needed basis	5	I would like to see hound hunting banned in known wolf territory, eliminate payout for hound depredation as I feel it's being misused by irresponsible and cruel people
Elizabeth Whelan	Most of it	Yes	I liked the fact that the plan removes the arbitrary numbers for the population. This gives the population an opportunity for more natural growth and retraction. I like that there was a lot of focus on the wolf's ecological importance. I feel like I know a lot about wolf biology but I gleaned more from reading the plan. I like that the plan includes low-quota zones around tribal lands. Thank you for listening to indigenous people. I appreciate that there have been multiple opportunities to provide public input.	I would like to see guidance or a plan in place for the future and updated reviews. I think the fact that this was the newest plan since 1999 shows that this needs to be a recurring effort. The DNR should definitely better regulate hound training on wolves. It should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf-hunting zone closes. The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter. The plan would also provide better guidance to farmers on responsible predator-preventative methods. There are non-lethal methods available that should be encouraged.	9	Thank you for providing this plan. I hope it educates a lot of Wisconsinites about the place of wolves in the ecosystem.

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	Most of it	Yes	I like very little to nothing about the DNR wolf management plan. I graduated from the college of natural resources in Stevens Point in 1987. The change in the DNR and the bureaucracy has been unbelievable in my lifetime. Growing up in Northern Wisconsin and watching the WDNR go from a leader in wildlife management to a joke has been painful to watch. From the Kroll deer management to the Elk herd(going to feed wolves) to wolf management has been hard on hunters and sportsman to watch. I have been fortunate to have hunted through out Canada and the US for the past 40 years and see how WI has fallen behind after starting out as a leader in wildlife management. Like most avid hunters in Northern Wisconsin I have seen the deer,coyote, and even bear populations negatively affected by wolves in the areas my family hunt and spend our time outdoors. My family has property in Bayfield, Iron, Oneida, and Vilas counties. We have lost several dogs to wolves in the past 10 years and have had wolves take dogs down another half a dozen times. We have had wolves come in and attack our turkey decoys while trying to call turkeys. We quit letting our kids and grandkids walk our properties without one of us with them(usually armed). Wolves have been on the decks of our houses and hunting cabins in Oneida, Iron, and Bayfield counties. For the WDNR to allow politics, the people that live outside wolf populations, and the tribes to dictate how to manage wolves in Northern WI is just wrong. That's the same reason why I can't keep a walleye from lake Minocqua. This will be the first year since the patron license has come out that I won't be buying one. If your looking for the reason that hunters are leaving the WI system look no further than your management. I'm sure if you are still reading this you are saying good riddance, but I can assure you after hunting WI for 45 plus years the hunting public has lost all credibility in the WDNR wolf management.	As for what I dislike about the draft plan, I think the WI Wildlife Federation and Laurie Groskopf would be a good start with their 32 points against this plan. The biggest dislikes that come to mind would be No population goal,large buffer zones around reservations, and the wolf population estimates themselves. I also believe the DNR should be the main voice pushing elected officials and the federal government to delist from the Endangered Species List instead of using delisting as an excuse not to have to deal with wolf management or wolf hunting. The passion of someone like Laurie Groskopf who puts her time into this issue for no pay is worth more than most wolf experts the state pays. I personally hunt WI about 100 to 150 days per year depending on tags I receive. I work in the woods as a forester and a logger most the other days, so I have a pretty good idea what happens in the woods of Northern WI. The DNR is slowly getting rid of hunting, and and especially hound hunting and the hunting by promoting a unlimited wolf population. There is nowhere in Northern WI where that you can be confident of putting out a dog to hunt that you can be sure it won't get killed by wolves. And who wants to drag out what little is left from a wolf killed dog in front of their wife, kids, and grandkids. We find 40 plus wolves almost daily in Oneida county and go home a lot of days not being able to hunt due to too many wolves around. The most we found all going in to one 160 acre piece is 16 and the most we have in one picture is 13(taken on ice). During the last wolf season we cold tracked a big male 30 plus miles before starting the chase. He started with 4 others for about 5 miles and was joined by 3 more. After 2-3 miles the 3 left to the West and after a couple more miles he was by himself. After another 4-5 miles he was with another 4-5 wolves. We drove around each piece and probably should have chased some of the smaller wolves, but we stuck with the big male. In 30 miles of cold track he joined and left an additional two groups of 4-6 wolves. We got him clear of other wolves and chased him until dark. The number of wolves where ever we go is just overwhelming. There are about 40 people in our group of family and friends that hunt together and after talking with them I think 3 responded to this survey. After talking to 2 other groups bigger than ours they said none of them responded. Everyone says this isn't worth their time, since the state will do whatever it wants. It's too bad the DNR lost the backing of the hunting population, and now it will rely on people that just want as many wolves as possible in the state since it doesn't affect them.	1	
Susan Ballard	All of it	Yes	Extensive background and history of wolf populations info. Abandonment of an arbitrary numerical quota previously used. Inclusion of public attitudes data. Inclusion of some info on ecological effects/benefits of wolves on the landscape and as part of the ecosystem. Inclusion of tribal input. Buffer zones. Plans to educate public on wolves. Plans to teach rural residents about non-lethal abatement methods.	It treats wolves as a group to manage/"harvest" rather than the sentient, social, complex creatures that they are. The action steps do not respect the tribes view of wolf as brother whose fate is intertwined with humans. Department's acceptance and support of using dogs to hunt wolves. Hunting in particular zones as a means of conflict resolution (not realistic and no science provided). Not nearly enough emphasis on education of the public that personal safety related fear of wolves is way out of proportion to reality. Not enough emphasis on developing approaches to wolf-related activities to bring tourism, outdoor (non-consumptive) activities and associated dollars to Wisconsin. It does not address the destructive effect on packs, pups, breeding, genetic pool, etc. of hunting. The word "harvest" is by itself offensive in relation to wolves. It is recreational killing. It is too focused on the wants of a minority of WI's population, i.e. hunters & trappers. Those groups are over-represented on the Advisory Committee. Other stakeholders who use and value the outdoors are not represented at all except in the last catch-all category. Not enough to deter and reduce illegal poaching.	6	It is a great improvement over the previous plan. I wish there was more research included/cited about individual wolf and pack behavior and social systems. This would make the plan itself a better education tool. Some of the steps proposed such as educating farmers about non-lethal abatement and developing public education materials were mentioned but I fear it may be just lip service. Most of the automatic info sent out in alerts is "negative" and may cause more fear. Could there be more "good news" sent out in texts and email alerts as part of public education? e.g. cool snapshot captures, health of a local pack, etc. Thanks for the opportunity to review and respond to the plan!
	All of it	Yes	I like the fact that hunting and trapping are included in the plan as management tools, and the fact that the same methods of take as the most recent wolf harvest season, will still be in place.	I dislike the fact that there is no numerical goal involved for each zone and statewide. The population is still at a level where solid numbers are not out of the question.	4	I think it's interesting that there's no way for you to know where someone filling out this survey is from. Untold numbers of nonresidents, and even computer generated bots could be flooding the survey with their own answers to sway the system toward their agenda. Let's hope that doesn't happen.

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	All of it	Yes	I like the fact that a harvest season is integral to the management plan, and that all methods of take allowed in the most recent wolf harvest season, will continue to be allowed when future harvest seasons are open. I also like the fact that in several instances, the plan does admit to the fact that the growing wolf population, especially on public land in the northern third of the state, has had negative imacts on the elk herd and white-tailed deer herd. I like the fact that livestock/agriculture and hunting and trapping stakeholder groups were involved in coming up with the updated management plan.	I dislike the buffer zones around the reservations. The reservations are sovereign territory, of course, but outside of that, they should not hold sway over the rights of citizens of the state and the state itself, to manage wildlife populations, especially highly mobile ones, like wolves. I do not like the goal in Zones 1, 2, and 5: "yet harvest be specifically considered secondary to ensuring the long-term sustainability and ecological functioning of the wolf population in these zones. Accordingly, wolf harvest is recommended to occur in these zones, but at rates generally lower than prescribed elsewhere." With the amount of public land in those zones and the limited harvest of wolves in upcoming seasons, in addition to having the highest overall wolf population and density in the state, the harvest goal in those zones needs to be at rates the same or higher than prescribed elsewhere in the state. The wolf population in those zones is in no danger of becoming endangered or going extinct. But the total predator load in those zones, in addition to very serious winter severity conditions, on top of the aging and unhealthy forest habitat, it is all becoming too much for prey species to recover from year in and year out. Predator and prey species alike need to be managed with equal emphasis, not one is more important than the other. And the opportunity for a few people to hear a wolf howl or see a few for "wolf-related tourism" does not outweigh the importance of every other predator and prey species in those northern wolf range zones. I also do not like the fact that there is no numeric wolf population goal for each zone and statewide. It shows an obvious skirting of a major issue by those that wrote the plan, and it is obviously ignoring the justified concerns of a major percentage of Wisconsin residents that are directly impacted by the wolf population in the state. Yes, wolves are a very emotional issue, for both sides, but this vague plan will not help either side reconcile and come to agreement. The citizens of this state — especially those living and recreating in wolf range and are directly impacted by them, the wolf population itself, and all wildlife in Wisconsin deserve better. Yes, wolves absolutely deserve a place in our state, they are amazing animals, but they also deserved to be managed correctly, with all stakeholders in mind, especially of those directly impacted by them. I believe you need to go back to the drawing board with this, and involve more residents from the wolf range with in-person meetings and new email and traditional mail surveys. Again, this needs to be done right, and not skirt the sometimes uncomfortable conversations, and not give in to political games.	5	Go back to the drawing board with this and come back with a better plan. Wisconsin's wolves and other wildlife, and citizens — especially those directly impacted in wolf range — deserve the best plan possible.
Stephen Anderson	All of it	Yes	If the adaptive approach described allows for timely flexibility to respond to the ever-changing nature of wolf ecology and management as it appears it does, I favor this approach. We need a plan that can pivot and adjust annually and maybe even monthly to address this often polarizing issue of wolf survival. Seeking protection for den sites was also a positive point in the plan. Objectives E and F call for collaboration and sharing on"all things wolf" and I hope this includes cooperation with neighboring states and provinces for a more regional approach to managing Great Lakes wolves. The inclusion of individuals not necessarily affiliated with any organizations on the Wolf Advisory Committee is also a plus. I especially applaud the thoughtful matching of the 6 zones boundaries and objectives to the land cover types and percentage of public lands present. I support the call for continued reimbursement for livestock losses to wolf depredation. I very much appreciated the inclusion of the tribal perspectives, philosophies, and interests in this plan. I support their reverence for the wolf. I also applaud the commitment to continued research and improving upon methods of population estimation and modeling so confidence in the numerical data is enhanced. Though I have some apprehension regarding the lack of focus on numbers of wolves and population goals in this plan, I do commend what appears to be a sincere commitment to once and for all abandon any thoughts of a statewide goal of 350 wolves and the hope for wolves to be managed well above that level.	Funding remains a concern for me. Considering the costs of wolf management both monetarily and in terms of personnel time and effort over the past several decades, I am concerned about the continued funding of things like research, depredation compensation, law enforcement, etc. I'm not sure I saw much in the plan regarding future funding of wolf management, though I do support such funding. I fear some sportsmen will continue to object to their license and permit fees being used for wolf management. I was disappointed in the lack of habitat and habitat management discussion, a key component of any attempt to ensure the viability of a species. The northern forests are aging and suffer from encroaching development, privatization, and fragmentation....threats to wolf survival. I'd like to see mention of efforts going forward to increase both deer and wolf habitat, an endeavor that would not be mutually exclusive, as both species would benefit from more diverse, contiguous forest cover, as would other wolf prey species such as hare and beaver. Flourishing numbers of deer and wolves would be well received by both deer hunters and wolf advocates and perhaps reduce tensions between these two groups. I like to see a comprehensive plan and commitment to engage state, county, federal, and tribal managers in habitat management that seeks to diversify our forests and ensure younger stages of succession are not lost to aging and privatization. The plan should call for increased efforts to preserve large tracts of forested land, such as the state's easement effort to protect the Pelican River Forest as a working forest. While I support reimbursement for livestock losses to depredation, I have less concern for the loss of hunting dogs that are knowingly introduced into wolf range for the recreational hunting. The owners of these dogs must assume both the risk and responsibility of their actions and I do not support funding their losses. I support Adrian Wydeven and Green Fire's request to include all of Lincoln County in either Management Zone 1 or Management Zone 2. I would like to see a greater commitment to wolf survival at the "pack" level, given the unique social nature of the wolf. Research into pack survival in response to hunting and trapping pressures and strategies and responses to the loss of pack structure when individuals are removed should be stressed. I will be emailing some of my thoughts on wolf numbers or the lack of them in the plan, but as current wolf numbers stand, I would advocate for a total population of 700 or more wolves at this	8	I do have concerns that many people, on both sides of the wolf issue regarding increasing or decreasing their numbers, will object to the sometimes vague, open-ended nature of this plan and its generalizations. I understand this approach to planning, in light of the adaptive philosophy, but I remain concerned that this will foster a continued air of combative debate and polarization that will run counter to compromise going forward. Both sides will need to be heard and mediation must be sought as openly as possible with the best available data and knowledge of wolf ecology and human sociology. I hope this plan's adaptive nature and seemingly flexible approach will allow for the continuous compromise and concession future wolf management will require. The good news is most people want wolves on the Wisconsin landscape..something we have common and a foundation upon which consensus can be built. I wish the Department the best going forward and will stay engaged on this issue as best I can. Thank you for all the opportunities the DNR provided for comment on this management plan.

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				time, for reasons I will include in an email. The management plan dwells heavily on the management of the harvest of wolves in the event it is delisted...I am hoping the roles of research, habitat management, and public education receive their due diligence as a result of this plan.		
T Brandt	All of it	Yes	I like that the numerical number of wolves "allowed" to be sustained in the sate has been eliminated. The social survey that are being conducted to determine the interest in sustaining wolves in Wisconsin outside of hunting them. The increased recognition of the tribal rights and culture in valuing and protecting the wolf population. Working to reduce wolf related conflicts.	The concept of hound hunting needs to be eliminated. Overturning PA 169. No none should be reimbursed for the loss of a dog they put in harms way either by training or running them in territory held by wolves. No hunting of wolves should occur in or on land immediately outside of our National Parks/Forests. These areas should be off limits for hunting purposes so everyone can safely enjoy the wildlife and landscape. WOLF HUNTING DOES NOT REDUCE CONFLICT. IT DESTROYS PACKS AND FAMILIES LEAVING YOUNG ADULTS AND PUPS WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING AND GUIDANCE. There is still too much focus on killing, harvesting, how many wolves can be slaughtered- verses focusing more on coexistence. We need predators to balance nature.	7	WOLF HUNTING DOES NOT REDUCE CONFLICT. IT DESTROYS PACKS AND FAMILIES LEAVING YOUNG ADULTS AND PUPS WITHOUT PROPER TRAINING AND GUIDANCE. Killing adult and leaders of each pack destroys family balance. Leading to more wolf related conflict.
Doug Moericke	All of it	Yes	Inclusiveness - recognition of various opinions.	Bear hunting with dogs and all of the ramifications of this hobby	8	#1: Without habitat preservation, no animal population can exist. Specifically, concerning the wolf population, please provide wildlife corridors for wild animal population stability. #2: Given habitat / wildlife corridors mentioned above, genetic diversity will favor population stability. #3: Wildlife management of all species is really becoming human management. Politics vs sound science does not work, as demonstrated by the 2021 Wisconsin wolf slaughter. The historically famous "Wisconsin Idea" was destroyed by the wolf slaughter of 2021. Wisconsin has been a progressive, environmentally proud state viewed by many as one of the premier models. Wisconsin environmental leadership, such as John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Sigurd Olson, and Gaylord Nelson (Earth Day), has forged a pathway for others to follow. Let's bring back what we have lost. The new Wolf Management Plan appears to accomplish this.
	Most of it	Yes	Year by year stats		5	I was outside last night and our local coyote pack let loose. My 120lb dog was immediately by my side and the hairs stood up on my neck. I knew they were coyotes and we were safe. CAN NOT imagine the stress of living in wolf territory. I can manage the coyotes if they become a problem. I couldn't with wolves. I'm ok with a wolf presence, but they need to be managed. In my opinion we have an over population until the depredation reports/payments start decreasing and the deer/elk numbers increase. We had a hunt which didn't have much affect on the reporting. Please get the numbers under control so I can remain feeling safe going outside on my own property. I'd hate to lose that freedom if they move into my county unmanaged.
Miranda Siedelmann	Most of it	Yes	I agree with the 6th bullet of Objective B. It seems that farmers not being compensated for loss of wolf life has been an issue, and if they were compensated, the cattlemen may be more able to enjoy the benefits that wolves bring to the whole Wisconsin public, including them. I agree with Objective D, but I feel that public awareness of the issue is currently very low. My nuclear family and other relatives have lived in Wisconsin their entire lives and have never heard of the issue of a wolf hunt. I have also never heard of it until an Environmental Conservation college class I took made me aware of it. I hope that the DNR is able to increase funding in this area so that more people can participate in public comments like this one. I like that the plan hopes to consider the positions of all stakeholders, and I hope that it follows through on this promise. I like that the plan has an emphasis on evaluating the success of the plan and adjusting it as needed in the future. I don't think the February 2021 hunt was successful because it was very uncontrolled. The actual harvest went way above the quota. I think for a wolf management plan to be successful, it has to be enforceable.	Since Native Americans do not want wolves hunted on their land, the proposal to allow wolf hunting in subzones 1B and 2B seems insufficient. This is not recognizing their independence as an organization. Also, the area outlined around the reservation seems no more than 5 miles from the reservations in some places, when pack territories expand outside reservations, and according to the proposal, could extend from 40-100 sq miles. Extending these borders another few miles would not impact the overall harvest in any significant way, but would contribute to Natives' agency with what happens to the wolves that belong to their reservation. Like the rest of the Wisconsin public, they are affected by wolf behavior throughout the state, not just on their reservations. I hope that their input is heard on management of state wolf populations, not just wolf populations in their reservations. The bullets under objective A make no mention of keeping wolf packs staying intact. This is important for survival of the whole group, and could lead to secondary wolf mortalities following the hunt (the pack relies on all wolves, especially the alphas, for guidance in hunting). Indiscriminately killing wolves instead of targeting whole packs could lead to these issues Objective F: "Rely on science for decision-making" Benchmarks by which to evaluate success towards this objective are mentioned in this proposal, but none include measuring native plant abundance. Wolves reduce foraging of native plants by deer, which tends to improve plant abundance. Native plants help to improve water quality and abundance of other wildlife like Monarch Butterflies and Bees. The purpose of conserving wolves is not only to enjoy benefits of the wolf population, but to enjoy benefits of a landscape shaped by wolf presence, and I think this ecology should be considered as a benchmark. The economic value that wolves bring to the state ($375,000 per county per year in Wisconsin) is more than what they detract via cattle predation (only about 53 cattle per year in WI), so it would likely be worthwhile to investigate alternative methods to ensuring safety of cattle besides a wolf harvest. (specifically for zones 1A and 4A)	5	I don't see any proposed hunting season, but I think that it should not be during breeding season to avoid harvesting pregnant females who would then be unable to reproduce in Summer.

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Max Culp	Most of it	Yes	I enjoyed the overall information on relationships of Wolves and other predatory species, as well as the possibility that a high enough deer density could withstand an active wolf population. Pages 14-19	Use of dogs to harvest wolves should not be allowed. An extended season for archery hunters should be created. An extended wolf hunting season while prohibiting use of dogs could be created to give more opportunity to the hunters.	8	The wolf expansion southward has me not worried about my pets or fellow man, but rather the humane nature of letting wolves starve to death. Due to rapid expansion of pack sizes along with southward expansion of pack territories is leading to a "wolf wave". The wolves outgrow the capacity for food of their environment leaving a wake of poor deer per square mile ratio that cannot feed the packs in subsequent years. Unless the pack moves further south down the state, the pack will slowly starve to death. Slow the rate of pack size growth to create a more stable ecosystem for this Keystone Species.
	Most of it	Yes	I like the addition and focus about email and text alerts to people to help them easily gain access to information.	I do not like the fact there is no population goal mentioned. I feel that not having a specific number to reference or set will lead to conflict between wolf enthusiasts, outdoorsmen, and hunters.	5	I think it is key that having population goals set is important. My concern is that people in areas with high populations of wolves will feel that they have no way to deal with wolves and this will lead to poaching.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Please do not decrease the wolf population. Thank you.
Kevin Hite	All of it	Yes	Getting rid of a fixed number for a target population. Recognizing ecological benefits of wolves. Looks to use non-lethal means of reducing conflicts.	We have lots of issues with hounders trespassing, harassing, wildlife, and poaching and this plan does nothing to stop that. Hound training for wolves should be stopped. Wolf and coyote hunting should not be aloud at the same time to reduce gray areas if hunting is ever allowed again.	7	The oversight committee was stacked with groups that were pro killing wolves. Representatives of groups were not representative to its stakeholders e.g.Farmers Union. Or the allocation of representative was misrepresented eg. wolf facts / agriculture…
Virgil Schneider	Most of it	Yes	Morality rates and causes	That those from the city think they know better than those who have to live where the wolves are.	10	The DNR has done it's research, trust it
Sarah Bergstrom	All of it	Yes	I am in favor of the removal of any language regarding a numeric population goal. I like the emphasis on the ecological benefit and importance of wolves. I approve of the addition of buffer zones around tribal areas and zone-specific hunting licenses if a hunt takes place.	There should be an oversight committee as the new plan is implemented that includes 3rd party biologists and wildlife experts (and hunting and trapping organizations are NOT the same thing as wildlife experts.) A new plan should end payments for hunting hounds killed by wolves, especially in areas of known conflict.	7	This new plan is a good step in the right direction for wolf management in Wisconsin, but I do wish there was a greater emphasis on managing the human side of the equation through education, correcting blatantly false misinformation and non-lethal options vs focusing on lethal management of wolves, recreationally or otherwise.
Tracy	All of it	Yes	The map of previous and current range of wolves.; the inclusion of Wisconsin Tribal Perspectives and Cultural Significance and the inclusion of some of the indigenous nations names for wolf , ie ma'iingan, Mawaew.; the list of mortality and causes and other graphs.	Certain wording, such as harvesting. Wild animals are beings not crops. Why not just say licensed killing, and stop using this sanitized language of " harvesting". Unsubstantiated statements such as - "Wolves are unlikely to be exposed to any serious environmental contaminant issues while in their natural habitat". What about PFOS in the water and contaminates in the animals wolves eat.? Unless everything is thoroughly tested this is merely assumption or based on incomplete data.	6	I'd like to see more respect for wolves as a highly intelligent species. There should not be hunts on wolves. And definitely no hunts in the sub zones around the tribal lands. I appreciate the "compromise" lower killing allowance, but why not try zero hunt kills here? Hunting dogs should absolutely NOT be used in hunting wolves. Why would this be allowed to continue? And Trapping? NO. How can trapping ever be considered humane on such a highly intelligent being? I understand the state currently has an interest in killing wolves since they are delisted as endangered. Perhaps someday this will change. The plan has some allowances for change and i appreciate that. What about climate change and wolves? How this will affect their population is yet to be discovered. I'm glad the DNR values education. Please be open for the DNR to being educated directly by the wolves. On the wolves' level, through their own direct understanding of who we as humans have demonstrated ourselves to be. Hard to imagine? Just realize, wolves don't need to display our skulls to know about us. They try to avoid us. There is so much more of interest in nature - our immense natural resources- than what human "stakeholders" can ever experience without truly learning from these majestic beings. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.
	All of it	Yes	I'm not a real big fan of any of it to be honest. But activating sub zones to harvest has potential to be beneficial if done correctly	That af "fix" for farmers is to put up and build more expensive fences to protect livestock from wolves instead of being able to shoot the problem	1	The wolf population needs to be entirely moved to Milwaukee or Maddison people can see and understand why their unwanted. Or the population cut down to no more then 400
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Removal of the perquisite to manage wolves by some preset numerical goal that had no scientific bases (previously 350 wolves). Increased recognition and reference to the ecological role that grey wolves play in the environment and habitat Incorporation of a social survey that supports positive views of wolves, knowledge of the ecological roles that wolves play and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves Tribal reservation buffer zones where wolves to support a wolves natural inclinations and known ability to travel far distances (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed); wolves do not know invisible boundaries.	Does not reflect best available science on wolf ecology, non-lethal methods for deterrence, and how undeterred indiscriminate killing impacts wolf packs, their well-being and behavior. Emphasis on recreational killing of wolves or 'trophy' hunting; instead the plan should strictly limit lethal management of wolves, particularly in thrill killing trophy hunts that eradicate hundreds of wolves in a season, instead lethal kills should only be used as a last resort after all non-lethal methods have been exhausted. Particularly in the cases of conflicts with livestock, to ensure ethical coexistence Abatement measures should be required to be demonstrated and exhausted on behalf of domestic animal owners and livestock owners before any compensation is offered Lack of understanding and consideration for tribal views on wolves and their value as a sacred resource to those peoples There is a clear lack of consideration for wolves as a keystone and critical species, as individuals and their contributions to maintaining the natural order in habitats Ill-defined wolf count estimations which currently appear to overestimate wolves greatly which could have severe consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers Hunting with hounds should absolutely be ILLEGAL for the safety of the dogs but also because it is cruel, inhumane, and unfair	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	I am encouraged that the management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas. It will be nice to see those actually enforced.	The population estimates leave far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. Emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. Wolves should not be killed. Wildlife should be preserved for all to enjoy. The Wisconsin DNR is too quick to promote lethal responses to the rare conflicts that result.	0	Stop killing wildlife/wolves and calling it management. The way these poor animals are slaughtered it's nothing short of cruelty and animal abuse for them only struggling to survive. The Big Bad Wolf was only a fairytale so lets quit letting it be used as an excuse for unstable people to continue to destroy these poor creatures along with their family pack structure and stability. Stop them from destroying wildlife that I and others respect and revere. Let's create a plan that allows our wildlife to live peacefully for all to enjoy. Thank you.
	All of it	Yes	I found the history and Native Indian comments very interesting.	I don't like culling and harvesting wolves. I agree with the Native Indians and feel the wolves should be protected and act as a culling ffor white tailed deer.	1	Protect wolves. Hunters don't need another animal to kill. Let them harvest the excess deer. Nature takes care of itself and keeps the balance.
Lana Silke		Yes	It tries to consider all the stake holders The 6th bullet of objective b supports compensating cattle owners for their loss. It will help them appreciate the other benefits wolves bring to the state.	Proposal allows hunting on reservations. Should be no hunting. Should emphasize worst time for wolf hunt when pups are young or during mating season. Should not be allowed to hunt pups. Pups are not radio collared so we can't be certain how many are killed. Also, Deer vehicle collisions are a big issue. In the proposal it says wolves save an estimated $350,000 per county per year. We want the proposal to show how ecnomically beneficial wolves are and that they improve driver safety. Only an average of 53 cattle are killed per year in Wisconsin.	5	
Peggy M	All of it	Yes	Eco tourism, protection of dens, protection or tribal packs, continued study of wolves, and compensation for livestock/pets	I dislike the use of trapping, baiting, and hunting wolves with dogs. I believe in rehabilitation of wildlife.	3	The current Wisconsin law allowing wolf hunts has very little to with actually controlling the wolf population and is all about people wanting to kill a wolf. I believe in hunting for food. Hunters aren't eating the wolves they kill and don't need the hide for clothing. Wolves help keep the deer population in check and help prevent the spread of CWD. They also help with keeping the coyote numbers down and support the ecosystem.
	Most of it	Yes	Increased weight given to tribal values and goals. Consideration that most Wisconsinites agree that predators keep nature in balance, are culturally important and deserve protection. I strongly oppose recreational hunting of wolves. The disaster of the 2021 hunt should not be repeated. Glad to see non lethal abatement considered	I do not agree that hunting wolves is necessary. Wolves have their families, their packs to rely on. Killing them for recreation is not justifiable. Dogs should not be allowed in the hunting of wolves. reimbursement for killing of hunting dogs by wolves should be eliminated. The makeup of the oversight committee has to include a more diverse group than just hunters. The committee should be formed before approval of the plan.	7	I was very impressed with the information provided in the plan. I was glad to see that you included a social survey as this represents the viewpoints of a greater number and diverse group of people, not just the hunting population. I would like to see the wolf plan include those who want to move wildlife management towards and ethical, science based, democratic vision of wildlife conservation that respects diversity and the value of all life. Dr. Adrian Treves, UW Madison should be invited to submit input to your plan.
	Most of it	Yes			2	
Julie Smith		Yes			0	Leave the wolves alone. They don't need you to "manage" them, which seems to mean catering to a minority that thinks you "harvest" them like vegetables.
	Most of it	Yes	goals		9	
Leslie Cunningham	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Basically, monitoring Wolves' health is acceptable.	Paying people who use dogs to hunt Wolves and then lose those dogs to Wolf predation is disgusting and wrong. Wolves should not even be hunted, and dogs should certainly not be used. Nature is perfectly capable of keeping populations in balance without human intervention.	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	I support the removal of a specific numeric goal for wolves in WI. I support the redrawing of wolf management zones except that Western Lincoln County needs to be moved back into core wolf range. There was no reason to move it out of primary wolf range. I also support the creation of the subzones around tribal lands. These subzones should be zero quota areas. I support the plan's emphasis on continued population monitoring and research including robust disease monitoring and collaring/tracking wolves.	The plan seems to be a little light on exactly how it is going to accomplish everything it states it wants to do. It promises a lot, but where will the funding come from? Where will the staff come from? Do you have the staff to do all the things you want to do in this plan? Specifically, when it comes to any sort of wolf "harvest" and especially after the debacle of February 2021 and the extreme overharvest, I think there needs to be a lot more law enforcement officers working those who "hunt" and trap wolves. In general, there needs to be a significant increase in the number of wardens working in the state. You want to reduce illegal killing of wolves, then you better invest in more law enforcement officers and do a much better job enforcing the laws especially around those user groups who don't like wolves and poach them. I didn't see anything written in the plan about carcass collection from harvested wolves. There is a lot of information to be collected from the carcasses including age, sex, and reproductive information from female wolves. While I am in general not opposed to a regulated harvest of wolves, I AM ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED to the use of hounds to hunt wolves. It is barbaric, inhumane, cruel, and completely unnecessary to accomplish harvest goals as was seen in the 3 earlier regulated harvests before the Great Wolf Slaughter of Feb 2021. I am appalled that the plan includes allowing the training of hounds on wolves? Why? It is not necessary, again see the results of the Feb 2021 slaughter. There is absolutely no need for hound training. What a farce. You say you want to reduce illegal killing of wolves and reduce the conflicts between hound hunters and wolves and then you go ahead and promote hunting wolves with hounds and training hounds on wolves. This is just legalized dog fighting. I seriously question the agency's concern for wolves when it advocates for hunting wolves with hounds. There is no fair chase in this. It's just a slaughter made even worse by allowing it to occur day and night. Where is the concern for the species? I see none. It's repulsive and it is mostly for this reason that I really don't have strong support for the plan. It seems too bent on placating those who don't like wolves. I don't support paying for hunting dogs or pets killed by wolves on public lands. People are on public lands at their own risk. Do you pay for hunting dogs and pets killed by bears, bobcats, fishers, or any other predator? I am supportive of depredation payments for livestock when wolves are listed as threatened and endangered but only if the farms affected are using best management practices for farming livestock. There seems to be too much room for fraud otherwise. I am not real supportive of payments once wolves are listed as a "game" species and farmers can do their own lethal control. Seems like double dipping. Kill the wolves and get paid.	5	The composition of the proposed Wolf Advisory Committee needs to be carefully considered so that it is balanced and represents a variety of viewpoints. Politics need to be removed from the management of wildlife in WI. We are in this mess of delisting and relisting primarily due to Republican politics and meddling. Management of wolves in WI needs to be based on sound science and administered by natural resources professionals.
Julie	Most of it	Yes	I like that it takes both a scientific and cultural approach. I like that so many visual graphics were used and that the report was easy to read. I feel like I learned more about how the wolf population benefits our ecosystem.	I don't believe hunters should be allowed to use dogs at all or be reimbursed for their loss. The depredation reports were interesting.	9	I like that the plan presents historical, cultural, and science-based information. I appreciate that it was easy to read.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Not much.	Why doesn't the plan address when the State of Wisconsin will obtain the same power to control wolves as the western states. When DNR leadership includes such plans then this plan will mean something. Until then this plan is meaningless.	1	The plan needs DNR commitment to reduce the number of wolves in northern Wisc to no more than 50. If you want more wolves in the state relocate them to southern Wisconsin

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Alexis Pegram-Piper	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the research, the thoroughness, and the history of wolves in our state. I appreciate that there is a nod to Indigenous perspectives, that they are included.	First of all, I am incredibly concerned that ranching/farming and hunting interests are overrepresented and feature so prominently in the report. Let's be stronger as a government department that is supposed to represent the interests of ALL citizens (and I emphasize state actual Wisconsin citizens). Let the majority of citizens (who favor wolf protection and conservation, resoundingly), the sovereign tribal nations of Wisconsin, and the science lead--and NOT special interests who are out for blood and money. Relatedly, I am also concerned many out of state licenses were issued to "sports"/"trophy" hunters to come into Wisconsin with their sick culture of killing to murder wolves here. In addition and VERY significantly, the report does not take into enough account the disastrous, horrifying, shameful, ABOMINATION wolf slaughter of 2021, when (I don't think I need to tell you, but I want you to know that we Wisconsin populace hasn't forgotten) 216 wolves were slaughtered in a disgusting bloodlust, which was 83% over the quota. No one had control. Shameful. This is a blight on all of us, one that will stain and haunt us for decades to come--unless we do much better. This wholesale slaughter of a brother, magnificent species that has fought back from the brink of human-caused extinction and cruel bounty hunting needs to be accounted for, and should consequently bring any lethal measures used to "manage" wolf populations to zero or very near zero. I am also concerned that farmers are not disposing of dead livestock in ethical, responsible, humane ways that help to protect wolves from slaughter, rather than setting them up for their own demise. How many different farmers reported livestock losses or was it the same farms? What kinds of behaviors on the part of the rancher/farmer contributed to the livestock loss and wolf encounter? The report and our future wolf plans also need to address the reprehensible, abominable use of hounds/dogs to hunt wolves. This kind of "hunting" (if we can call it hunting because the wolves stand no chance against guns, dogs, snowmobiles, and rage-fueled trophy hunters) so unethical for the dogs and their prey (wolves, coyotes, and bears) that its physically hard to stomach. For more on this, I would like to refer you to some excellent public radio reporting on the issue: https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2022/01/26/newly-removed-from-the-endangered-species-list-whats-next-for-americas-gray-wolves Wisconsin is the only state that allows this repugnant, reprehensible method of "hunting" and we should all be ashamed of this. Any future reports and plans need to address this reality. And we all need to be aware of the inhumane, cruel treatment of animals every time a wolf hunt happens, and when it happens with hounds the cruelty is unthinkable and unbearable. I also know that this report does not fully consider the relatively "new" science on how integral wolves are to ecosystems. I would like to see this integrated and more fully considered in future versions of our state's wolf plans. I would also like to see information on wolves numbers BEFORE white, European settlers. Why don't we really know this and why aren't THESE pre-colonizer numbers considered? These numbers should be the target. In addition, I want the compilers of this report and the policy makers to know that you don't have to be an enrolled member of one of the two main tribes primarily mentioned in the report (where is the Ho Chunk tribe reflected in the report?)to know that wolves are a sacred species, our teachers and our brothers and sisters. I know for a fact that many, many more Wisconsinites feel and acknowledge this reality: our fates are intertwined with wolves and what we do to them is a reflection of how evil and reprehensible we humans can be. What we do to them will revisit all of us ten fold. This report is a start, but I know we can do better. We need to do better in the ways that I have outlined here.	3	End the law requiring a wolf hunt. End, END all hunting with dogs. It's reprehensible and the opposite of "sporting." End out of state interests and do your best to be independent and led by science, rather than beholden to farming, ranching, and hunting money and lobbying.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Joel Trick	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	There is a good overview of background information, including history and issues. The plan also honestly acknowledges problems related to agreed upon population goals.	The Plan lacks specifics regarding population objectives.	8	As acknowledged in the Plan, "substantial agreement on these objectives has proven elusive due to opposing values related to wolves and wolf harvest". Herein lies the problem, as some stakeholders (i.e. bear hunters) are opposed to wolf population levels that would be required to support harvest, based upon the best science. I recommend that Wisconsin DNR gives the greatest weight, and final decision authority on harvest quotas, to the consensus opinion of wildlife professionals. Any quota should be fully supported by science and be carefully managed to prevent any chance of over-harvest. Stakeholders who hold views that are incompatible with science-based management of wolves should not be allowed to compromise the formulation of appropriate population goals or harvest quotas. The Wisconsin DNR should also make a greater effort to accommodate the wishes of Tribes regarding the management of gray wolves in Wisconsin, and careful to prevent harvest of animals that are legally reserved for the Tribal share of the harvest quota. I am strongly supportive of active measures (as allowed by listing status) to address depredations, including lethal control. I am also supportive of monetary compensation for damage to livestock at agricultural facilities and loss of pets by homeowners or passive recreation users. I am strongly opposed to any monetary compensation to the owners of hounds that are intentionally transported to areas known to be inhabited by wolves. These hound owners know the risks to their animals, and should assume any cost associated with any losses they incur. This is in stark contrast to losses suffered by other Wisconsin citizens which are out of their control, and could have a direct negative impact on their livelihood.
Nancy Lannert	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				We should protect the wolves
	All of it	Yes	Objective A & C	Objective B	5	Too much hunting, too many people hunting without regulation. Overall the hunting is taking on a unhealthy management and appreciation for a beautiful asset of this state and leading to misinformation about the animal
Mary Boettcher	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I was distressed to hear about the Feb'21 wolf hunt in which the number of wolves killed went over quota by 83% with little reduction of wolf population in areas where wolf/livestock of pet conflicts were most likely to occur. Also distressing was the killing during breeding season. It disupts territorial defense, pair bonding, and sucessful breeding. I hope these issues are addressed in the draft. Lastly, hounds should not be used to hunt wolves. It's inhumane and embarassing to the state of WI, the only state that allows it.
	Most of it	Yes	Not much	It does not reduce the number of wolves in northern Wisc. It does not accomplish anything nor improve the situation in northern WI. It merely kicks the can down the road.	1	This plan solves nothing. This plan does not provide the means for landowners, farmers, ranchers, homeowners, etc to simply and effectively eliminate wolves on their property.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			3	They’re already. to many causing damage.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	NOT MUCH	Lack of numerical goal. Lack of simplified methods for landowners to kill wolves Lack of financial plan where those who want wolves should be required to pay for the costs of maintaining those animals. They should pay costs of keeping wolves	1	The plan is a huge waste of time and energy. It doesn't solve the basic problem of too many wolves in northern Wisc. It should come up with a plan to relocate wolves to areas where they currently do not exist such as Dane and Milwaukee counties

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Steve Janusiak	All of it	Yes	I like the accountability for a science-based management of wolf conservation, the focus on wolf population monitoring (including improving and increasing resources and cooperation with the public, universities and organizations), as well as the focus on education to the public. I think removing numeric goals is essential to the Wolf Management Plan. Simpson (2019) supports this idea along with the reviews of multiple literature sites that discuss the ecology of pack living. I like the wolf zones, especially the "zero quota" zones around the tribal zones. Considerations made by "Wisconsin's Greenfire" on rezoning might be considered. Mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification are essential. Eight hours is an appropriate amount of time for registration. I support the quick shutdown of zones when a quota is met. I support issuing enough licenses to keep the season short, or other methods to keep the season short to support other hunting seasons and allow for the wolf breeding season. I expect outreach to the Native American tribes and the support of their values, and I appreciate the input from the tribes. The proposal seems thorough and science-based.	I am confused as to why we would have a numeric goal on wolves if we do not have a numeric goal on other species such as deer or bear. The 1999 plan established a management goal of 350 wolves when there were only 200 or fewer wolves in the state. This numeric goal is one of my biggest concerns. The plan should identify funding methods. The plan should include a timeframe for implementation and for how often it will be reviewed for modification if necessary.	9	I believe it is important to continue science-based research to support decisions made on wolf management in Wisconsin. I believe it is important to consider Native American values when implementing the Wolf Management Plan. The historical overview of wolves in WI (pages 45-50) is an important part of public education, especially on page 48 where it is discussed that expansion is unlikely (Simpson 2019). Continued monitoring and efforts are key to the plan. I hope educating the public will continue to reduce anxiety and concern regarding wolves and the likelihood of humans being harmed by wolves. Collaboration with Minnesota and Michigan may assist research. I have concerns regarding the equality of composition of the Wolf Advisory Committee being representative of the broad range of wolf concerns and opinions in the state. My statements and considerations are reflective of a review of the "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, 2022," the "Wisconsin's Greenfire" organization paper written on January 20, 2023 and "An Analysis of Wisconsin's 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan" written in January 2023 by primary authors Adrian Wydeven, Tom Hauge, and Jenny Washam, et al. I concur with the recommendations from these organizations, and I value what the WI DNR has done to create this Wolf Management Plan.
Jessie Espeseth	All of it	Yes	We need a management plan of any sort at this time so I like we are working towards another season	Areas that Animals cannot be harvested in will have issues with farmers and local people and pets because no fear of humans	8	The counts of the wolves are extremely off
	All of it	Yes	Objective A	Objective B And C	1	Too much hunting of them. Also there are too many illegal hunters in the state. And they get away with it.
	Most of it	Yes			1	I have hunted and trapped for over 60 years in Wisconsin. I go up north many times each year . The last ten years some places you see more wolf tracks than deer tracks . For y4ears The outdoors people in this state have contributed to deer and elk orignizations to improve their numbers and management. All we have done is feed wolfs. The elk herd never will get to a real huntable herd unless the wolf population is reduced to an acceptable number. Farmers have had too many animal losses and have been paid a lot of money for them. This is because the DNR does not want to really want to control the wolf population with a realistic plan. The DNR bows to the animal rights groups, who think the wolf population should expand till deer hunting is gone. They will change their minds when the wolf is in their backyard.
Courtney Mares	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				Wolves need full protection in all of the Northern Rockies including the northern Rocky Mountains region where the mass murder of wolves by hunting and trapping occurs. Hunting and trapping of all species needs to be banned. It is animal cruelty and torture and trophy hunting is colonization by conquesting another being and taking parts of its body as a trophy reducing an animal to property which ignores the fact animals feel pain, suffer, and feel terror like humans do every day. Allowing such cruelty of hunting and trapping to happen to any species denies our own humanity. By diminishing another being you diminish your self.
	Most of it	Yes		The plan lacks emphasis on reducing the number of wolves to a point where all negative impacts are eliminated. A numeric population goal is needed set at a low number such as 50 .	0	DNR leadership is sorely lacking. This plan ignores the need for northern Wisconsin to dramatically reduce the number of wolves. The people of northern Wisc. Look forward to a time when DNR leadership again recognizes that they work for us, a time when they again realize that there is a large part of Wisc. North of Eau Clair. This plan is typical of the ignorance of our DNR leaders about the needs and desires of northern sportsmen and women. It is also typical how they are more concerned about the Tribes than other citizens. We wonder how much do Tribes contribute financially to the DNR budget? If the Tribes want the wolves why doesn't the plan provide means to deliver wolves to Tribal lands from areas where the rest of us want the wolves removed?

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Bob Burton	Most of it	Yes	1. It appears to be very thorough and informative. 2. Wolf Population Dynamics covering data on human-caused mortality, including legal hunting. 3. Tribal perspective. 4. Explanations of proposed Objectives. 5. Historical overview of wolf population and management. 6. Zone structure proposed. 7. Correlation between overwinter minimum count analysis and the less manpower-intensive territory mapping, the latter being more manageable with greater numbers of wolves than when the minimum count took root.	1. Missed opportunity to include explanation of regulated hunting as part of a sustainable program (Objective D on Increasing Public Understanding). This is mentioned elsewhere, but is left out of the Public Understanding agenda. To me, that's something that needs to be included in public outreach. Anti-hunters will be campaigning against a hunt with emotional appeals. Heck, on pages 19 & 20 there are references to sustainable impacts from regulated hunting, as well as all human-caused mortality (poaching, vehicles, etc.). 2. Seems vague or wishy-washy on need for population estimates. On the one hand, "Effective quota setting begins with accurate estimates of population size... (pg 67), and Objective A1 talks of continuing wolf population monitoring, A2 of being science-based and data driven to establish population characteristics (characteristics?). On the other hand, on pg 98 we are introduced to "adaptive wildlife management" and on pg 99, the report refers to an "adaptable approach, value-based, and informed by science". Not based on science, but only informed by it in a subjective value-based approach. And on pg 97, From Recovery to Sustainable Management, the report says an alternative to numeric goals is to prioritize action in response to conditions. Again, this sounds like it leans away from objective, science based to subjective management. Also in that section (pg 97) it says this type of approach is already used for other game species such as bears, turkeys, grouse, and deer, adding that the lone exception is for elk. Elk use numeric goals. The reason given is that elk are in a recovery status, while wolves are not. I would argue that, recovery status or not, elk need numeric goals because their total numbers are small. Even bears exist in Wisconsin in far greater numbers than elk. So it is with wolves. An error of plus or minus 100 bears (or deer, turkeys, or grouse) is not going to be a huge issue for the population. For elk that's a significant number for the population! So it is with wolves. Their numbers are also on the small end of the scale and need careful, more precise management. Population estimates MUST be part of wolf management going forward! Population is a number that impacts harvest quotas and license numbers as part of SUSTAINABLE management. Looking ahead to future wolf hunting seasons, population numbers will be important in setting quotas. Along with that, the kind of sustainable harvest impact reviewed on pg 19 will increase public confidence in such harvest quotas (remember the debacle of the last wolf hunt?).	8	Much effort has gone into this. Many thanks for all involved. To some degree, it's a thankless job, as no matter what comes out of it, there will be some unhappy people. Probably lots of them. Continue to do your best for the resource and for the people of Wisconsin.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Courtney Mares	I have not read any of the draft plan	No		Wolf conservation is more than an ecological issue. It is economical issue in which our stance on it determines the depth of our humanity. The Golden Rule commands that we are to treat others how we wish to be treated and vice versa that we should not do unto others what we would not want done to ourselves. The rule is taught by various religions even ones predating Christianity. The hunters and politicians would hate to be shot, let alone shot for being human so why they are condoning and shooting wolves for being wolves? Humans depicted and view wolves as ruthless bloodthirsty killers, as monsters. It is actually we humans who are ruthless killing, bloodthirsty monsters. We have scapegoated the wolf for what we fear in other people and ourselves. To come to terms with our own humanity and and to acknowledge it not deny it, we have to protect the vulnerable both human and non human because if we were in their place, we would want our existence respected. Wolf extinction would be a disaster. First, after they were removed from the Endangered Species list, their populations were decimated out of human cruelty and hatred. On August 1 in the article Why the U.S. government is allowing bears, wolves to be hunted in their dens. “When wolf hunting season opened in Alaska on August 1, it became legal in many national preserves for hunters to kill nursing mothers in dens with their pups.” In February 2021, Wolf hunters murdered more than 300 wolves in two days, a third of the state’s population. (Wisconsin Hunters Kill Over 200 Wolves in Less Than 3 Days) “The gray wolf lost Endangered Species Act protections last year, prompting a recent hunt that killed at least 216 wolves — far exceeding a quota set by state wildlife officials.” “At least 216 wolves were killed in less than 60 hours, exceeding the state quota of 119 and prompting Wisconsin to end what was meant to be a one- week hunt four days early, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Environmentalists, who fought unsuccessfully in state court to stop the hunt, said the killings had occurred during breeding season, when gray wolves are especially vulnerable. They said the large number of wolves killed in such a short time underscored the need for President Biden to put the gray wolf back on the list of animals protected under the Endangered Species Act.” “These animals were killed using packs of dogs, snares and leg-hold traps,” Kitty Block, chief executive of the Humane Society of the United States, said on Tuesday. “It was a race to kill these animals in the most cruel ways.” (Cramer, 2021). As a result, there gene pool for breeding is decreases which leads to inbreeding. If the gene pool keeps decreasing, wolves do resort inbreeding to maintain their numbers which further shrinks the gene pool. There is no fair chase when humans hunt animals because humans have intelligence and weapons that animals will never have or understand and humans were evolved to be born with the upper hand over other organisms. Animals don’t stand a chance against human cruelty, they can delay it from happening to them but unless humans act differently, their suffering will come. The financial costs of wolf hunting is wasteful upon wolf conservation. Washington spent $425,000 a year for trapping, helicopter captures and surveys, collaring and year-round study in 2017 per wolf. In the fiscal year of 2015, Idaho’s budget was $1.63 million for wolf related expenditures including depredation, enforcement, hunting-trapping oversight, monitoring, research and administration. (Landers, 2017). Idaho’s state budget for wolf reintroduction is “$800,000, plus more than $500,000 for livestock depredation.” Washington’s state budget is “$2.9 million, soon to be cut by 50 percent.” (Landers 2017). In Yellowstone National Park, a GPS collar costs $2,500 each and VHF collared are $600 each. The funds will also go toward monitoring flights to locate wolves in Yellowstone says Yellowstone Forever’s website. As a whole, wolf restoration Yellowstone costs 30 million and wolf watching brings in 35 million dollars each year total nearby hotels, restaurants, gift shops, and wolf watching tours. (Randall, 2020) . The ecological and economical benefits of wolf conservation far outweighs the costs. As far as wolf conservation has come, there is still a long way to go. If politicians and other people don’t clean up their act, we will never get a second chance to make amends for the wolf genocide our ancestors committed. Another wolf genocide is happening now and this is our chance to make it right. “At the same time, it’s not finished. We have not restored wolves to where they can and should be where it’s ecologically correct. We still have a lot of conflict, and concerns.” If state plans weren’t so “over-controlling, wolves would be running over the spine of the Rockies into the south-west today.” “When wolves were deemed recovered enough to be removed from the endangered species list, management of populations was left to each state. In Wyoming, people are allowed to shoot wolves on sight outside the borders of national parks. In Montana, it is permissible with a hunting permit.” Regardless of the challenges ahead, the thriving wolves in Yellowstone illustrate the success of the Endangered Species Act as a framework to		Wolves need full protection in the Northern Rockies and trophy hunting needs to be completely banned for all species it is animal cruelty and torture.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				conserve biodiversity, and a hopeful example at a time when the UN has revealed that the planet is on the brink of the sixth mass extinction" writes Cassidy Randall in the Guardian article "A rewilding triumph: wolves help to reverse Yellowstone degradation. Second, despite this evidence of the economical impact and ethical issues, in August 2021, Biden agreed that wolves should be kept off the endangered species list and that protection for them should be discontinued. "FARIBAULT, Minn. — President Joe Biden's administration is sticking by the decision under former President Donald Trump to lift protections for gray wolves across most of the U.S. But a top federal wildlife official on Friday told The Associated Press there is growing concern over aggressive wolf hunting seasons adopted for the predators in the western Great Lakes and northern Rocky Mountains NPR article Biden Backs The End Of Protections For Wolves. But Worries About Hunting Grow wrote. As a result of Biden's decisions, more wolves died because he refused to protect them from human cruelty. Finally, without wolves ecosystems fail. After wolves were killed out of Yellowstone the ecosystem fell out of balance. The elk and other populations increased and overgrazed which resulted in a lack of trees for songbirds and warmer rivers. Without wolves to control the park's beaver population, the beavers removed so many willow from the park that there was less shade to cool the rivers and the juvenile fish in the rivers experienced an increase in the temperature of the water and the stream banks eroded away without tree roots to support the streams. The beavers prefer slower moving water and because the river flow increased due to erosion, they left after willows died. The wolves absence from the park also resulted in an increase of coyotes. The coyotes killed off pronghorn fawns and as a result, there was less prey for coyotes. (Biodiversity, californiawolfcenter.org). Politicians, ranchers and hunters choose to be prejudiced toward wolves and all influence each other to do the same and pass anti wolf laws and politicians choose to uphold those immoral laws thus contribution to wolf genocide and a loss in biodiversity. It's not just the hunters and the fish and wildlife agency who have wolf blood on their hands but politicians too whether indirectly such as Joe Biden or directly such as Gov. Greg Gianforte. They are all responsible for the murders of wolves indirectly and directly. Killing a wolf pup being nursed is it just as evil as killing a child in being nursed. It's murder but the victim is of a different species. The lives of non human species are just as sacred as that of human lives. In Genesis 1:26 it is written humans have dominion over animals and nature, that humans are meant to rule over them and control them. Since the Bible was written by human beings which are all flawed, the Bible does contain propaganda and instructions relevant to the time it was written. European settlers were predominantly Christian so for them, these messages allowed the genocide of wolves. When the Bible was written, there was no awareness or the understanding of biodiversity and how important it is nor how fragile ecosystems are unlike today. If that passage of Genesis was written with today's understanding, dominion would be replaced with caretaker or steward which is what our relationship with nature-biodiversity was always meant to be. As a result of humans embracing the dominion and ruler mindset over animals, over the years, animal exploitation, abuse, neglect, and trafficking has taken place with the consequences impacting humans in the form of disease transmission and deaths and serious injury from trying to force human will onto wild animals who are designed by nature not to submit to human will. So today when I read about the California U.S. District Judge Jeffrey S. White decision to restore protections to grey wolves in the lower 48 states, it was a bittersweet. The wolves in northern rockies where they are cruelly slaughtered by hunters do not get the same protection, neither the wolves in Alaska where the pups are murdered in their dens while their mothers nurse them during hunting season. What needs to happen is hunting must be banned permanently in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, the northern rockies, Missouri, Michigan, and in and out of the northern rockies. "Wolves absolutely do not fit the definition of a recovered species," says John Vucetich, who studies animal ecology at Michigan Technological University, to Vox's Benji Jones. "A species isn't considered endangered only if it's at imminent risk of extinction. It's about when have humans done enough damage to a species that corrective action is required." -Smithsonian magazine February 15 2022 Sincerely, Courtney M		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jayden Janusiak	Most of it	Yes	I like the accountability for a science-based management of wolf conservation, the focus on wolf population monitoring (including improving and increasing resources and cooperation with the public, universities and organizations), as well as the focus on education to the public. I think removing numeric goals is essential to the Wolf Management Plan. Simpson (2019) supports this idea along with the reviews of multiple literature sites that discuss the ecology of pack living. Additionally, I am confused as to why we would have a numeric goal on wolves if we do not have a numeric goal on other species such as deer or bear. The 1999 plan established a management goal of 350 wolves when there were only 200 or fewer wolves in the state. This numeric goal is one of my biggest concerns. I like the wolf zones, especially the "zero quota" zones around the tribal zones. Considerations made by "Wisconsin's Greenfire" on rezoning might be considered. Mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification are essential. Eight hours is an appropriate amount of time for registration. I support the quick shutdown of zones when a quota is met. I support issuing enough licenses to keep the season short, or other methods to keep the season short to support other hunting seasons and allow for the wolf breeding season. I expect outreach to the Native American tribes and the support of their values, and I appreciate the input from the tribes. The proposal seems thorough and science-based.	The plan should identify funding methods. The plan should include a timeframe for implementation and for how often it will be reviewed for modification if necessary. I do not support allowing training of dogs on wolves when any wolf harvest zone is open.	9	I believe it is important for continued science-based research to support decisions made on wolf management in Wisconsin. I believe it is important to consider Native American values when implementing the Wolf Management Plan. The historical overview of wolves in WI (pages 45-50) is an important part of public education, especially on page 48 where it is discussed that expansion is unlikely (Simpson 2019). Continued monitoring and efforts are key to the plan. I hope education to the public will continue to reduce anxiety and concern regarding wolves and the likelihood of humans being harmed by wolves. Collaboration with Minnesota and Michigan may assist research. I have concerns regarding the equality of composition of the Wolf Advisory Committee being representative of the broad range of wolf concerns and opinions in the state. My statements and considerations are reflective of a review of the "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, 2022," the "Wisconsin's Greenfire" organization paper written on January 20, 2023 and "An Analysis of Wisconsin's 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan" written in January 2023 by primary authors Adrian Wydeven, Tom Hauge, and Jenny Washam, et al. I concur with the recommendations from these organizations, and I value what the WI DNR has done to create this Wolf Management Plan. Thank you for your consideration.
	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	8	
	Most of it	Yes			2	Wisconsin should eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. Hunters should not be allowed to hunt down wolves with dogs or from the air. Trapping wolves should not be allowed. Poisoning wolves should not be allowed. There should not be a cap on the wolf population.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Kill 'em all
Roy Sook	All of it	Yes	None	All	1	5.9 million people in WI but only room for 350 wolves?
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Tribal input, and acknowledging changing perspectives in society	The idea of any management, although I realize it is necessary to deal with the widely varied interests	9	Thank you for all your work...it is acknowledged and appreciated
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		It does not solve the issue of too many wolves in Wisconsin.	0	The DNR shows its contempt for the sportsmen, landowners, and people of northern WI. By continuing to ignore them, by placing more importance on wolves than people.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The plan lacks a numerical population goal. It should have a goal of no more than 50 wolves statewide.	0	The plan does not address problems caused by too many wolves in northern WI. It merely glosses over the problem and ignores the concerns of northern WI property owners, farmers, ranchers pet owners and families.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That sportsman may actually be able to pursue & hunt wolves legally again!	Not having a population goal set in the plan! 350 is what was voted on by the Conservation Congress! Buffer zone around reservations isn't feasible for owners within that area. They pay taxes!	4	Need to get population goals back in plan & stop dragging this process out! Power & sound science should be in control of the state! The wolf population has recovered & needs management! The lack of a plan is the problem.
Elise Balzee	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I believe the section 4 is sensible and balances the need to protect/conserve the grey wolves and others stakeholdersz.		10	Thank you for everything you do!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	As all plans WI DNR puts together they are large. This plan is over 170 pages in length. The average citizen is NOT going to sit down and read this plan. I see there is an executive summary - but it should be bullet points not huge narrative blocks!	The extreme detail and repetition.	0	I am all for the wolf making a comeback in the United States but there has to be some reasonable parameters. In other words, the wolf population needs to be controlled and monitored. Currently the "powers that be" are NOT controlling the wolf population. The attempts have been insignificant. From where I sit, it is going to take wolf preying on humans before the "powers that be" wake up. and start listening to the general public that are requesting the wolf population be controlled. I challenge those that advocate for no control on the wolf population to start living, working, and recreating in the north woods of WI!
K. Lezenby	Most of it	No	I like that the plan considers non lethal solutions to resolve conflicts with wolves and that it takes into consideration the range of viewpoints about wolves and coexistence with them, including those of different affected tribes. I found the in depth report informative.	I disagree with its plan to compensate ranchers for cattle. I think it would be more effective and ethical to subsidize nonlethal deterrents in order to promote their use, diffuse conflicts, and spare wolves lives. I don't like that the report sets wolf population targets lower than before they were killed off in Wisconsin, especially since the data indicates that wolf populations plateau naturally while the human population continues to grow exponentially, encroach on their habitat, and threaten them in multiple other ways. I also disagree with the permitting of trophy hunting, trapping, and use of dogs to hunt wolves. Trophy hunting is a frivolous reason to take the lives of sentient beings. Trapping causes prolonged suffering and intense terror as does hunting with dogs.	2	
Philip ingram	Most of it	Yes	I don't want wolves in Wisconsin	I don't want wolves in Wisconsin	0	I don't want wolves in Wisconsin
J Mark Wendling	All of it	Yes	-No numerical goal -Recognition of ecological importance -Buffer zones -Inclusion os social survey & significance	-Inadequate acknowledgement of the efficacy of non-lethal interventions. -Inadequate assessment of lethal management consequences. -Bias favoring recreational killing, including emphasis as a management strategy. -Failure to limit lethal management to extraordinary circumstances. -Failure to adequately acknowledge that legal "harvesting" encourages illegal killing. -Failure to acknowledge the detrimental consequences of hound hunting on both wolves and dogs. -Failure to recognize that the great majority of dogs killed by wolves are hounds, and that a high percentage of these have non-resident owners. -Failure to adequately acknowledge the substantial expense to Wisconsin taxpayers of compensation for hounds killed by wolves, and that much of this money goes out of state. -No comparison of the efficacy of non lethal and lethal livestock predation mitigation strategies. -No recognition that a majority of Wisconsin citizens , including those identifying as hunters, are opposed to the sport hunting and trapping of wolves. -No scientific study of the source of whitetail deer included in wolf diets (vehicular road kill vs healthy animals). -Conflicting agency objectives inadequately addressed. -Inadequate consideration of tribal views in ceded territory. -SOM estimation methodology is fundamentally flawed, and will substantially and consequentially overestimate population levels. -Broad scale policy does not adequately provide for scientific of individual pack health and dynamics. -Inadequate strategy for education the public regarding the critical ecological role of wolves.	7	This draft management plan, and its purported reliance on the best available science, is a substantial improvement over historical management practices driven primarily by politics and small, vocal, special interest groups. It is a good start, but needs additional work.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jo Garrett	Most of it	Yes	1. Science - This plan is science based! It's driven not by politics or myths about wolves.It is hoped that all the stakeholders will realize the importance of looking to science for the framework of this wolf management plan. It's crucial. To that end, there is not some arbitrary number of Wisconsin's wolf population. The population number will be decided by science and will reflect any ecological changes. 2. The importance of wolves in the ecology of our state - the plan highlights the ecological importance of wolves, as a keystone species in this management plan. This is very important. Other species and the landscapes they inhabit are affected by the presence of wolves. 3. Quota limits - it is very important that quota limits are lowered near tribal areas. I know that for many in the tribes they regard the wolf as "brother wolf" and for many, any harvest of wolves is a great offense. I hope that quota numbers need to be zeroed out or curtailed near tribal areas that the desires of the tribes will be paramount.	1. The DNR must be more proactive about regulating hound training re: wolves. As written, the plan would allow hounds to chase wolves until the last wolf zine is closed. This could go for months and could interfere with the wolves' breeding season. Not good. 2. There needs to be a specified plan for the next review or update. 3. It is important to for the DNR to highlight and prioritize any non-lethal methods to control wolves on farms so they don't prey in livestock. For example, the use of flock protection dogs, such as the maremma. Please insist that the DNR explore any all non-lethal methods.	9	It is important to oppose any payment to replace hounds that are injured or killed in hunting wolves. There is no reason the precious state dollars should be used for this purpose. The burden should be on the hunter, not the state taxpayer.
Craig Butler	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Did not read total doc.	Harvesting section: 1. Only resident harvesting. No non-resident. 2. No hunting with dogs. 3. 10:1 hunter/wolf license quota not 20:1 4. A means to verify harvest number quickly needs to be programmed.	9	
Regan Downey	Most of it	No	I appreciate that DNR staff will no longer use the numeric goal of 350 wolves when they're managing wolves. I also appreciate that staff took the time to conduct a survey about peoples' views regarding wolves. A majority of people support wolves and don't want to see them killed, and the social survey reflected these beliefs.	I do not like that DNR staff continue to ignore the numerous studies that highlight the sentient nature of wolves and instead allow for unethical practices. I also do not like that lethal methods of wolf control are touted as more successful than non-lethal methods of coexistence and livestock protection. Numerous studies, including research led by UW-Madison scientists, prove the success of non-lethal interventions.	4	I would like to see WI return to more structured, peer-reviewed methods of determining wolf population, rather than using occupancy models. There's a high margin of error in these models and an overestimation of the wolf population could set recovery back rather than propel it forward.
Richard G Urban	All of it	Yes	1. The entire document deserves praise for its comprehensive presentation of history, biology, sociological and legal analysis, as well as a reasoned proposal to pull widely differing perspectives towards the center of a mandated wolf hunting season. This report is a significant accomplishment on its own. 2. Proposals for regulation of the hunt by specific zones, including buffers around reservations. 3. Registration requirements for wolf kills. 4. Restrictions on hound training. 5. Eliminating mention specific wolf population goals. 6. Emphasis on accurate, well-executed population surveys. 7. Proposals for public education programs. (Unfortunately, education does not effectively offset long held belief systems in adults.) 8. Plan for increased efforts at depredation and harassment reduction. 9. Clear listing of objectives in wolf management. 10. Providing better opportunity for Tribe's input. 11. Placing scientific research and monitoring as cornerstones for the plan.	1. Continuation of compensation for hunters who lose hounds to wolves, particularly when the hounds are run on public lands. Hunters need to take this risk of loss on their own. I would not remove compensation for owners of dogs used for small game or bird hunting, or pets. 2. To be fair to people with different viewpoints, I would prefer not to see "harvesting" listed as a benefit of a healthy wolf population in Wisconsin. While many people may approve of a wolf hunt, for many reasons, this does not necessarily constitute a benefit.	9	1. Greater and more effective law enforcement is needed. As a resident of Oneida County, I have heard far too many local stories of violations that went undetected. While people may fallaciously boast about such things, there no reason to think all such reports are false. The department needs more wardens, during and out of wolf hunting season, to aid prevention as well as enforcement. 2. I would like to have a more detailed description of how the behavior and survivability of wolf packs is affected by the loss of one or more members, if this is known, and how it might be applied to quota-setting and regulation of hunting. 3. While I doubt the department has any significant influence on state legislators, whatever actions can be undertaken by administrators and the remaining science staff at DNR to influence them to prevent passage of legislation such as 2011 Act 169 should be taken. 4. I offer a sincere thank you to everyone involved in this very substantial and impressive effort.
Alan Capelle	Most of it	Yes	Info & maps on the various wolf mgt. zones; background & history of managing wolves in Wisconsin and the region...	see comments below...	5	1) I still think the plan needs an overall population goal to strive toward based on latest estimates, funding sources, etc. 2) As the size of the individual units will increase over time, how will the DNR handle potential concerns/conflicts as wolves come into closer contact with folks in cities/urban areas that might not appreciate having the wolves in closer contact with humans? 3) Budget wise, will the DNR be able to cover increased depredation losses? 4) Does the DNR plan on publicizing/promoting the wolf as a highly valuable and beneficial keystone species to an evermore urban human population? Public support for the new plan will be crucial to success..and 5) Has the USFWS/courts given any details on the longevity of the current federal endangered species listing? What are our options for delisting and state mgt. of the wolf population?

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Michelle Janusiak	All of it	Yes	Components I like: I like the accountability for a science-based management of wolf conservation, the focus on wolf population monitoring (including improving and increasing resources and cooperation with the public, universities and organizations), as well as the focus on education to the public. I think removing numeric goals is essential to the Wolf Management Plan. Simpson (2019) supports this idea along with the reviews of multiple literature sites that discuss the ecology of pack living. Additionally, I am confused as to why we would have a numeric goal on wolves if we do not have a numeric goal on other species such as deer or bear. The 1999 plan established a management goal of 350 wolves when there were only 200 or fewer wolves in the state. This numeric goal is one of my biggest concerns. I like the wolf zones, especially the "zero quota" zones around the tribal zones. Considerations made by "Wisconsin's Greenfire" on rezoning might be considered. Mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification are essential. Eight hours is an appropriate amount of time for registration. I support the quick shutdown of zones when a quota is met. I support issuing enough licenses to keep the season short, or other methods to keep the season short to support other hunting seasons and allow for the wolf breeding season. I expect outreach to the Native American tribes and the support of their values, and I appreciate the input from the tribes. The proposal seems thorough and science-based.	Components I dislike: The plan should identify funding methods. The plan should include a time frame for implementation and for how often it will be reviewed for modification if necessary. I do not support allowing training of dogs on wolves when any wolf harvest zone is open.	10	Other Comments: I believe it is important for continued science-based research to support decisions made on wolf management in Wisconsin. I believe it is important to consider Native American values when implementing the Wolf Management Plan. The historical overview of wolves in WI (pages 45-50) is an important part of public education, especially on page 48 where it is discussed that expansion is unlikely (Simpson 2019). Continued monitoring and efforts are key to the plan. I hope education to the public will continue to reduce anxiety and concern regarding wolves and the likelihood of humans being harmed by wolves. Collaboration with Minnesota and Michigan may assist research. I have concerns regarding the equality of composition of the Wolf Advisory Committee being representative of the broad range of wolf concerns and opinions in the state. My statements and considerations are reflective of a review of the "Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan, 2022," the "Wisconsin's Greenfire" organization paper written on January 20, 2023 and "An Analysis of Wisconsin's 2022 Draft Wolf Management Plan" written in January 2023 by primary authors Adrian Wydeven, Tom Hauge, and Jenny Washam, et al. I concur with the recommendations from these organizations, and I value what the WI DNR has done to create this Wolf Management Plan. I attended the public continuing education offered by Northland College regarding wolf ecology, tracking, management and conservation. I feel the education has increased my ability to make considerations in a science based, objective manner. Thank you for your consideration.
G. Klein	All of it	Yes	Non-numeric population goals Use of term Stewardship	Hound training on dogs	7	See written comments emailed separately
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	All wolves should be placed on the endangered species list and not be harmed in anyway.
	Most of it	Yes	none	the wolf is a predator. Using elk as an example is unnecessary, Deer are the main species that wolves prey upon, It's necessary that wolves keep the deer in check as deer are decimating the northwoods of native plant species.	3	I think there the wolf population should be at maximum to keep the deer population in check.
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent	0	

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				livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	All of it	Yes	Because this is about the wolf hunt, I see nothing positive.	The biggest thing is that wolf hunting doesn't reduce conflict. It increases it and hurts families	1	The biggest thing is that wolf hunting doesn't reduce conflict. It creates false reporting and payments to individuals that are, in fact, participating in canine fighting.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The scientific approaches used	I object to use of dogs to hunt bear or wolves. I would like to see these practices prohibited.		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jodi Richard	Most of it	No	That you are allowing wolf packs to roam naturally and you support ranchers and residents who lose animals to predation.	That you allow hunting and trapping of wolves.	4	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Well thought out and comprehensive. Seems to capture all elements important to creating a solid management plan, capturing both quantitive and qualitative data.	I did not read the entire plan so perhaps I missed this. . .I assume there was a section on the cost of doing nothing to manage the wolf population.	8	Glad you are taking time to be inclusive with creating the plan from tribal members to those that live in wolf territory. Sadly this issue is highly emotionally for many, making it very challenging to come to consensus. Thank you for making an extraordinary effort to create some kind of balance
Karen Tolley	Most of it	Yes	Follow science based data to make current and future plans for management. Also having a wolf summit to keep communities informed.		9	
Chad Hedmark	All of it	Yes	I thought the entire plan was interesting. The statistics drew my attention the most. Everyone has an opinion of some sort on any topic. Statistics is where I try to base my opinions rather than just feelings. That being said statistics can be massaged a bit to fit the authors opinion and obviously they are not 100% accurate all the time.	Some things are assumptions that are almost listed as fact. Two come to mind. Wolves and CWD. It is heavily inferred that wolves will positively impact CWD in the deer herd. There are more than a few errors in this assumption. First of all how many deer in the wild have tested positive for CWD inside the wolf range? To my knowledge very few, like single digits. The primary CWD area is in the south. One could make the argument that this proves the theory however CWD was in the State when our wolf populations were low. CWD is an issue that is being handled very poorly. There is strong evidence that CDW can be eliminated and even reversed with the supplementation of the correct minerals that our deer herd and most herds are deficient in. We know this is true as we have cured the exact disease in cattle and more so in sheep. Wolves can reduce Lymes disease. The idea that wolves and coyotes don't get along and coyotes and fox don't get along therefore fox and wolves should get along is a stretch at best. To further imply that fox eat more mice than coyotes is just plain ignorant. Coyotes do take fawn deer and some of the very sick however the coyote is a farmland animal. He prefers more open spaces to hunt rabbits and small game like mice. Anyone who has been successful at trapping any numbers of coyotes know this and uses this common information when laying out a trap line. I do not like that I don't see any place where there is an actual number of wolves that the department is trying to achieve. How can you have a management plan and not have a number in mind? Would the department attempt this with any other managed species? This is a recipe for disaster and it will cause more backlash from the public that may be on the fence for support of the wolf program.	5	There was obvious concerns from some when the wolf program began. People ranged from full support to no support. I believe this range could probably be laid down on the map and you would see the support gets less the closer you got to the areas where we currently have them. This being said most people where I live (Florence County) had support for the wolf as long as it was controlled and didn't "get out of hand". There have been years in the very recent past where they were out of hand in and around my house. When we had our first hunting seasons the people here behaved with the wolf. The attitude wasn't necessarily "glad they are here" but the people at least had the illusion we had a season and we would be able to target some areas that had high populations. Once the seasons were suspended the people felt like the one thing they had was taken from them. They were reminded of the original population goals of around 300 animals. They were looking at State counts in excess of 1,000 animals. Many of us felt like the entire thing was sold to us like snake oil, we were told "don't worry there wont be that many" and yet we were over 3 times the original goals! It was interesting to read through the carry capacity numbers. You probably should have omitted these figures from your report. It honestly paints a picture that you have no idea on what the correct capacity is. The supporters of large numbers of wolves live in the cities. They don't have to worry about putting their dogs outside to urinate, they don't have to worry about their kids playing alone in the back yard. There hasn't been an incident with a humane attack yet however last week 2 adult wolves came through my yard. The thought goes through your mind. I instantly remembered my child hood of playing in the snow alone well after dark. I can't let my kids do this right now. Most people I know and myself included do not want to see the wolf gone however we also do not want to see them run rampant. Wolves are not an animal that you will just jump in your car, drive 4 hours north and you will see them frolicking through the woods. I'm sure that's the idea many have in their mind. This isn't Yellowstone park where everything is so accustom to people that they are oblivious. I admit I haven't been to Yellowstone. I wonder how many people that visit there actually see a wolf in the wild there? I found it interesting that Beaver will make up about 42% of the wolves diet if there is a good beaver population. I spent an entire day last week looking for active beaver ponds. I only found 1 active colony. The APHIS program has decimated the beaver populations in my area. This is a program that seriously needs to be looked at. We went through a period after the great depression of extremally low populations of beavers. Are we repeating a trend? The bottom line is this. Wolves are here, they will always be here and we will learn to live with them and coexist. However the success of a wolf management plan will only be realized if those who encounter them the most are at least somewhat happy with the impact they have.
Kristin Brendle	All of it	No	Thorough document containing a lot of information outlining Wisconsin's attitude toward wolves	I dislike that Wisconsin has declared that when wolves are delisted they are categorized as game animals. Human population has just surpassed 8 BILLION. Climate change and all the damage that brings and we believe wolves are ours to hunt and torture. Shame on all of us.	2	
Kelsey Bender	Most of it	No	Protecting the wolves	NOT protecting wolves	3	
Douglas Kozel	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Please, no inhumane killing. No traps or poisons. No aerial hunting. Think about restoring natural preditors.
	Most of it	Yes	Objective B. Reduce and maintain the population		2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Elizabeth Huntley	Most of it	No	From what I have read, the tribal perspectives on Wisconsin wolves, which has been vastly under appreciated and ignored.	Sadly, (and purely from a scientific viewpoint) the research on wolf mortality, as it appears the research is mixed. Act 169 - one of the worst legislative Acts written primarily for Bear hounding interests to persecute wolves being passed in 2012 - what a disgrace to the state of WI.	2	Reimbursing bear hounders for dogs killed by wolves is obscene. What a slap in the face to WI taxpayers. "Harvesting" of wolves is also very objectionable (outside of livestock depredation issues) considering that wolves self-regulate their populations. Disrupting wolf packs by allowing the hunting and trapping of wolves is despicable. You guys are still catering to the bear hounders and trappers. Really sad.
Carolyn	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Minimizing the wolf harvest near tribal reservations, but think the quota in those subzones would be better if it were zero. Also, making wolf licenses valid for only specific zones to limit hunters' ability to hunt anywhere. Focusing on non-lethal methods for farms with chronic wolf encounters/conflicts.	Having a season to train dogs to hunt wolves is a bad idea and will increase conflicts of all kinds. Having wolf hunters go to areas of conflict to hunt is not good. The plan should include the idea that it needs to be pro-actively updated every 5 to 10 years rather than just left until "whenever".	4	Eliminate the mandate that Wisconsin has to have a trophy wolf hunt/trap season when wolves aren't federally protected. Thanks for reading my comments.
Brian Wilderman	All of it	Yes	Fact/science based/detailed mapping.	Only thing concerning me is the mapping of zone 6 should be broke down into zone 6/7/8 to give a more science base/area for pack/pair/pup dispersals.	9	none at this time
Angela Rey	Most of it	Yes	It is based on historical data collected and statistics (facts) and takes into account overall eco-system.	Nothing specific is disliked.	10	It is critical that wolf management is based on science and not misinformation. This draft plan considers all aspects of wolf management.
Husband/Wife Oneida Cty Residents	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Thank you for giving more time for the public comment period. We like and appreciate the fact that you are moving forward with trying to create a plan, in anticipation of the Federal delisting of wolves in WI. We can also appreciate the fact that you must consider all peoples of the state and stay sensitive to everyone's opinion. However, with that being said, we believe that you need to understand that we have to live with them in our back yards, that we deal with it on a day-to-day basis, they don't. Doesn't that mean anything?? We have wolves encroaching into our dog yards!	*Upset with the wanting to get rid of the numeric population goal for wolves. If you talk to most avid WI hunters, we want 350 or less. Why would you want a "no number" attached to it the wolf population?? Most other large carnivores have it, correct?? *It's unfair to tax-paying citizens for the ridiculous buffer zones, which is their own land and should be able to do whatever law-abiding things that they wish. Should not be considered as Tribal lands. *This is biased towards hound hunting. Hound hunting has been going on for centuries and should continue going forward as one of the most efficient and ethical ways of hunting. *The wolf numbers are skewed to fit the DNR's agenda. The population is much higher than DNR portrays. With not counting pups, dispersals, and wolves that are clearly in areas claimed to be in "unsuitable wolf territory", the population appears to be way higher than what is claimed by DNR. *Frustrated with not having public hearings/meetings for people to attend, especially in the heavier wolf population areas. *Obtain good quality and long lasting GPS collars for tracking wolves, instead of only having 6 working collars. Monies need to be invested to create a more believable model. *Draw up a more "user friendly" informational draft plan going forward, for those that just want specifics and not lengthy, unneeded history. *Continue to issue harvest licenses by state-wide, instead of zone specific. *R3 Program (Recruit, Retain & Reactivate) is promoted by the DNR. If less wolves were on the landscape, there would be so many more deer, so that many hunters would by licenses and get back into the woods. You promote this program but it would be so much more productive if you decreased the wolf population down to 350 or less and brought the deer herds back up.	2	Continue to consider the major sporting groups input including WHBA, WTA, WWF, WCC, etc. The orginal plan from 1999 had a numeric population goal. Those that developed that plan, realized that they needed a population goal that was socially tolerated to avoid developing strong negative attitudes towards wolves. Your removal of that numeric population goals, dismisses that strategy altogether. Shouldn't the people that live up in the Northwoods, have their voices heard more than those that aren't directly effected by the wolf population.
David Boffa	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The inclusion of background information on wolves and their importance to the ecosystem; the proposal of "subzones" around tribal lands	There is still an emphasis on lethal interventions, including recreational killing of wolves. I'm not sure this represents the best and most up-to-date science on coexistence with wolves. Furthermore, the continued support for the use of hounds in wolf hunting is cruel and inhumane, for both wild and domestic canids. I also don't appreciate support for conflicting interests of recreational hunters and scientifically-backed wolf management. It's unclear that hunts actually reduce things like livestock-wolf interactions (and by destabilizing wolf packs there is the potential that this might *increase* unwanted interactions).	3	I wish this plan better reflected current science, respect for tribal views on wolves, and an appreciation for the public's views on wolves. Furthermore, I would have liked to see some consideration for the wolves as beings deserving of consideration, in the same way that we consider domestic canids worthy of protections and ethical treatment.
david haenel	Most of it	Yes	nothing	increased area for no hunting wolfs around the reservations, the tribes have raped the resources enough already them protecting the wolves is another shot a everyone else, No population goal is ridiculous it lets the DNR paly politics even more that you already do politics . Once again the DNR fulfils it's acronym of DO NOTHING RIGHT	1	Stop playing politics and coddling the tribes manage all the resources, you sold the deer off for 12$ apiece then blame a bad winter that didn't happen for the poor population. Again DNR DO NOTHING RIGHT. been hunting for 62 years never seen it this bad and as much BS by madison idiots
Amy Burns	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			5	Wolves were "managed" into near extinction, then "managed" to bring back a healthy population, now they need to be "managed" again... Nature will manage itself. Protect the wolves from humans and leave them be!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Ron Bero	Most of it	Yes	The following is from a guide I received. However - fundamentally - where and if it exists within the plan (lets face it - this is a government document, finding the point was virtually impossible for me - but I also can't deal with insurance forms) the importance of predators within the ecological landscape has been seen over and over and over again. Predictors manage their own populations. Any human "harvest" should be highly specific (i.e., not left up to hunters from who knows where (and I am a Wisconsin deer hunter)). so here are the canned comments: • The elimination of a numerical target population • The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. • The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. • Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	Sorry - not specific here (except the point where I let you know I am pasting canned comments). What I dislike? any reference or allowance whatsoever of hunting wolves. They are dogs fergodsake (yes, bigger, scarier, I've seen them, heard them, am afraid of them (I'm an old white guy who grew up in a city but then left, its in our nature) I carry a gun and would shoot one (probably illegal) if it attacked me or my dog but also recognize the probability of that is about the same as a scary monster jumping out of my basement). whilst the forgoing was perhaps rather unclear - to simplify - we should not allow wolf hunting and based on my review of the plan, you do - so, don't. and here - the canned comments (and by the way - the first one is critical): • Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training must be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. • The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	I think I editorialized pretty much above - jut just in case you missed it - THERE SHOULD BE NO WOLF HUNTING. If there are problem wolves - fine, kill them, move them etc. - it's what we do with criminals - but there probably aren't that many. Oh - and I forgot - trapping ? if that is anywhere therein (I saw reference to some outdated moronic trapping association) - get it the h____ out of there. Oh - just in case you were wondering, I live in Vilas County.
Amy Plamann	Most of it	Yes	There were many elements that I liked, such as the DNR having the right to remove a numerical population goal. I appreciate the DNR making information about wolves transparent. Developing a Wolf Conflict Mitigation plan is also a step in the right direction. One of the most important is showing the harms caused by trophy hunters and trappers. It's unconscionable to think in this day and age either are even still allowed. If wolves are such a problem now why did the DNR even bring them back into Wisconsin, just so they can be killed again?	Having a season to train hounds for wolf trophy hunting is irresponsible and inhumane. It leads to so many other problems such as increased harassment of nontarget wildlife and trespassing issues. What's really sad is this hunting is allowed to accommodate a small percentage of Wisconsinites. Why do we cater to such a small percentage of hunters? Why don't we study the harms of killing wolves. The plan seems to cater to irrational "perceived" harms from wolves. The plan should definitely include a provision to update it at least every 5-10 years rather than simply being "valid until it is replaced".	5	I would love to see Wisconsin stand out as a leader in the country and show that we have a conscience, that we try to do the right thing for people and animals and that we can learn to live together in peace and harmony. I haven't seen one study that shows justification for killing wolves. My hope is that this draft be revised to eliminate trophy hunting and trapping, that is purely senseless, wasteful killing. I would like to see further discussions on nonlethal methods for preventing conflicts with livestock. I would also like to see a strong commitment to give all Wisconsinites a seat at the table in help guide the wolf policy. Based on the 2022 public opinions survey detailed in the wolf plan, the majority of Wisconsinites clearly value wolves and want them to thrive in Wisconsin. These values should be more proportionately represented in groups that have influence over wolf policy.
	Most of it	Yes		Trapping of wolves, although there are established WisDNR “standard” trapping practices, I still think it is an inhumane method of killing wolves. I would prefer that wolf trapping practices in Wisconsin be prohibited all together.	4	
David Lunde	All of it	Yes	The proper use of science	Track survey will never be an accurate way of determining counts.	7	If the quotas can be filled in 48 hours of the season being opened you should seriously consider recalculating your numbers. Your counts are not even close. Bayfeild, Douglas, and Washburn counties alone hold populations closer to your survey
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like no numeric wolf population goal, managing wolves to a sustainable statewide population, buffers around reservations, and having an adaptive management plan.	I do not like the hound dog training period on wolves and I strongly object to the allowance of chocolate bear baits that wolves might ingest in their shared territory with bears. The wolf management plan should include a goal to eliminate the presence of chocolate baits, plus since no substances toxic to canines are allowed during a wolf hunt, it makes zero sense to allow that type of bait exposure during periods with no open season on wolves.	9	Nice job!
Blake Christensen-day	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			6	Wisconsin should do good to the wolves by protecting them because we need them to survive, without them all ecosystems will die. Wisconsin Farmers Say that we don’t need wolves. “Wolf predation has not only taken a toll on livestock farmers, owners of hunting dogs and family pets, the state also has paid out nearly $3 million in damage claims.” I think that this paragraph needs more detail because, I personally work on a farm and wolves are usually calm around people that are calm around them, but if you have pets and the human feels threatened by the wolf, the pets try to protect you by attacking the wolves and then the wolves lash out and kill your pets in self defense. So in this case I disagree with them, we need wolves. Is the gray wolf actually endangered? Video said that the wolves could be off the list and it's ok if all the wolves are gone in the U.S because there are still plenty of wolves in Russia and Canada. I originally thought that we could get rid of wolves because of the video Is the gray wolf actually endangered? But now I know we need wolves to survive because without them species will die. The Sierra Club and the DNR said In ecosystems, different species rely on each other to survive. If one part of the ecosystem is removed, the whole ecosystem can be destroyed. In Wisconsin there are too many deer and this is leading to less plant species as the deer are overeating the plants. Wolves act to control this deer population they also, limit the spread of lyme disease through rodents I agree with the Sierra club and DNR that we need to keep the wolves and if they die out so will all the other animals because it is a chain reaction that starts with the wolves dying. Now that I read all the sources I can, I truly Believe Wisconsin should do good to the wolves by protecting them because we need them to survive, without them all life as we know it

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						can die. Hi, I'm Blake christensen-day the author of the feedback you (hopefully) just read. If you feel like you need to check my sources you can email me at [redacted]
	Most of it	Yes	The Biology/Ecology, Population Dynamics and the public/ tribal perspectives were all good. The in-depth plan was overall, very good and very informative.	I didn't see anything that covered the previous hunting season's methods. How did chasing wolves with dogs become a so called hunting method. Who was at the table when the methods were decided on. There was a study listed with limited information on the effects of wolves on CWD. Perhaps there is only one study but a more in depth look at that would be interesting.	8	I live in Bayfield county. I have hunted and trapped my entire life in Wisconsin and Michigan often having encounters with wolf/wolves. I also survey and have had encounters while working. I would list most of my encounters as being a very positive experience. My deer hunting success is very high and I am rather disappointed, as it looks like deer hunters view the wolves so negatively. I know where I live, a lot of the sentiment is negative towards the wolf, but that isn't everyone in Northern Wisconsin. Somehow the perception is that very few folks in rural northern Wisconsin tolerate the wolves and that is not correct. I did like the segment on non lethal methods. I believe if it is your animals you should take care of them. I have animals and birds in what is considered a wolf area and I have never had any depredation but I achieved that through fencing. I didn't see any mention of the overharvest in the last season that was held. when it was known that the season was going to end, my town was busier than opening day of deer season the next day and boy were they out to kill wolves. Not exactly conservationist. I hope there will be a way to deal with that overharvesting before the next season is held. I train retriever's and we use direct pressure, indirect pressure, attrition and mostly repetitive methods to train our dogs. It sure would be good to get a professional/ scientific view of effects of using dogs to chase wolves and how this either increases or decreases conflicts between wolves and dogs. Perhaps Wolves are so different from dogs that they wouldn't learn from that type of pressure, but I believe they learn and every time a hound is attacked in my area the talk is we need to kill more wolves. It's like letting your kids play in the road and then complaining about traffic. I hope that the methods for killing wolves in future season's will be re-examined. Finally, the segment about education and outreach is good and I hope is implemented fully. Educating people on a healthy Wolf population is a great goal. May not be the easiest to achieve but outreach is a start.
	Most of it	Yes	None of it	Lack of population number	0	Get back to our 350 population number
Bill	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Population should be reduced.	3	Keep the population to 350. Too many elk killed by them. Population is too big now at 1200.
Haley	Most of it	Yes	Nothing. We DONT need wolves period			
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				i think there should be regulated wolf harvest in wisconsin. There needs to be wolf hunting and trapping to regulate the population. I say this because the amount of livestock that is killed due to wolves is detrmental to the farms and care takers to them. Not to mention the amount of wildlfe and pets killed anually due to wolves. wolves are good for the ecosysem but they need to be managed. the population goal number can be raised a little more but there is alot more wolves out there than what is reported.
Michael Ballmann	Most of it	Yes	They need to be managed	There is no set population goal.	2	DNR needs to set a population goal. I would like to see a goal of 500 wolves. You need to give more weight to the opinions of those living in wolf territory.
Keith vandervelde	All of it	Yes	Limiting the population	Not enough money set aside for wolf damage to livestock and dogs	9	Keep in mind a pack of wolves can go on a killing spree and kill and injure many animals
Berry	Most of it	Yes	Tribal input and additional comments from all citizens interested in this very important issue.	I feel it lacks strong scientific based conservation.	2	The state of Wisconsin as a whole has a responsibility to get this right for the sake of, most importantly the wolves, and for the sake of all that must coexist with them.
Roxanne Hemmerling	Most of it	Yes	I liked the statistics you used and the fact you cited your references.	Was difficult for a lay person to get through.I wanted to see a summary that was quick and easy at the end of the document.	6	I would expect the DNR would have the best interest in the wolf with the management plan. A plan that would not involve any political influence.
Carol	Most of it	Yes	The insight it provided into the life, behavior and habits of wolves through their life span.	This was a very thorough and detailed plan. I cannot think of anything that I did not like about this plan.	10	This plan makes me feel proud to be a resident in Wisconsin. Wolves are a Wisconsin treasure that deserve our protection.
	Most of it	Yes	I personally think wolves should be hunted until they are gone from Wisconsin	Again, there was a reason Wisconsin didn't have wolves. Most and I mean most don't want them here	0	
	Most of it	Yes				Increase wolf population.

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Adrienne Seltz	All of it	No	Buffer zone around tribal lands Dropping goal of only 350 wolves see comments	Emphasis on recreational hunting Absence of public input which supports wolves see comments	3	Hello and thank you for this opportunity to weigh in. I'm in New Mexico and have long experience with haggling over proposed management rules and plans for the Mexican wolf. They're still not getting it right. The main reason is that FWS and state game agencies continue to cater to and appease consumptive users (who are in the minority) and ignore the majority stakeholders, the general public including ethical hunters and Native Americans. Here are my reasons I don't support this plan. 1. Too much emphasis on recreational hunting. There is no science backing recreational hunting as a valid management tool. In fact, studies show that poaching increases when packs are disrupted by hunting as do depredations. Along this line, hound training and hunting should be illegal. It is harmful to the wolves, bears, and the dogs. 2. The SOM methodology for population estimates is highly questionable, as seen from its use in MT and ID. 3. Use of coexistence methods should be mandatory in order for ranchers and farmers to be eligible for depredation compensation. Current studies show that these methods are very successful. Yes, it is expensive but maybe money is better spent helping producers prevent situations before they happen rather than just paying out and having them go through the added emotional turmoil. There are NGOs who can help with this...contact Defenders of Wildlife. 4. There seems to be little regard for the wolves themselves, as individuals, for their wellbeing, or for the emotional trauma dealt to them and their families when they are killed. Wolves are sentient, family oriented being who evolved along side us and probably helped us by guarding and hunting, allowing us to survive as a species. They should not be killed except in extreme cases of personal harm. They should never be killed on public lands as all species should be allowed to thrive there. Ranchers who use these lands for grazing must be responsible for their livestock...again I say, coexistence methods work! The Public Trust Doctrine demands that public lands and wildlife on those lands be conserved for us, the public. 5. Plan slants towards consumptive users, as usual. This is especially evident in the obsession with recreational hunting. We do not eat wolves. You discuss your public surveys but they are not included in the plan itself. The plan does not acknowledge that the majority of your constituents support wolves as individuals and do not want them hunted. You include letters from Tribal leaders but then fall back to hunting in a total disrespect and disregard of what they said. The emotional trauma of Wisconsin's horrific wolf hunts of late is abuse put upon these people and also on those of us far and near who respect life, appreciate the incredible animals around us, and literally cannot comprehend the glee people get from wanton killing of others we share this planet with. And I will end with climate change, If we do not start protecting every wild land and animal we have we will be the next to go. All species have a right to exist and we gain many eco-benefits from plants and animals without which we might not survive. It's time some of these "plans" start recognizing this and create a better vision. Thank you and good luck. Adrienne Seltz Sandia Park, New Mexico
Mary Hahn	Most of it	Yes	I like the fact that you got input from so many sources, and the draft plan seems very fair to all parties.	I really like all aspects of the new plan and that it will replace a severely outdated plan. I want you to know also that I am strongly against any type of trapping and making any type of wolf hunting legal. Thank you!	10	Great job, let's do this!
	All of it	Yes	nothing, It should include specific population goals which greatly reduce the current population	You don't admit that the wolf population is out of control and needs to be greatly reduced	0	It is typical political speak with nothing concrete
Sheila Starrett	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Not having a set numerical goal for killing wolves. I like the section on non-lethal deterrents.	There should not be a season to train hounds for trophy hunting. This is disgusting and amounts to sanctioned dog fighting. I think the DNR should suggest that current law be changed and should not be required to have a wolf hunt. Including irrational fears that some uneducated people have regarding wolves should not be in the plan.	5	The benefits of wolves greatly out weighs any negatives. They are so important for the ecosystem and restoring biological diversity. Their social structure is so important for the pack and killing one can cause huge repercussions. Most people in Wisconsin value wolves. Only a very small group wants to kill them. Those of us who value wolves should have more of a say in what happens to them.
	Most of it	Yes	Not much! How can you manage something without any numbers?	Everything!!!!! This plan represents nothing for the people that have to deal with wolves on a daily basis. This shows that an apex predator rates higher than any huntable animal.	1	We need to address the concerns of people that have to deal with the effects of wolf damage on a daily basis. How can we have an apex predator without some kind of control. No other predator has been allowed to roam the countryside unabated to prey on anything they feel like.
David Graves	Most of it	Yes	I like that the plan promotes a healthy and sustainable wolf population and particularly that it acknowledges on page 24 that "It is well-documented that the costs associated with wolf recovery are borne disproportionately by those living within wolf range" and "Nested within the general public, positive attitudes toward wolves are more common among urban residents, those living outside of wolf range, and self-identified animal rights advocates and conservationists". As a landowner who has a cabin on 60	The fact that the plan does not utilize specific population goals for wolves, or at the very least indicate a recommended direction for wolf population in relation to the current estimated population. On page 111 Product A1b it states "Currently, the federal Eastern Timber Wolf Recovery Plan from 1992 includes a defined recovery goal of 100 wolves for the combined Wisconsin- Michigan population. Current post-delisting criteria for the western Great Lakes region indicates emergency relisting may be warranted under various circumstances including if the combined Wisconsin-Michigan wolf population were to decline to 200 or fewer wolves, or if the Wisconsin population declined to 100 or fewer wolves. Similarly, the current state threatened species level set by the 1999/2007 state	4	Again, I feel that the plan it should have a specific population goal and that those people living in, owning land in, and or recreating in wolf territory should have there opinions carry more weight than those who aren't affected by wolf populations, although I realize that is hard to do. As for our contacts with wolves: (1) in 2006/2007 my daughter volunteered to survey wolf tracks in the area near our cabin. I would drive her around for the surveys. While we typically found wolf tracks they were nowhere near as common as today. Back then we had to work to find tracks. Now days it is very common to see tracks. (2)My son has been and avid bowhunter in the area. If he has had deer in his area near the end of the day he will often sit in his stand till it gets fairly dark so as not to spook anything as he gets

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			acres located in the Chequamegon National Forest in the Town of Drummond our first hand contacts with wolves as well as DNR confirmed contacts (Wolf Depredation Maps) bear hunters have had with wolves near our cabin have made us aware of the "potential" dangers wolves could pose, particularly to pets and small children, as well as while less likely, to adults as well and therefore impacted how we utilize the land. I would hope that the plan would put more importance on the views of those who actually live in and those who own land and/or recreate in wolf range as opposed to those who live in a more urban area and may never set foot in wolf range. While very important to take everyones views into account it is also very important to understand it is much easier to have a positive view on higher wolf numbers if you don't have to deal with the negative impacts those higher numbers may present.	wolf management plan is a late winter count of 250 wolves in the state outside of tribal reservations." That along with the management goal of 350 wolves recommended in the Oct 27, 1999 WI Wolf Management Plan shows that specific numbers have been used by both federal and state agencies in the past. On page 111 it states "It is inherently difficult to explicitly define what constitutes a healthy and sustainable wolf population". So should wolves suddenly be delisted again, without a specific population, and realizing how hard it is to define a "healthy and sustainable wolf population" how would the DNR decide on whether to hold a wolf hunting season and if there was a season on what numbers to set as a quota?? It seems to me that for whatever reason this plan is WAY OVERDUE and LACKS A SPECIFIC POPULATION GOAL. As we have waited for this long overdue plan to come out I was certainly expecting some type of fairly specific population goal to be part of it! Or without it, in the event of wolves being delisted again is the population goal of 350 from the 1999/2007 plan by default the accepted goal??		out of his stand. On two occasions as he was doing so he had multiple wolves come through within 30-40 yds of his stand. The first time there was snow on the ground and we went back the next day and confirmed wolf tracks and the 2nd time they actually let lose with a couple of loud howls. my son is not easily scared but in both of these cases even though he was carrying a handgun with him he still wasn't comfortable getting down from his stand in the dark. So in both cases he called and I drove out with a 4-wheeler to get him. if it had been a bear instead of wolves he would have had no issue getting down. (3) Approximately 12-15 years ago I went for a walk through the forest and ended up on a forest road about 3/4 mile from our cabin. I was walking down a straight stretch of that road and I started hearing something moving back in the brush a little ways off the road. at first I thought I had spooked a deer or some other animal. But as I continued down the road I occasionally heard something moving through the brush moving parallel to the road along side and slightly behind me. With the heavy vegetation I wasn't able to see anything. This continued for approximately 1/2 mile until I came to an intersection with another forest road. As I got there a truck came up from behind on the road I had just walked on. As he pulled up along side of me the driver rolled down his window and asked if I knew that 3 wolves had just crossed the road about 50-75 yds. behind me, which I didn't. The truck was one of the light green US Forest Dept. trucks. After that I didn't hear or see anything else. At that time I was in my early to mid fifties, healthy and in good shape and really didn't really feel in any danger. But it was somewhat unsettling to realize that these wolves were aware I was there and were still comfortable staying close to me to "check me out" or whatever you want to call it. I was 6'2" and220 - 230 lbs at the time. It made me think about how would they have reacted to a smaller person, a child or even an injured adult? Historically the chances of a wolf attacking a human are extremely rare but there is always the chance of it could happen, as pages 81 & 82 of the draft plan points out. A good friend of mine had a similar experience down in the Loretta - Draper area a few years earlier. he was taking a long hike back to his deer stand during gun season and he also kept hearing something moving along with him a ways back in the brush. In his case there was snow on the ground and no leaves on the trees. Eventually he got into a less brushy area and was able to see a wolf moving on a hillside along with him. When he actually turned and started heading towards it it ran off. Like me he said he didn't feel threatened by it but it was unsettling to know it wasn't overly afraid of him either. Totally different than anything either of us had experienced when we had contact with bears in the woods. They had always ran off. (4)Both My son and I have seen wolves walking through when we were sitting on deer stands unaware that we were there. Me only once but my soon multiple times. (5) We typically have multiple trail cameras around our cabin and fairly it is not uncommon to see both coyotes and wolves on them as well. (6) The owners of a cabin near ours are avid grouse hunters and have a black lab they hunt with. Two years ago they were hunting near our cabins and they said all of a sudden a wolf came out of the brush chasing their dog. Luckily a shotgun blast scared it off. (7) And finally the volume of wolf tracks we see, the reports of dog depredation in our area, and finding a fresh deer kill by wolves make us definitely aware of the increase in wolf activity over the years. While I would agree it is very unlikely that anyone in my family or anyone using our cabin will ever be attacked by a wolf or wolves it is something we definitely think of and take into account. It definitely factors into how we watch small children and pets. And about 10 years ago I was diagnosed with a rare and untreatable form of muscular dystrophy. at this stage I am only able to walk for short distances and only with the aid of canes or walking sticks if in the woods or on our trails. If trying to help cut brush or do any kind of work on our trails I have to ride a four wheeler out to the site and then I crawl around on my hands and knees doing whatever I have to do. I have very little strength in my arms or legs. I have to wonder if a wolf would have any fear of me if he saw me crawling around. My case is unusual but it could apply to anybody with health issues, injuries as well as children. So in conclusion I feel that we need some type of set population goal and the vast majority of people I know that spend any time in the wolf range around the Drummond/Barnes area feel that the numbers now are much too high and should be closer to the 350 goal set in the 1999/2007 state plan. I personally would prefer that number but would not be opposed to 500 or so. But higher than that I feel is just too many! At least for the densities we are seeing in our area. Thankyou!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Gary Feest	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	First off, I like the Department mission statement to enhance and protect natural resources-- especially the part about SUSTAINING ALL LIFE. I don't mind hunting for food but hunting for "sport" I have to disagree with. I agree with eliminating the arbitrary numerical target population, and I agree with the acknowledgement of the importance of the benefits that wolves provide the natural ecosystems of the state. I applaud the inclusion of tribal values and knowledge, I agree with the attempt to minimize the impacts of recreational hunting by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements, and making hunting license zones specific. I like that the plan emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts---not to reduce populations of wolves but to reduce CONFLICTS.	what I don't like about the plan is there is no commitment by the DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. Wisconsin is the ONLY state that reimburses hunters for dogs who are killed by wolves. Hound training must stop; in fact, hunting bears, wolves, coyotes, or bobcats with hounds should be outlawed. I can see hunting fowl with hounds make sense, but I'm against predator hunting. The plan should exclude national forests from hunting of wolves. There's really no scientific basis for recreational hunting or trapping to reduce conflicts. The plan should include an oversight committee that's made up of biologists and professionals.	7	For the most part, I like the plan; however, the Committee was overly influenced by hunting organizations. They represent a very small minority of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence, and appreciation of their positive contributions to Wisconsin's natural environment.
Bob N.	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				I have just been made aware of draft plan, & therefore, do not have time to read, nor assess details. However, as a keystone species, I would like to see as large as a gray wolf population, as is reasonably feasible, in Wisconsin!! They will not only significantly benefit the environment they occupy, but will also benefit WI with increased tourism, hunting, etc. However, with an increased population, there will likely be some predation of livestock, pets, etc. As such, I would highly support a system that night compensate owners that sustain a significant (& proveable!) loss (at least livestock). Thanks, & keep up the scientific & great work you do!!
Thomas Grall	All of it	Yes	The science	That people want more than 350 wolves.	3	Keep the management level at 350 wolves. If people want more than 350 wolves, trap the access number of wolves in Northern Wisconsin and relocate them to Southern half of Wisconsin. Also bring back a hunting and trapping season to control the wolf population.
Bernadette Masur	Most of it	No	With reference to wolf management that the number 350 was taken out and there is no cap: recognition of the importance of wolves in regards to conservation, healthy sustainability, ecology and the benefits of wolf populations in the state: social surveys showing concerns for wolves and they want to coexist with the wolves and many opposed to the current killing practices; inclusion of all the Native American tribes importance and significance of the wolves along with adoption of buffer zones around tribal reservations	Recreational hunting and the notion that wolf hunting decreases wolf hunting conflicts, what it really contributes to is continual recreational hunting; hound baiting and reimbursement for hounds injured or died, in wolf hound attacks. Whom ever subjects or trains their dog for wolf baiting and hunting has no regard for their animal or the wolves, it is just part of recreational hunting; remove chocolate bear bates; the new occupancy model this model does not take into account mortalities not detected, the number used seems to be the same model number used for bears, deer, elk so it is like all the animal counts using almost the same and not taking into account wolves that have been hunted, illegal killings, the number could change each year and there needs to be more people to record the findings do reports on the dead carcasses, also tracked wolves with GPS collars there is only a small number and if a pack disappears how is it detected, the wolves range changes and that is not taken into account so the model needs to be restructured and more employees, volunteers need to be involved. The proposed new occupancy model can be manipulated to save or destroy wolves does it really save wolves?	5	The plan needs to recognize and incorporate the public values towards wolves, and learn to coexist with the wolves. 70% surveyed feel wolf hunting is unnecessary, take that into heart with this plan and rather than reimbursement for a loss of a hound that money needs to go back to the ranchers to put up non lethal methods of deterring wolves away, public education about wolves, but if the plan is just to harvest wolves, and give licenses to anyone, get rid of all the wolves just to satisfy recreational hunters, disregard of the understanding and consideration of the tribal world views about wolves than it is all about the money from recreational hunting and the state is failing its people. Also if there is going to be a wolf advisory committee the people need to know who will represent this committee, there should be a democratic representation showing all the committees and groups involved with the state's wolf habitat and existence, not only from those who drafted the wolf management plan.
David Awtrey	All of it	Yes	-Recognition of differing needs of the hunting zones in terms of management and attitudes. -Using other methodologies to confirm the reliability of the new population estimates -Stating that science based evidence will be used in setting goals and monitoring progress. -No specific population number included. -Inclusion of non-lethal means to avoid depredation of livestock - Recognition of the cultural value of wolves to tribal members -Including education efforts. Overcoming ignorance is the only way forward.	-Providing time for training wolf hunting dogs. This provides an infinitesimal segment of the population of Wisconsin a massive concession. (Product C2h) -There are too many deer. The entire landscape is altered by managing deer as a "herd to be harvested" let the wolves do their work. - Page 69 says there is "no mechanism for establishing a realistic quota" given the complexities of values, there certainly seems to be a skew toward protecting the tiny minority of "hunters" who lose dogs. -Are we really compensating people for pet depredation? What are the numbers of pets killed by cars or euthanized in shelters?	8	The bear hunters wrote the rules that resulted in the last hunt disaster. Time to cut them out of the equation.
Ed Belan	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	It was too long at 178 pages for me to read since the comment deadline nears.	I dislike the fact that we do not have the 350 wolf quota that was agreed to when the wolves were introduced.	1	Three wolves just killed a deer in my yard. It was sad! I quit deer hunting this past year after 57 years. There is more wolf sign than deer sign in the state forest where I use to hunt (Flambeau River State Forest). Many residents feel as I do. Limit the number of wolves thru a controlled hunt.
Nancy Wellander Sloan	Most of it	Yes				I strongly support allowing the wolf population to thrive. I oppose using traps and being chased down by dogs. I feel many people would not agree with me, but wolves keep nature in balance. They keep the deer population in check. I listened to a farmer whose dogs guard the farm, and prevents animals from being killed, without hurting the wolves. Thank you.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Sub zones are way to big. Or make limits a lot higher	1	Please listen to northern wis residents. We see every day what this number of wolves has done to our area.
	Most of it	Yes	Numbers should be regulated		10	Should listen to people who live with the wolves
	Most of it	Yes	trying to get to managable number	the timeline of the whole process	2	there is place in Wisconsin for wolfs but not the numbers in the last 10 years
Dennis Draves	All of it	Yes	I like the idea of not having a concrete population number as it's too general. Goals for population should be area specific not state wide.	Population should be determined by science, not by prejudice either for or against	9	Keep emotions out of the population decision making process. There will be areas where the population is detrimental to the environment, and areas where the population a positive
Pam George	All of it	Yes	Letting the wolves run And leaving them alone they're just like a dog	I dislike the idea of hunting them at all there is no reason why they need to be hunted we brought them to Wisconsin And now people want to hurt them or kill them that's ridiculous		Leave them be here in Wisconsin no Hunting
Christy	Most of it	Yes	Allowing natural fluctuations	any ideas of trapping wolves or using dogs	3	I really do not support setting a population limit, or use of dogs and trapping of wolves.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	There's a stigma about wolves. People in the Northwoods shoot them as they encounter them. It's not reported and they're proud.	You do not have an accurate data on wolf kills. The people take this matter into their own hands.	1	I didn't read it. You have inaccurate data on populations and how many wolves were predated by unnatural means.
	All of it	Yes	None of it	All of it	1	Sounds to me like the people that drafted this plan are a bunch of wolf lovers
Al Greene	Most of it	Yes	I like the idea that a specific number of wolves is not in the plan	Not enough weight given to those that enjoy seeing wolves in the wild	8	Generally like it.
Mike klein	Most of it	Yes	On going Management of the wolf population to ensure a viable and stable level that successfully co exists with all state humans	Trapping should be discouraged if not eliminated. Compensation for wolf predation of pets and hunting dogs doesn't make sense to me. Compensation for all farm animals does make sense.	8	Ecological science has shown that a stable wolf population ensures numerous benefits and these are missing or diminished minus wolves. We need this apex carnivore in Wisconsin.
Muffie Taggett	All of it	No	Moving away from a "number" and updating how the monitoring is being done. Taking more conservative stance throughout (in favor of science and hopefully giving slight edge to the Wolf) and really trying to put science first. Taking public input so that management decisions feel more inclusive and transparent. Recognizing ALL stakeholders in the process.	I would support more "aggressive" stance grounded in science. Wolves are NOT a game animal and fully support (as it seems do many Wisconsin citizens) a conditional "harvest plan" as a DNR management tool. I would absolutely take "hunting with hounds" off the table. I don't support it with bear hunting and certainly not in harvesting wolves. Like most Wisconsinites (born and raised, not a current resident), support conditional public hunting with professionals doing the heavy lifting.	8	Wolf must come first. DNR has a tough job but needs to stand firm when it comes to NRC and pressure from special interest hunting groups. WE can not allow a shameful repeat of what happened in 2021. Wolves are NOT a Game Animal and should NEVER be hunted as such. I support Harvesting as a management tool, absolutely. But never for sport with hounds. Shame on those hunters for taking unfair advantage. They Can not be trusted not to do again which is why DNR and Management Plan must have "teeth" and full support of Legislature. Thanks again for the opportunity to listen and learn. Greatly appreciate the progress the DNR has made and will continue to support.
Eugene and Mimi Wuest	Most of it	Yes	We like the respect for the needs of specific areas of the state.	We think the limits tend to be set too high. We need our apex predators to control other species.	4	Please continue to extend protection to wolves in Wisconsin.
	Most of it	Yes	None of it	All of it	1	
David Breunig	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Do need to keep the wolf population under control	.No number for population estimate.	1	Need to release two packs in the Madison Arboreteum.
Supervisor Josh Pozdolski of Adams County	All of it	Yes	Further research and education is necessary. Wolves should be held in the same regard and of yhe same importance to the ecosystem and food chain ad the bald eagle. A overpopulated deer herd is causing major danger to nighttime drivers and also also major damage to area crop farmers that wolves would naturally curb.	Killing wolves (especially pack leaders) often causes a displacement of wolf packs and lone disparate wolf situations that are more likely to prey on vulnerable livestock.	1	Please refer to the emailed comment that I also submitted in this site with regards to further education on how wolves are necessary members of the ecosystem and why it's necessary for residents in Wisconsin to learn to live and appreciate wolves as vital residents of this habitat that they helped create and establish long before we as humans took over and declared wolves a enemy out of ignorance.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Keith Stummer	Most of it	Yes	Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population is important...such an awesome, intelligent animal! Reducing Wolf/People conflicts is key...this isn't 1850 anymore. Public awareness of the real world life of wolves is so important! It's not all rainbows and unicorns for the average wolf in Wisconsin.	Maybe I missed this? You didn't set a population goal? Not a real confidence builder.	8	Having spent 35 years bowhunting in Bayfield county I have observed many wolf packs. In the 2000's I typically saw packs of 6 to 10 wolves filing through in single file or actually involved in an organized hunt on a deer. Since 2014 or so the packs I have observed were only 2 or 3 wolves. I have not seen a large pack in over a decade. My laymens theory on this is that the wolves aren't able to raise as many pups anymore because they are under food stress. They have reduced the deer herd to a point that they are now eating beavers and berries to make due. A quick look at Google Earth historical timeline pictures will show you that beaver dams were reduced by 60% or so during the 2000's. The beavers are actually are making a comeback recently. My point is that the wolves are starving and that smaller pack size is a very easy to determine metric for assessing wolf health. I see lots of info on wolf population estimates with the Scaled Occupancy Model, but what about the health of these wolves? Those smaller packs have a lot harder time bringing down a deer. In Bayfield county I think pack size of 6-10 is a healthy bunch of wolves. A pack of two or three are suffering. The public needs to understand that complete protection of wolves is leading to those same wolves suffering rather than thriving. Thanks for taking the time to read this.
Amy Seguin	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate how your plan is giving local input into the management of the population goals.	I guess I don't appreciate the specific prescriptions that a plan like this should have. With the high likelyhood of litigation,I feel that there should be very specific precriptions that leaves little to the imagination.	4	I feel that there should be specific language prescribing a wolf population reduction around the Jackson and Clark county area! More emphasis need to be placed upon the white tail and elk population protections!
Dylan Shaw	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).	4	
Alex	Most of it	Yes	I like the fact the plan acknowledges it's time to shift to a management phase vs recovery. I also like the small 1A & 1B zones and the the flexibility in shutting them down early, while leaving others open.	It's a start, but there needs to be follow up action. Developing Best Management Practices for harvest should be next. I also think the zones should be further broken up and treated like the the 1A and 1B zones. For example, zone 3 covers a large area. During a harvest it would be good to shut down parts of the zone to take the pressure off the packs in the public hunting areas. Like Wolf Monitoring survey zone 20a would be hit hard because has a large amount of public land and easy access. This also will have affect of limiting the opportunity for the anti hunter/trapper/houndsman groups to rigorously harass the folks out participating in a legal sporting season. Like they did the last season.	9	Thank you for your hard work in putting this very difficult plan together under the hardest of political environments.
Jon Rausch	Most of it	Yes	I like that there are scientific reasons being used. And the true understanding that management needs to be done.	I dislike the boundaries around the tribal grounds. If the tribes dont want hunting of wolves on there lands then fine. But if I own land in the subzone I should not have my rights killed as a result of their beliefs.	4	I think the plan is weak as it seems to be caving to the screams of urban people. More consideration should be given to those who live in wolf areas. And those who do should have more freedom to deal with problem wolves.
Debbie	All of it	Yes	The continued discussion of wolf management and more research to be done.	If I understand correctly, you are still in discussion and in the research mode before making any hunting decisions.	0	I do not believe in any need to hunt them. Fencing around farm animals are known to to help the loss of farm animals. I grew up on a farm in Black River Falls. Predator animals are always going to be there. Hunters want the thrill of killing a wolf and that is not a reason to disburse them. They have been around for hundreds of years. If hunting dogs go in their territory then the owner of the dogs should beware. Wolf pack areas are posted. You look at research very few litters of wolf pups survive. It is common sense to leave them be. After all we invaded their space.
Rick Wanke	All of it	Yes	Population of wolves to be limited to 350, and Ruth right of landowners and residents to protect their property by eliminating the predator if necessary.		10	A hunting season is necessary to limit the population of wolves and keep the wary of humans and humans property. They need to know they are hunted and not always the hunter.
James S. Fuller	All of it	Yes	I am in favor of addressing wolf numbers using a scientific team while being sensitive to local concerns. Not putting a finite annual number but looking at it geographically.	I feel that we need to back to protecting the wolf and not letting opinions and old school fear dictate anything to the WI DNR. We need to not worry about economics or inflated so called damages.	5	Go back to the Tony Earl days of protecting air, water and soils and all that lives within the Wisconsin space. Quit trying to satisfy small groups of loud people.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Bruce Markert	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Thoroughness	Lack of population goals for wolves. Maximum population should be between 500-600.Wolves in Vilas County has negatively affected deer hunting. The wolf must be managed as other species with no exception. Personally I don't think the DNR has a handle on the numbers of wolves in WI until we have a more consistent season with harvest feed-back.	5	I have hunted around Winchester in Vilas Co. for over 40year. This area as documented by local DNR game manager had the highest big buck numbers and quality. Now very few hunters hunt the area and it seems like we have lost the gene pool to product big bucks. We don't even know the size of the Cedar Lake wolf pack which directly affects the area that I have hunted.
Rebecca Johnson	All of it	Yes	non-lethal control of conflicts Public understanding/education regarding wolves Science based management.	If you are using a hunting dog, it might get killed, should not get reimbursed if the dog loses. Pet owners(non-hunting) should get reimbursed. Trapping should not be allowed. No hunting season	5	Unfortunately, people enjoy the sport of killing just to kill, the last wolf season, the number of wolves supposed to be killed was over the amount before they could stop the season. Long lasting effects of killing the matriarchs really cannot be understood by man.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Educating the public.			Gray wolves are sacred to Native people—they're family. Native nations should have the final say—no ifs, ands, or buts.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	history, background, conflicts, tribal views,			
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Reducing registration time for wolves killed by trophy hunters and trappers to 8 hours. Creating subzones adjacent to tribal reservations to minimize wolf harvest. Ideally the quota in these zones should be reduced to zero. Making wolf hunting licenses valid only for a specific zone. Removing a numerical population goal from the plan. Developing nonlethal deterrent methods for farms and increasing public education.	Too much emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves when they are not protected by the Endangered Species Act. The law mandating such wolf hunting seasons in Wisconsin should be changed. Objective C does not mention the many benefits of wolves, like biodiversity and disease reduction. It is wrong to have a season to train hounds for wolf trophy hunting. This is like state-approved dogfighting.	5	Please eliminate the mandate for Wisconsin to have a wolf hunting and trapping season, when the animals are not protected by the Endangered Species Act. Please update the plan every 5-10 years. Emphasize nonlethal methods of wolf control. Recognize that wolves are intelligent, social animals that provide ecological and social benefits.
	All of it	Yes	NOT MUCH	lack of a population management goal of 350	0	1. we must have a management goal of 350, without a specific number to manage to depredation control will never happen. 2. I feel this survey should also be checked against, the % of reply's coming from the metro populations and their total metro populations, and compare the % to the populations replying to that of the people living in wolf country. the people in wolf country have something to loose. Metro areas have a serious problem with predators also that the State taxes pay for..... those predators walk on 2 legs 3. I support the WWF's published 32 point reply to the "DRAFT" 4. I hope this plan gets changed soon and this is not just an effort to delay completion.
bob bultman	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	-- wow, lots of great info and education, keep it coming! -- the numerous ecological values and benefits of Wolves cannot be understated - our Forests need Wolves! -- let's not manage Wolves to an arbitrary number -- buffer zones around Indigenous Lands	-- focus on wolf protection and the wellbeing of wolf families, not recreational killing -- no tax dollars spent on hunting dogs! you know what you are in for. this is a ridiculous welfare program. -- no dog hunting or training - it's legalized dog fighting and completely unfair. -- more emphasis as a keystone species -- more recognition of Wolves as smart and sentient -- minimize recreational killing -- include more current science -- follow the public polls and listen to general public more than special interest killing groups. let the will of the People be the law of the Land. -- maximize non-lethal conflict mitigation -- more input from Tribes	6	-- Wolves belong. Wolves belong in all of their ancestral territories. -- Center Indigenous wisdom regarding Wolves and how we live with them -- more emphasis on non lethal interactions -- prohibit/avoid killing of alpha females and males -- our Forests need Wolves!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed).	4	I am in opposition of any lethal methods when dealing with Wolves and other predators as well. Due to the increased threats of more Zoonotic diseases-just are still spreading, mutating-we NEED to REDUCE close contact with Wild Animals and STOP taking them out of their habitats! It's the 21st century-we have done enough damage-time to honor the 30% by 2030-Protecting, Restoring, ReWilding Wilderness areas, Forests, grasslands, etc too. Wolves should be put BACK ON the ESA as well! They are Icons of the West-are Sacred to Native Tribes and the MAJORITY of People from ALL over the World want them PROTECTED! We cannot allow for barbaric, savage violence in a modern, educated society!
Greg St . Onge	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	No specific wolf number for the state			I am against the use of dogs by Wolf hunters. I've seen bear hunters trespass on my property for many years to hunt Bears and I expect the same from Wolf hunters. They never ask permission to hunt on my land even though it's posted. They put out bait like they own the land
	All of it	Yes	Documentation of the history of the wolf in the state is very thorough and gives a good background for the plan. Inclusion of the tribes persepectives is enlightening. The way the reservations are handled as "protected" areas for wolves is beneficial and also may have made sense in some of the core range with large tracts of public lands (but maybe not realistic socially).	Based on the percentage of the 2021 harvest by use of hounds it appears that a training period may not be necessary. Hound hunting is popular in the state but you have to wonder if the negatives to other users and stress on wildlife justifies the few people that it actually benefits.	9	In an ideal world I think the core area in the state should leave the wolves alone unless problems arise that require action. It is not an ideal world and the plan is well done and does an excellent job of taking all views into account. Nice job!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	It's clear a lot of effort was put towards making this thorough and complete.	I don't have free time to read 170 pages about wolf conservation, but I still want to be heard. I'm concerned that the thought process behind wolf hunting caters to special interest groups (hunters) that don't represent the interest of the greater population.	3	Livestock predation from wolves is hard for me to understand because I'm under the understanding that most people aren't actually seeing wolves kill their animals. I especially don't like that bear hunters run old dogs into wolf country to get a rebate after wolves kill their dogs. Why should hunters have so much clout in these discussions when the population that wants to hunt wolves is only ~14,000 people? Would you make changes to wildlife management if every gay person in the state of Wisconsin expressed interest in there not being a wolf hunt?

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Janine Onsager	Most of it	Yes	I like how detailed the plan is. it not only includes positive and negative attitudes that are portrayed but, gives details about how the Tribal Nations feel. It also includes health risks to Wolves and diseases that reduce the population.		5	I believe in science so follow the facts, not emotions.
Elaine and Severin Swanson	Most of it	Yes	Acknowledging the ecological value of wolves. A willingness to consider non-lethal control of wolf predation on livestock. Removing a numeric recovery goal. Responding to society's growing interest in co-existing with wolves. Respecting WI tribal perspectives and cultural attitudes.	The overabundance of hunters on your committee creates a grossly unfair outcome. The draft at its inception appears to have determined that wolf hunters, hound hunters, trappers, special interest groups deserve to be served first, we the people second. We oppose recreational hunting to resolve conflicts that can and should be managed in proven non-lethal ways. We see no evidence in the Plan that hunting wolves decreases wolf-human conflicts either. Credibility of DNR's wolf population remains highly questionable. Wildlife killing contests continue, with no account for slaughtered wolves. Likewise snaring, baiting, poaching, illegal killing. This is wolf mortality ignored. In addition, where is the necessary oversight committee, and who will be on that committee? Further, we abhor hound hunting - a vicious practice that has left a shameful mark on the state of WI. The Plan should state absolutely no funding for hounds injured or killed during this barbaric hunting practice. Along with this, there should be no hound training whatsoever.	6	Impressive effort given major differences in how people view the land, wildlife, dominion shared or exclusive to humans. Truly a difficult task to take on. In summary, we would like to see the Plan reflect the voices of those who advocate for reverence and respect for wildlife. Additional peer reviewed studies. An ethical demonstration of the agency's mission - to protect and enhance the ecosystems that sustain all life. We are very concerned about increased violence and suicide rates among our children. Recent news of shootings at a high school in the midwest revealed the shooter had a history of torturing wildlife. Children learn from a young age - maybe sharing space with pets or creating habitat for wild species - they learn that non-human animals experience fear and feel pain as we do. Studies have shown that cruelty to animals is often a warning of more violence to come. Mental health should be everyone's responsibility. The agency's mission statement - to consider the future and generations to follow. Thank you for your dedication and high principles drafting this document.
	Most of it	Yes		We must have a serious reduction of wolf numbers now!	0	We must have a serious reduction of wolf numbers now!
Mary Garrett	All of it	Yes	Finally we are letting the Native Americans have a voice in management of an animal very important to them. And finally we are letting the people who study wildlife and ecology have influence over how these decisions are made, rather than in the earlier plan which could hardly be defended on these grounds.		9	I am very happy to see that wolf management is not being handled in a simple-minded and scientifically ungrounded way.
Scott Wildberg	Most of it	Yes	The need to control the population through lethal means and the stronger need for population control in more populated areas.	So much of the research is not Wisconsin based but out appears that it is being considered higher over other inputs.	5	
	Most of it	Yes	I like that there are alot of people involved. It was interesting to read the Native American beliefs. There were a lot of studies referenced.	That there is no number attached. The snowshoe hare was mentioned as a prey for the wolves. Back in the 80's and early 90's there were a lot of snowshoe hares around. We would hunt them before or after deer season. However, I haven't seen one in 25 years. You should also be looking at bringing back those numbers and maintain a healthy balance of this species as well. I am wondering why they are not endangered.	3	Put a number out there. 350. Have a hunting season if there gets to be too many.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No		The number of wolves allowed to be killed every year should be zero.		
	Most of it	Yes			10	

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Shelley Wyndham	All of it	No	None	wolves should never be hunted, killed for trophies call it what you will - wolves are treasures and it is high time wolf killing - not 'management' needs to be stopped.	0	Several researchers recently took an extended look at Wisconsin's 2022 'scaled occupancy model' for estimating wolf counts in the state and concluded that the Wisconsin method systematically overestimates wolf abundance by large margins. This is due to several factors, and perhaps the most concerning part of all is that these over-estimations likely extend to other states using similar counting methods. New Counting Methods Despite there already being several proven methods developed by Wolf scientists over the course of many years, Wisconsin and other states have chosen to attempt to cut costs and create a lot more gray area and margin for era for their counts. As Adrian Treves and Francisco J. Santiago-Avila put it in their recent paper titled Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods, "The new methods sacrifice precision but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making…We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife policy." The new counting method combines estimates of pack size, ranging pack area, and occupied range. This method is used in Wisconsin, and similarly, counts have been used in Montana and Idaho. Perhaps unsurprisingly, each of these states has also expanded the allowance of wolf hunting and killing over the last several years, and these estimates don't always do a great job of factoring in all those wolves lost. Estimated Wolf counts as of January 2023 Flawed Metrics The changes to Wolf counting in Wisconsin and similar states are dependent on Wolf populations reaching a number that makes it difficult to take a "census" approach, and instead, take a new approach, called the 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM), which attempts to estimate the total number based on several factors. The SOM has three components, each estimated with separate models: an estimate of the area occupied by wolves, an estimate of territory size, and an estimate of pack size. The problem is that Treves and Santiago-Avila determined that all three components carry levels of uncertainty, that when compounded together, create a wide margin for error for the total count. Perhaps one of the most telling metrics that shows this flaw is described by the two researchers in the study: "It is important to note here that the data input to the SOM comes from previous years (two winters of snow track surveys and four years of pack-occupied range estimates)." So the data used in the SOM has a range of up to four years, meaning if a wolf pack was seen within the last four years, they got counted in the estimate. In case there was confusion of what that four-year range meant to counters, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources included an Addendum that clarified the pack just had to be observed at least one of the previous four years. The biggest flaw in that logic is that a pack could've been seen prior to the aggressive wolf hunts and other wolf killings that happened in 2021. The killings were so brutal, hunters killed 218 wolves in just four days, blowing past their 119-animal quota, and knocking out as much as 30% of the state's wolf population, and that's just what was officially reported. That means any one of those wolves could've been counted in previous years, and would still count in the most recent count, despite clearly being wiped out since then. As the study puts it, "The SOM was developed and compared to the traditional method entirely under conditions without hunting or killing of suspected predators of domesticated ungulates (Stauffer et al. 2021), raising questions about its sensitivity to population changes caused by legal killing." Conclusions This study brings up some very valid questions about the counting methods employed by Wisconsin and other states using similar methods. We never advocate that wolves should be killed or culled through hunting or other methods, but even if you do think that wolves in these regions are at a sustainable enough number to be periodically hunted, this study calls into question whether we can trust the data being provided by these states about the overall population, and how it might have shifted since legal wolf killing was sanctioned. It's best that the concerns about the new Wisconsin 'SOM' method are brought about now, as a means of informing public policy debate about how best to count and manage these wolf populations in Wisconsin and in Wolf management states across the US.
Coleen Johnson	All of it	Yes	That the management of the wolves will no longer be referenced off an old, unsupported and unscientific number of 350. And that the wolves are finally being seen as the ecological counterpart that they are.	The current draft still does not reflect the best available science. There really isn't any science shown and the effects of the large killing and unreported killings is not taken into account. There is nothing in place to stop lethal and inhumane management, like hounding which is not a sport at all and is like dog fighting which is illegal.	4	There is not a sold protection here for a full management plan. There is not enough scientific literature to support the plan and not enough safety nets to protect the wolves from the cusp of extinction again. The woods and the animals within are for everyone to protect and help maintain properly.

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Ryan	Most of it	No	To be honest, I was sent this on November 10th (the 11/9/22 draft) and I read it then, so it's fuzzy, and a million things have happened in life since then. However, I was impressed by how science and economic truths were hand in hand. Wolves were not a huge economic problem for the state. The overall plan is heartening. Maybe send a copy to Montana...they aren't so enlightened.		9	Hey, I'm a naturalist, nature-first person. Unless wolves are causing undue stress to people directly, I say leave them be. Populations will stabilize themselves. Of course, I'm also of the belief that people are on THEIR land, that the wolves should have first rights, but that'll never be too popular. Thanks for your work on this.
Susan Mackreth	Most of it	Yes	The plan is comprehensive and statements are well documented. Every issue that usually arises when wolf management is discussed was addressed. I especially appreciated the grounding in gray wolf biology, ecology, and the inclusion of their meaning to the Native American tribes in the state. I also like dividing the state into zones with different goals. I live in Zone 1 and am happy to have as the primary objective a healthy and sustainable wolf population. Finally, I think the adaptable approach to achieving goals is a sound strategy.	I didn't find anything with which I completely disagreed. The term "landscape of fear," may be a standard term, but it puts an emotional spin on the basic predator/prey relationship, and should be avoided. Last thing we need is more emotion in the wolf management discussions.	10	Thank you for all the work you put into the plan. Wolf management informed by science, rather than dictated by political pressures, is the correct way to proceed.
Terrence McDermott	Most of it	Yes	I like the following: 1. The plan has a goal to ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population & effectively balance the trade offs between objectives. I also like that there will be emphasis on non-lethal methods to reduce wolf/human conflict. 2. The plan divides the state into zones, with licenses being specific to each zone. Each zone's population & wolf/human conflict issues are taken into consideration individually, rather than the state as a whole. 3. The plan allows for adjusting harvest quotas by zone based on current conditions, rather than basing harvest numbers on an arbitrary number set decades ago. 4. The plan includes Native American tribal input, respecting tribal values & allowing for a buffer zone around tribal lands.	I dislike the following: 1. Allowing the use of bait & dogs to hunt wolves. As a hunter, I don't feel that using bait is true hunting. Hunting should be walking through the woods seeking out your game, not shooting game over a pile of bait or having dogs chase down your game for you. That is not how I define the sport of hunting. Bait is also indiscriminate - other wildlife can be unintentionally poisoned or sickened by the bait. Poisons and bait should NOT be allowed, especially on public lands. 2. An area of Lincoln County was added to Zone 3 in the proposed Management Zones. Western Lincoln County should be part of Zone 1 or 2, as that area is part of the heavily forested, original prime wolf habitat.	7	The goal of reducing wolf/human conflict by having a hunting season is counterproductive. Wolves hunt in packs which enables them to take down larger prey. Hunting breaks up packs, forcing wolves to hunt smaller prey, which leads them to livestock & domestic pets - creating more wolf/human conflict. A wolf hunting season creates a repeating cycle of wolf/human conflict.
	Most of it	No	the proposed plan has some good elements to it - buffer zone around tribal lands, no more quota numbers which are outdated, better understanding of the importance of wolves ecologically	the plan still includes the killing of wolves as a management plan, disregarding the research that shows the negative impact on wolves, the ecosystem which loses a top predator and on the breakdown of the social structures of wolves and leads to more human -wolf clashes. It also disregards research on non-lethal ways of managing wolves where they pose a genuine threat to livestock. It disregards that most people in our state (i lived in WI for many years and still own property there) do not want wolf hunts.	2	We need to reset our attitudes and policies using science as a guide not sporting. We need to work from a goal of co-habitation with the native species of our state, nurturing ecological resilience and health of the wolf population and definitely not causing harm. That should be the baseline.
	All of it	Yes	None	None	2	I was lied to back in the late 90s and told we were going to hit a goal of 350 and then manage them. I don't mind a few wolves but when you meet your quota in two days there are too many!!!!
Brad Hilton	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Dividing into regions.	The overall ability of the plan to be instituted. The number of wolves seems to be mean very little. Politics seem to rule logic and science.	4	When a hunt is allowed make the harvest large enough to meet the goals. The number of wolves must be reduced.
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	Increasing the target population number when there's already a population over 1,100 with the current 350 threshold.	1	We do not need to eliminate wolves from Wisconsin, but I feel their numbers should be managed. A yearly hunt with a lottery like bobcat, bear, etc in my opinion is the best way. And the money raised from applications can be used to better track the populations of wolves throughout the state so we can have a better grip on the population figures. I know we will have to decide how many tags to award each year. I think we should follow the same guidelines from the February 2021 hunt for 2-3 years and look at the effect on population and then the number of tags awarded can be adjusted up or down based on the population trend.
Michael Kuhnen	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that there is no target number of wolves for the state, that Native Americans and their values have been included along with the buffer zones, and that the hunting licenses are zone specific.	The plan should include the following: Absolutely NO reimbursement for hunting hounds injured or killed by wolves Eliminate all hound training Eliminate all hounds from hunting wolves Create a committee that includes more scientists and environmentalists to review and update the plan. Hunting organizations are overrepresented. Repeal Wisconsin Public Act 169--there should not be a law that mandates a wolf hunt.	7	Why should taxpayers pay for a dog who is injured or killed hunting wolves?

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dan Buckler	All of it	Yes	I really appreciated how respectful this plan was to wolves and humans alike. It recognizes, celebrates and encourages wolf presence in Wisconsin in perpetuity, and at such numbers to hopefully ensure a strong, healthy population. The plan was well thought out, with a huge amount of research integrated into it. I commend the planners and writers on this difficult task. The recent social surveys on public perceptions of wolves have been incredibly important, and I think the plan's writers have been spot-on with using those surveys, along with current biological and ecological science, to be of the utmost importance while formulating the plan. And so I applaud all of Objective E, but I'll single out Product E2A for being so critical. I'll also call out Strategy E5 in being very important to help understand wolves' role in forest management, particularly considering the immense impact their preferred prey have on forest regeneration. There seemed to be great recognition of tribal considerations and I am happy about that. I am very sympathetic to farmers and ranchers whose animals are predated upon. I was glad to see a lot of consideration given to this audience to try to minimize wolves' impact (especially with nonlethal abatement), and to fairly compensate them if possible.	I do not support wolf sport hunting of any kind, especially the use of dogs and trapping. I found non-consumptive wolf benefits (Objective C, Strategy C3) to be given pretty minimal consideration compared to hunting and trapping, especially since the vast majority of people (within and without wolf territory) enjoy wolves in these ways. I don't understand Product F2e: Apply for CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) authority. Why would we be encouraging / allowing wolf trophies to cross international borders?	7	Related to Objective D – I would find a public advertising campaign to be potentially very useful and informative in demystifying and destigmatizing many of the common (mis)characterizations about wolves. Like the fact that you could count with just two fingers how many times there was a negative wolf-human interaction in the 20th century in the contiguous U.S. Related to Strategy F1 – perhaps try to include habitat managers or foresters here. Perhaps they're already included, but it would seem important to include folks growing trees/forests, since regeneration is so affected by deer (and thus potentially by wolves). Thank you for all of your work.
jim dzimiela	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	none	none	1	What a poor tool and I guess you don't want any feed back! jim dzimiela
Paul Collins	All of it	Yes	I am very encouraged that the draft plan removes a numeric goal for gray wolves in Wisconsin. The management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas. The plan shortens the timeframe that wolf kills are to be registered from 24 to 8 hours. The 24 hour loophole has been used and abused far too often. Wolf-kill tags will be zone specific. The plan is significantly better than what it would be replacing. The absurd "350" number has been used and abused for far too long and it is good to see that disappear.	The occupancy model method of population estimates leaves far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. I would prefer the use of numbers based on actual observations and visual counts. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. While non-lethal methods are discussed to prevent conflicts with livestock, the DNR's partnership with the USDA Wildlife Services shows that lethal methods seem to be the primary response to alleged predations. An additional 65 wolves were killed in 2021 in response to alleged predations on livestock. This is unacceptable. There should be separate committees for science and "stakeholders." Having only one committee gives far too much weight to the political agendas of "stakeholders" that far too often skew toward killing and agricultural interests.	7	While the plan is significantly better than what it is replacing, I respectfully ask that more emphasis be placed on coexistence with wolves rather than killing and "hunter opportunity." I would also like to see less reliance on the USDA "Wildlife Services" and how they resort to killing to "solve" conflicts. If Wisconsin wants to regain "management" of this species then it seems quite hypocritical to partner with a federal agency that seems more about revenge than actual mitigation.
Judith culp	All of it	No			1	
Nick Kufalk	All of it	Yes	I like that the WI DNR started the process of creating a plan. That's about it.	I dislike that there is no clear population goal, I dislike the buffer zones around reservations that are already off limits to non tribal members, I think the survey that was complete is super hokey and doesn't represent a clear public perception of wolves. I never got a survey to full out about my attitude towards wolves and NO ONE I know filled out a survey relating to wolves either. So it makes me really question who got to fill out this survey. I also don't feel like the people who have to live and deal with the wolves are being heard or really worked with. To me it feels like a whole lot of people who love in southern wisconsin and in different states are getting their opinions on the matter heard more. I also feel very disrespected as a sportsman's in Wisconsin that groups like Humane Society of the United States and the Sierra Club were even part of the Wolf Committee because everyone nows that these are Anti-Hunting groups who only sue and extort to get their way and will never stop until they end all methods of hunting. I am not against wolves and I know they have/deserve a place in Wisconsin.	3	
	Most of it	Yes	It's good to see representation from the tribes and buffer zones for tribal lands.	Still a need for an oversight committee with more emphasis on biologists, professionals, etc.	7	Still too much emphasis placed on killing rather than co-existence.
Robert Gage	All of it	Yes	Wolves are an important part of the overall ecological system in Wisconsin. Any hunting of wolves should be prohibited, and they should be protected.	As above, wolves are an important part of the balance of nature. Any effects on livestock and family dogs (keep them indoors or in pens) is minimal.	1	Wolves should be back on the endangered species list and hunting wolves should be outlawed in this state and nationally.
	Most of it	Yes	the fact that there is a plan and encouraging the biodiversity of having wolves on the landscape	no specific population goals	2	I feel that the number of predator species in the state should be better managed and numbers reduced

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	All of it	Yes			9	I listened to the extreme spectrum of comments on the 3+ hour zoom call. Most comments I'm sure, hope, will have no impact on the plan which I fully support with the addition of the written comments by Greenfire. And to counter comments by some - I support the plan AND I live in zone 1, have land in 1a and 1 (family land for 80yrs). We own nearly 1,600ac, have wolves on the property daily (many cameras); have no irrational fears; have many small grandchildren; recreate outside daily; respect balanced predator / prey relationships. I appreciate the huge social study included in the plan. I do NOT support $ reimbursement for predation but understand it. I do not support hounding but understand it. I support trapping but not wolves. Keep up the great work. Thrilled to have a new thoughtful, thorough plan. Please try to incorporate Greenfire's written comments into the plan.
Ryan M Olson	Most of it	Yes	none of it	no population number set.	2	create a season and come up with a lower population number to maintain.
Gustavo de las Casas	Most of it	No	I like that you are removing a target number for the wolf population. I also like much that you are engaging the ecological importance of wolves, as well as including tribal values.	I dislike that: there is no oversight committee, that it allows recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts, and it allows use of dogs to hunt wolves.	6	The Committee should not have overrepresentation by hunting organizations, which are a minority special interest group. There should be equal representation by other stakeholder groups.
Janette Dean	Most of it	No	Any form of protection of wolves from any lethal actions against them.	As a Wisconsin-born person now in Minnesota, I agree with many on these points: Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. PLEASE STOP ALL LETHAL ACTION AGAINST WOLVES WHO BELONG IN THE ECOSYSTEMS OF OUR GREAT LAKES STATES AS WELL AS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA.	5	It is unethical to try to put such low and arbitrary population limits on wolves as some states aim to do when wolves properly regulate their own populations. Humans have taken up far too much land and space for their own purposes without an ecological focus on how our ecosystems thrive when they are optimally benefitting all parts of each system due to the mutually necessary relationships between the air, land, water, animals, plants, etc., of a particular area and the proper scientific study of this (see: Ecology definitions).
Victoria Troxler	All of it	Yes	-the adoption of buffer zones around tribal lands and making hunting licenses zone specific -incorporating the ecological benefits of wolves	-the plan should enact a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in national forests -Ban the use of hunting dogs -include a diverse oversight committee of wildlife biologists and professionals, ensure that the committee is not biased	7	There's an overall emphasis on killing wolves instead of reducing conflicts with them

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Very little. Wolves were eliminated in the past for a reason.	If the wolves are important to the natives, have them fence in a portion of their tribal land so the wolves remain where they are wanted. Tourists who are concerned could then visit them on the tribal lands.	0	We live and farm in NE WI. Our farm is adjacent to the Nicolet National Forest. We breed our cattle for docility among other EPD's. On any given night, you can hear wolves howling in the distance. Our cattle can be outright aggressive, in the past couple years, especially when they have calves. Deer in our area have moved out of the woods, living in the pastures and vandalizing our hay, corn and silage stores. The only tracks of wildlife I see when further than 1/2 mile from our farm are wolf tracks and scat. Bear hunters with cameras had pictures of 13 DIFFERENT wolves about 1/2 mile from our farm. Wolves are not romantic, they are vile predators. Why was the quota for the season met in 24 hours or less last year? There are a great deal more that 350 wolves in WI.
	Most of it	Yes	Considering anther season	That the dnr n their management goo ruus have no idea on the actual wolf population nor are they even close to being accurate	5	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	NADA	The plan lacks the ability for private property owners, ranchers, farmers, residents to kill wolves on their property. You can bet that if Madison or Milwaukee had wolves in your backyard, something would be done about this. This plan is just further bureaucratic mumbo jumbo from a sad bureaucratic agency. The DNR certainly stands for dept. of no results. If I was the individual responsible for this plan, I would transfer to the IRS or some other agency where you expect those people to know nothing and care nothing about resource management and care nothing about the citizens you supposedly serve. This plan is useless and a typical example of government wasteful spending. Sad, Sad, Sad	0	I can't find enough words to express my Intense hatred for this plan and of the Sad, Inept leadership in the DNR.
Abhishek Patwardhan	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What I like about the plan is the following: Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What I do not like about the plan is the following: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g.,	4	I would also request that the the following studies be incorporated into the plan (which currently are not integrated into the plan), in order to have all the best available science at hand. Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. 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				such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Finally, while I am happy to see that tribal perspectives are included in the Draft management plan (pages 38-44), I would hope that these are taken seriously in that the suggestions and viewpoints that are outlined in the 4 different tribal responses, are implemented and taken into account. Particularly the view of the wolf as a 'brother' and rather a view of 'managing' wolves, more of a 'relationship plan' with wolves. Wolves should be allowed to determine their own numbers and no recreational hunting of wolves should be allowed or be a part of any 'management' plan. Wolves, as has been seen from many other areas (Yellowstone/Denali etc.), reach stable population levels themselves without any need for management, i.e. wolves are perfectly capable of managing their own numbers.		https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2014.12.016 Bruns, A., Waltert, M., & Khorozyan, I. (2020). 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	All of it	Yes	The over all biography on wolves	The fact that this is still up for discussion.when they were introduced the goal was set at 350,when that goal was met there was going to be a season. Second,how are people and judges making decisions on something that they don't have to live with ,wolves aren't in thier backyard	1	
	Most of it	Yes		Dislike no mechanism for killing wolves on private property.	0	After all the time people have told the DNR about problems with too many wolves in northern WI, it is very disheartening to see DNR has no concern for people in northern WI. The plan lacks ability for private property owners, farmers,ranchers, residents to kill problem wolves on private property. It is evident the current administration does not care about the people of northern WI. We have been ignored again in this plan.
Fred Szponer	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate that some improvements have been made in terms of viable wolf population numbers and the ecological impact of wolves but there are a number of areas that need significant rework.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science regarding widespread and indiscriminate killing of wolves and the negative impact on the overall health of the pack. The effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones is also lacking in the draft. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Extremely cruel methods of wolf management or "hunting" should be completely forbidden. Trapping, baiting, hunting with hounds or chasing wolf packs with ATVs or snowmobiles are deplorable methods that should have no place in 2023 society. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values toward wolves which strongly indicate much greater concern and support for healthy wolf populations and a disgust toward barbaric hunting methods such as those mentioned above. A healthy wolf population can be a tourist attraction to the vast majority of people that would visit the northern forests for reasons other than to derive some warped thrill from taking the life of such majestic creatures.	4	
David Rieckmann	All of it	Yes	- Removal of an arbitrary wolf population goal - The plan is properly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves - The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it - Using science-based research for wolf coexistence	- This should not be called a wolf "management" plan. The plan name should be changed to the Wolf Coexistence Plan to better reflect the important role of wolves in a healthy balanced ecosystem. Wolves are a valuable keystone species filling a vital role for balanced natural biodiversity - Disallow hunters from training and using dogs to chase down and kill wolves. This is an unsporting, barbaric and inhumane practice that harms dogs and wolves. I don't appreciate hunters and their dogs running roughshod through my public lands and forests - Wolves are not "harvested" for consumption like food crops or forestry trees. Change the archaic term "harvest" to "killing" - There is not enough emphasis on non-lethal methods of coexisting with wolves	8	- Please give strong consideration and inclusion of the Wisconsin Green Fire organization's response to the draft wolf plan - Thank you for removing the arbitrary wolf numeric population goal - The Plan must be focused on the ecological benefits of wolves - Wolf coexistence must be based on scientific research and wolves critical role as a keystone species in a healthy balanced natural ecosystem - Thank you to WDNR personnel for their hard work preparing this draft plan
Jack Culp	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan outlines actual strategies, data, and talking points and works to solve and provide answers for each common complaint or confusing data set.	It's LONGGG and cannot be effectively summarized. This isn't an issue within itself but media portrayal will skew the report without a proper short summary that includes the solutions.	9	
Mark benecke	Most of it	Yes	Need population goal of 300	Need a population goal	0	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Zone Changes: 22. The plan includes the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations, effectively giving the management of the wolf population on both public and private lands to the tribes. We oppose the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners and public land stakeholders. We also oppose giving away wildlife management authority. 23. The agricultural areas in these newly created buffer zones in the draft plan will go largely unprotected and have inadequate protections for pets and livestock. Private landowners will have unequal treatment under the law for which they are protected under the Constitution. 24. The zone restructure is now based on wolf occupancy and not based on suitable habitat. The unmanaged wolf population has forced wolves out of prime suitable habitat into inappropriate areas, creating conflicts. Not all areas are appropriate to have wolves. We request the zone structure return to the original science-based, habitat-based zones. Goal Statement/Objectives: 25. The Goal Statement in the draft plan does not address where wolves are appropriate. The draft plan needs to take a hard look into what is good for wolves and what is good for humans. Low interactions between the two are best. Wolves should only reside in high-quality wolf habitat and not be managed to the maximum biological carrying capacity. No other species in Wisconsin is managed to its maximum biological carrying capacity. 26. The draft plan implies the elimination of hunting with dogs which is Constitutionally protected. It also implies wolves have more rights to the land than hunters. This narrative is not science-based and all such implications should be removed. 27. Objective B is missing long-term controls for agricultural conflicts. Wolves are known to move down the road and create conflicts with just short-term controls. 28. The goal statement or objectives do not address any form of population control. The official position of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is a population goal of 350 wolves in the State of Wisconsin. We strongly request the numeric population goal of 350 wolves be maintained in the final plan.	Zone Changes: 22. The plan includes the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations, effectively giving the management of the wolf population on both public and private lands to the tribes. We oppose the creation of buffer zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners and public land stakeholders. We also oppose giving away wildlife management authority. 23. The agricultural areas in these newly created buffer zones in the draft plan will go largely unprotected and have inadequate protections for pets and livestock. Private landowners will have unequal treatment under the law for which they are protected under the Constitution. 24. 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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Lack of an annual wolf hunting season. Lack of easy ability of landowners, farmers, rural residents to kill wolves on their own land	0	Plan needs options for residents to kill wolves on our own property to protect our livestock, pets, children, etc. Plan needs to make it easy for residents to kill wolves without dnr involvement.
	Most of it	Yes			1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The plan lacks an annual wolf hunting season. There should be one until all wolves are eliminated	0	The plan needs to provide for the ability for landowners, farmers, rural residents to easily kill wolves on their own property to protect themselves and their livestock, pets, children.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Sarah Nevins	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate that you cite the research that you use, and I like that you are educating about wolf behavior, habitat, impact on the ecosystem etc. Seems well-informed.	The idea that there could be a "safe" percentage of wolves to harvest. This idea endangers the conservation success that we have all worked so hard for. "Current support for lethal control is high among rural stakeholders (Lute and Carter, 2020) and is preferred over non-lethal and preventative measures such as guard dogs, lights, fencing or reducing access to human food" I dislike this statement. I am a rural stakeholder, I reside in a township in Bayfield county. I do not support lethal control of wolves. People need to be responsible for their animals, move them indoor, use proper fencing, keep food put away etc. If someone essentially baits a wolf by leaving their hunting dogs tied up outside (which lots of people foolishly do around here!) It is not the wolves fault for "attacking" their dog. This is absurd, let's act/treat people like adults and not blame it on an animal engaging in their normal behavior. I very much prefer that people use non-lethal methods, and the DNR should be encouraging and/or enforcing this. Donkeys work, lights work, flagging works. Let's use our big brains. " lethal control is consistently found to be less effective at stopping predation issues when compared to non-lethal control (Treves et al., 2016)." from page 28.	4	I appreciate that you attempt balance in this draft. My above comment highlighting the discussion over lethal control brings a question to mind. (" lethal control is consistently found to be less effective at stopping predation issues when compared to non-lethal control (Treves et al., 2016)." from page 28).If, at the conclusion, research shows that lethal control is less effective (which seems obvious to anyone who knows anything about wolves or animal behavior in general) then WHY is there a whole debate about whether of not it should be engaged as a method? It is shown to not work, or maybe have opposite effects, due to disruption of the pack. So on one hand, I appreciate the balance of ideas, on the other hand.. some of the ideas are not grounded in reality so seem perhaps less than helpful. On page 21, the section ends with this this interesting statement which has no citations. "Nevertheless, numerous wolf populations exposed to harvest and other sources of human-caused mortality have been studied over the last several decades and collectively have suggested that wolf populations are remarkably resilient to human-caused mortality, including regulated harvest. Experience with regulated wolf harvest in Wisconsin has largely supported this finding." First of all - what studies are we talking about, "over the last several decades"? Because wolf hunting has not been legal anywhere in this country for decades. We have 3 unfortunate years of our own to look at for data. Why are there no citations on this grand finale paragraph? I don't think it's logical or scientific to assume that they'll just bounce back if we keep shredding their family structure year after year. Wolf repopulation was intentional and successful, let's keep it that way. They are intelligent and their family units/packs are more important to them than other animals like deer. It is not reasonable to assume that hunting them will help anything, their numbers do not need "management"; they manage their own numbers, killing each other off if numbers are too high. It will have detrimental effects, increasing poaching and a negative attitude towards wolves. Hunting wolves pushes an idea that wildlife is disposable, that trophy hunting is acceptable. Trophy hunting is NOT resource management As I stated, I am a resident of Bayfield county, one of the most wolf-dense, wildlife-dense counties in the state. I spend a lot of time outdoors, as do most of my friends and family. No one I know is afraid of wolves or thinks they shouldn't be here. Not one of the avid hunters I know wants to hunt wolves, in fact the ones I've spoken to about it think wolf hunting is cruel and disgusting, as I do. People do not eat wolves. Trophy hunting is absolutely not a sport and it should not be sanctioned by the state.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I do not like the lack of a wolf hunting season. There should be an annual hunting season until the population is reduced to no more than 100.	0	The plan must address reducing the number of wolves to no more than 100.
Mia Haber	Most of it	Yes	I learned so much about wolves in general and the history of wolves in Wisconsin from reading the plan. I feel like I understand many of the complex issues involved in maintaining a wolf population in our state.	A statement upfront saying how many minutes an average reader might need to read the entire plan minus references would be helpful. The plan required time and attention to really read and understand. Of course, the audience for the plan is not really a casual reader, rather someone who is already interested in the topic. The length isn't a problem, just set expectations for readers.	7	I am proud that there are areas in Wisconsin that are wild enough to support wolves. Wolves make our ecosystem healthy and their presence here is beneficial. I respect the tribes of Wisconsin and it's important their views on wolves are included in this plan. The last wolf hunt in WI was embarrassing for the state and infuriating for anyone who cares about wolf conservation. I dislike the way the hunt was handled and do not want a repeat in the national news. Since the population of wolves stabilize in an area that can support them, Wisconsin could do without hunting wolves at all. That said, if a hunt goes forward, Wisconsin should not issue 10x more licenses than the expected harvest and rely on the 24 hour report requirement. Hunters have no incentive to report accurately and every incentive to keep hunting on as many licenses as they can get. They have demonstrated the system only works if the hunters act in good faith. They did not. I think that limiting licenses to specific zones and reducing the registration time to 8 hours is movement in the right direction. I'd like to see a system where hunters could report their wolf immediately via text (sex and gps location included) and receive a notice via text when a zone is closed. I hate the idea of trapping at all and I am against hunting bears of wolves with dogs. I agree that conflicts with humans need to be managed including killing wolves that have lost their fear of humans. I think hunters that use dogs for wolf or bear hunting should not be reimbursed by the state for killed or injured dogs. Nor should the state reimburse pet owners who had their pet out of their immediate control. If landowners have problems with wolves, they should report it and an agent should assess their concerns. If they do have a problem wolf or wolves, a professional hunter should be brought in rather than simply issuing a license to kill any wolf to the landowner who can then sell it on. I was impressed with the parts of the plan that dealt with educating the public. Most Wisconsinites live in urban areas but I think all Wisconsinites need to keep areas of our state wild or we will lose too much of our heritage.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Increasing public understanding of wolves, including regulated wolf harvest season		10	Keep up the good work, and good luck
	Most of it	Yes	That wolves need to be managed like many other predators with sufficient numbers within the state.	We need a plan that will help us manage wolves throughout the entire state of WIsconsin. Currently the plan creates buffer zones and doesn't include management for areas outside of the "wolf zones." Just like the bear population, wolves will continue to expand and reach almost every area within the state. We need a plan to reflect the ability to manage wolves even if they fall outside of the "normal habitat area." Finally, we need assurance that they will be kept at a suitable number. I understand that setting a number like 350 is hard to manage however losing that number value provides too much leeway for anti-hunting groups to argue that no management is needed to keep the wolf population "suitable" in the state.	2	I hope that you listen closely to groups within the state that are impacted by wolves such as the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association, Trapping Association, and farmer Associations. Also, remember that management plans should not be political but instead based on scientific data.
Kevin stelljes	Most of it	Yes	The detail and unbiased text	Bone	8	I have no sympathy for hunting dog deaths
Jordan Aberman	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I believe the adjustable approach is wise and should assist accomplishing the plan goals. I'm glad there is an emphasis on sustainability and the wolf population fulfilling its ecological role.	A wolf hunt/harvest seems unnecessary and incongruous with the notion of fulfilling an ecological role, unless this role is arbitrarily and artificially limited to areas currently inhabited by wolves, or to some other imposed human parameter. In which case, using the language of 'fulfilling an ecological role' is at best incomplete and at worst intentionally misleading. True restoration and sustainability actually calls for significant expansion of wolf territory throughout their historic zones of habitation. While I'm aware this will not be immediately possible everywhere in WI due to a litany of factors, it should nonetheless be the goal of a responsible, forward-looking wildlife plan to think beyond immediate possibility, and to contend with how to reintroduce the wolf to its historic range in as much of the state as possible. I'm not sure this plan does that and a hunt/harvest seems like a concession made to a very small, vocal group, and not reflective of either the majority opinion in the state or the best scientific practices.	6	
Pete Koenig	Most of it	Yes	That the DNR is open to wolf harvest. Wondering why 350 population limit went away...???	Seems to be some stretch thinking i.e. "sufficient wolf numbers could potentially limit incidences of lymes disease in humans" and "wolves could suppress or even eliminate CWD in wild elk or deer herds"....really??	5	I would like to see population goals lower.
Rose Wood	Most of it	Yes	I like all of WI Greenfire's comments and recommendations - please adopt them. Especially removal of numeric quotas, buffer areas at tribal reservations, in person hunting registration and genetic sampling etc.	Reimbursement for any hunting dogs during any time of the year. I realize you don't reimburse during hunting season. But I disagree with hunting with canines on canines. It's sanctioned dog fighting. I hope we can end all hunting on wolves.	8	Greenfire seems to really have ideas I align with. Please adopt their recommendations.
Kathy Bero	All of it	Yes	Overall, I feel like more could be done but am happy to see buffer zones around tribal land, making licenses specific to zones, but mostly taking into account the importance of wolves to our ecosystem. This is reflective of how well the natural world manages itself and how poorly we have done. Causing them to suffer for our insatiable need to control land and water.	Hounds should be eliminated and not allowed to hunt wolves. It's cruel and cowardly. I don't really know how it's any different that illegal dog fights. It's cruel to the hounds who inevitably are injured. I've run into hounds in the woods injured and lost and it's horrific. Then finding the owners, who carelessly throw an injured animal into the back of a pick up. That should be registered as animal cruelty and the owners should not be allowed to have dogs. Disgusting. The WDNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves period. The WDNR should absolutely not allow hunting wolves in national forests or other prime habitat. We are the aggressors, claiming control over lands we don't even legitimately own. I do not like that the plan randomly sets recreational hunting and trapping to "reduce conflicts." Seriously? Camping and paddling through wilderness areas as well as being a land owner in Vilas county - presumably the county with the biggest population of wolves - we have had zero issues with wolves and our family pets (dog). There are numerous wolf trails around our cabin and we've found parts of deer on our land, but never had we had an issue with wolves. In addition, we have been up close and personal with wolves checking us out while hiking or sitting around the camp fire. Guess what. Not one was aggressive even though we had dogs who also did not seem alarmed. We need to stop demonizing wolves for being wolves and let them be.	6	This plan and the committee that drafted it, put too much emphasis on killing wolves rather than setting the stage for co-existing with them. Of course, what else could we have expected with a committee that is out of balance with overrepresentation of hunters who make up a minority. Will wonders never cease.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Hunting/Trapping to control population and create environment where wolves are wary of/stay further away from livestock, farms and households.	I support the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Board 32 wolf plan objections. I specifically request the 350 target be maintained and that landowners/residents in wolf territory be given ability to protect livestock, pets and family.	1	Only currently a non-resident as attending grad school out of state. Family owns more than 250 acres in northern Wisconsin. I and family members regularly are on the property and have experienced increased threats from wolves in the past decade.
Michael Bryant	Most of it	Yes	None	The number of wolves. We need a number And your zone idea is not good	1	Pick a number and reset zones Then FIGHT TO GET A SEASON
	Most of it	Yes	There is an attempt show that this plan is based on scientific evidence , however the plan has failed in this attempt.	The plan is purposefully long and tedious with poor if any statistical validity. I'm sure it is intended to be intimidating to the average person. Wolves and other resources are property of all the people of Wisconsin and should be treated that way. Adequate funding	0	Current levels of enforcement are presently lacking as evidenced by continuous killing of wolves by poachers in northern Wisconsin. I am sure the political will of our current legislature will continue with their abysmal record of neglect.

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				of enforcement will be minimal or non- existent . It appears to be a clever marketing scheme at best		
P F Wanke	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Hunting/trapping season to be re-instated.	I support the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Board 32 wolf plan objections. Most important to me is that the 350 goal/limit be maintained; landowners have ability to protect livestock, pets and family; and do not create zones outside of reservations.	1	Relative to the commentary period, disappointed that greater weigh is not being placed on landowners/residents that are within wolf territory versus those who do not have to live with the wolves. Inherently unfair to have those who gain positives (an occasional visit or "feel good" moment) BUT DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS (dangers to family or property) of wolves equal say to those directly impacted.
	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	Gray wolves have made a significant recovery since being placed on the endangered species list in 1974. However, their populations are still limited to certain regions in the United States, and conflicts between wolves and humans continue to arise. In order to manage wolf populations effectively, it's important to consider a range of factors, including habitat suitability, genetic diversity, and public attitudes towards wolves. One key strategy for managing wolf populations is to establish a balance between preserving the species and protecting the interests of humans, particularly in areas where wolves may pose a threat to livestock or other animals. To achieve this balance, managers can employ a range of methods, such as habitat restoration, selective hunting, and non-lethal deterrents. By implementing a comprehensive management plan that takes into account these factors, it's possible to ensure the long-term survival of gray wolves while also minimizing conflicts with humans.	5	1. Establish and enforce regulations to protect wolves from hunting, trapping, and persecution. 2. Monitor wolf populations and conduct regular surveys to assess their status and distribution. 3. Encourage coexistence between wolves and humans through public education, outreach, and engagement. 4. Develop and implement measures to reduce conflict between wolves and livestock, such as fencing and non-lethal deterrence methods. 5. Consider reintroducing wolves to suitable habitats where they have been extirpated or are currently absent. 6. Collaborate with neighboring jurisdictions and stakeholders to ensure coordinated management of wolf populations. 7. Use scientific research to inform decision-making and adaptive management strategies.
J A Wanke	Just the parts I am interested in	No	That wolf population will be controlled so fewer attacks on farm animals and pets as well as lower risk to landowners	I support the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Board 32 wolf plan objections. Most important to me is the 350 population target be maintained AND landowners are allowed to protect livestock, pets and of course family members.	1	I was a longtime resident of Wisconsin and only moved out-of-state to care for elderly parents. Still own more than 300 acres in northern WI which family members use regularly.
Tom Boe	Most of it	Yes	We finally have a plan put together regardless of how flawed it is...	1)The 350 count needs to remain in the plan!! 2)Subzones make no sense 3)Federal Judges from outside wolf range should have no jurisdiction on wolf issues or ESA action 4)If your serious about population control than set the target harvest level where it should be. You know that native Americans are not going to fill they're quota so take that into account and place the harvest quota where it needs to be in the hands of those whom actually care about control!!	1	I totally disagree with a number of issues in the wolf Mgt. plan for the following reasons: A) No minimum count!! Whom do you think your going to offend by placing a count in this plan?? B)It appears your being influenced more by wolf advocates than by science?? If you care to know the truth about the wolf situation by specific area you need to listen to the sportsman and sportswomen along with the farming community. These are your best source of information cause they're the people that are out in wolf territory!! C)I don't think that federal judges from outside the wolf ranges should have any right to request a relisting of the timber wolf on an endangered species list. 2)I'm 73 years old and I've been a sportsman for as long as I can remember! A) I don't hunt deer because I dislike them. Quite the opposite, I hun t deer because as a kid I witnessed what can happen with hoarse winters and over population. Seeing a group of yarded up deer starving to death leaves a lasting impression for sure. It's a constant reminder of how important sportsman and sportswomen are to the population control levels established by science. We hunt all game animals in part for the same reasons. It makes more sense to control populations than to face the consequences of no control. Wolf deprivation costs, starvation, reduced livestock vigor resulting in reduced profits, just to name a few. 3) Its high time to recognize hunting dogs for what they truly are verses the perception of what they are! A)Hounds are predominately gentle and loving spirits just like your ordinary house pets (which many of the are also). They're bred to trail and hunt specified game be it Raccoon, Fox, Coyote, Bear, Bobcat, Rabbit, or potentially Grey Wolf. They don't do this because they're being forced to. They do this cause genetically they have it in they're genes and they truly love what they're doing. Hounders are not "Killers" they're conservationists doing what they can to help control populations of targeted game species to State managed levels. This is a necessary control measure. 4) We don't blame the "wolf lovers" for they're feelings on wolves. We don't totally agree with some of the false statements as such but I guess they have a right to believe what what they want. I just wish they would take the time to go to the woods, with those of us that face the fear of wolf depredation on our Family hound pets and see first hand what we see and are faced with. 5) Sub zones closed to wolf harvest is a very BAD IDEA!! Some of the most heavily populated wolf range is in the heart of these sub zones. They'll continue to grow in numbers pushing more of the wolf range to the South. Move South to more people, more livestock, and more pets!! That would spell disaster for sure. You think you have high deprivation pay out now, you haven't scene nothing yet!! If

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						these ceded areas are so important than maybe the cost of wolf deprivation should become the responsibility of the reservations requesting it!! Thanks for the opportunity to share feelings and thoughts on this very important matter!!!
Francene Amari-Faulkner	All of it	No	The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves.	Hound hunting and training MUST be stopped. Recreational hunting is not recreational.	6	The committee seems to be over represented by hunters which is disheartening. Wisconsin has rich wildlife and I wish it was valued for its life.
Eric Johnson	Most of it	Yes	not much of any of it.	The lack of specific population goals. how can you manage anything without specific goals. By leaving it up to the whims of the leadership of the time is irresponsible. The lack of effective tools for livestock producers to protect their livestock, and the stress related to wolf pressures.	1	This plan does not address the needs of livestock producers in the state that deal with wolves on their farms. This plan lacks the structure of actual population goals. How can there be any long term management with the goals changing from one administration to the next. This plan should look at population goals for areas that can sustain wolves. And not expect to have wolves roaming the whole state.
joe	Most of it	Yes	the desire to keep population at level that there is little conflict between humans and wolves	no population goals. the tribes should not be able to save tags to save wolves from being harvested	1	The wolf needs to be managed. there needs to be a population goal
	All of it	Yes	None	Why do the tribes have so much say	1	Needs to be a hard number for quata
Thomas Boehm	Most of it	Yes	Education and outreach efforts to help change public attitudes towards wolves. From the draft, it appears that wolves are by far less of a threat to people than domestic dogs.	Why should the public be responsible for predation losses, especially recreational dogs? The payouts by the DNR are enormous, ineffective in dealing with the underlying issue, and invite abuse. Despite heavy lobbying, all hunting with dogs should cease immediately. Cockfighting, dog fighting, bearbaiting, bullfighting and other bloodsports from the middle ages have been justifiably curtailed. As a long time hunter I believe the use of dogs is nothing but cheating, unsportsmanlike not to mention cruel. That the DNR is compelled to compensate hunters for their own risks is highly ironic. Let them hunt like deer hunters do, without dogs.	6	Thank you very much for your diligent work on this thorny issue.
Tina Heggeland	All of it	Yes	The level of conservation is great. Not relying on numbers and maintaining this beautiful species is so important.	There really is not anything I dislike. People need to understand that we are invading the animals' territories and not the opposite.	9	
Mark Martin	Most of it	Yes	I like that you looked at the history of all elements of the wolves in Wisconsin. I also like the fact that a population goal was not part of the plan.	None. I missed seeing the positive impact by wolves related to removing sick deer like those with CWD.	10	I am not a member but also support the wolf comments provided by Green Fire. There is no reason to use the goal of 350 since that was developed when wolves were relatively new to the state.
Carl Anderson	All of it	Yes	Rather than a lenghty repitition, I concurr with all of Wisconsin Green Fires comments and recommendations, please adopt them. I really like tribal inclusion, buffer zones around reservation lands, removal of numeric management goals, in person registration for hunting, genetic sampling requirements. Adaptive management of our wolf population should be a key part of Wisconsin's Management Plan moving forward.	Plan should simply call for elimination of dog hunting. Plan should refpect that a general hunting season should only be allowed if required and mandated by State Legislation.	8	Please adopt Wisconsin Green Fire recommendations in to the final plan.
	All of it	No	The Resources and to Protect the Wolves at all cost ! and the healthy safe environment for the Wolves !	I didn't see anything i didn't dislike !	10	i would like to know do you have like a Sanctuary to Have Wolves to keep them safe and to have wolf programs to educate People to Learn about the Wolves ?
Adrian P Wydeven	All of it	Yes	Elimination of numeric goal. Focus on ecological benefits of wolves. Buffer areas around reservations. Varied goals for zones based on land use and potential for conflict. Using an adaptive management approach informed by science, and emphasis on education. The updated public attitude survey is very thorough and useful.	Placing western Lincoln County in Zone 3; should be in Zone 1 or 2. Focus on longer hunting and trapping season for user satisfaction; should balance season length with satisfaction for more users, but avoid long seasons that extend in late December and January or possibly February that will disrupt winter track surveys, and disturb breeding wolves. Dog training on wolves should only be allowed when specific zones are open to harvest.	9	The plan provides strong scientific basis for wolf conservation. Areas of concern listed above need to be addressed, but overall it is a tremendous effort toward wolf conservation in WI. Great Job!
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Wisconsin needs the ability to manage the wolves, they are getting to populate and very little fear of humans and pets
	Most of it	Yes	all		10	
	All of it	Yes	The fact that it is out here for comment	I live in area 1 and have wolves on my sidewalk to my house. I am highly concerned that plans for area 1 may be more limited for wolf control as area 1 is one of the main areas which wolves will be considered in a "home " territory	4	Maybe because they are too close to my home and don't seem affected by our human presence here, I am hesitant to see less control and potentially greater permissibility for their protection in zone 1. I honestly feel there are too many in my area already.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
John Siegworth	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Outstanding research and communicated in great depth and detail--thank you. I particularly am interested in the population distribution, the suitable habitat, and the various ecology and population dynamics in the plan.	I didn't have any areas of dislike in the plan.	9	I am a supporter of wolves in Wisconsin. As apex predators, they hold a critical place in our ecosystem and contribute to it's overall balance. As an example, I own a cottage on a secluded lake in northern Wisconsin (Vilas county) and have observed a variety of animals through the years on the ice during the winter months. There was a time (25-30 years ago) when 60-80 deer would come across our lake (on a nightly basis) to feed on our shoreline and in the woods--it was quite a sight to see this many deer at once. The deer would browse whatever they could find, to the point where there was very little undergrowth. As the years went by and wolves became more prevalent, we noticed considerably fewer deer, both crossing the ice in winter and during the other seasons. Consequently, much of the understory growth began to regenerate and fall back in line with the way nature intended to be. There were still plenty of deer around, but not in such large and unnaturally high numbers. Our observations allowed us to conclude that the wolves were responsible for these changes. Now we have deer, but we also see wolves, bears, foxes, otters, etc.--things appear to be in balance, the way that nature intended it to be.
S Nightingale	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Mainly the following: that there is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations. Also the inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves.	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals.	4	
Trevor	Most of it	Yes	The fact that we're actually getting somewhere on wolf control	It's not aggressive enough and the tribal buffer areas are B.S. the tribes already get their large portion of the quota, they shouldn't determine what management happens outside their lands..	3	This plan isn't near aggressive enough.
Elspeth O'Vanin	All of it	Yes	Non-lethal methods used to reduce conflicts with wolves. Ecological benefits of having wolves in the environment. The knowledge and cultural information from the Native American Tribes. This information was ignored in the past. The Native American Tribes co-exist with wolves. This knowledge should always be included in the wolf plans.Set up buffer zones for wolves around tribal lands. Graphs, charts and maps clarify the plan information.	DNR needs to work with legislature to overturn PA 169. Stop and remove payments to owners of dogs killed by wolves. Using dogs to hunt and kill wolves should be illegal- and it should be enforced.Recreational hunting and trapping is not based on scientific facts. Hunting and trapping is based on traditional and a desire to control the natural environment. Disliked the information from hunters, ranchers and farmers portraying wolves as an enemy. Not enough information from biologists and scientists about wolves and their struggle to survive. The committee has too many members representing hunters. Not enough representation from people who are against hunting wolves. Lethal solutions do not provide long term solutions - killing wolves only gives satisfaction to wolf haters and hunters who want to wipe out wolves completely.	7	Set the wolf hunting quota at zero! There should be no hunting or slaughter of wolves! Continue meeting and consulting with the Native American Tribes for advice and knowledge for creating wolf plans. Stop allowing hunters, trappers and other wolf haters to influence laws and policies. Everyone should have an input on how to create plans for wolves, not just the minority of wolf haters! Stop caving in to wolf haters and killers. Use a plan to co-exist with wolves. Never allow a wolf slaughter to happen in Wisconsin again! Focus on the survival and protection of wolves in Wisconsin. Do not allow any hunting groups or hunting organizations in Wisconsin or outside of Wisconsin to kill wolves. It is 2023, not 1823. We need to modify the policies and protect the wolves because they are an important part of nature. If wolves are not protected, they could become extinct in the future. The Wisconsin DNR needs to do more to protect wolves in Wisconsin!
Paul Moldenhauer	Most of it	Yes	Educational awareness. More science based population studies. More control by tribal entities to be more autonomous and protected. Proposals for more citizen input and monitoring of wolf activity. -The provided data in this study showing history, numbers and importantly changes in population attitudes towards wolf numbers and the significance of their role in nature. (seems too many for so long are obsessed with fairy tale stories of how evil and menacing wolves are). - Highlighting numbers of where depredation truly exists and is most meaningful; from irresponsible hunters using their beloved animals irresponsibly.	Relying on hunters, especially hounders, to be more informed, respectful, transparent, compliant with the laws already established.	6	Glad that wolf hunters with their dogs are not compensated for their irresponsible, barbaric use of their animals in their indulgence of this so called "sport". Dogs should not be used for bear hunting as well. Further, knowing the risks to their " beloved" pets, there should be no compensation for the irresponsible loss. There should be requirements that any hounded must provide proof of insurance coverage for their animal and use of it. - redirect any compensation funds towards the hiring of more law enforcement officers. In zones 1&2 the area is vast and only a few officers are available. The hunting groups realize this and take advantage of it. - redirect funds towards farmers etc for enhanced livestock protection measures to ensure further against losses and costly payouts and negative coexistence between farmers and DNR and conservation. - Enact a shorter and definite time and date frame for the culling season. Have available an extra time frame available if the established quota is not met and where the quota needs to be met. Where any hunter can then resume on their quest. 2022 season was a disaster with the frenzied onslaught that occurred with the wait and see method of establishing whether or not the quota was met. I witnessed this disregard for the law on several occasions in Bayfield county. . - The plans as laid out are noteworthy and commendable, even though my household, and many in our community are opposed to the wholesale annual harvesting of wildlife that occurs in our region of zone 1. Especially with the aforementioned barbaric use of dogs for their indulgence in their "sport". However for any plan to be successful the rules , laws, ethics must be abided by and enforced and where not abided by, consequences as specified by law be firmly applied.

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Austin	All of it	Yes	Wolf management is a must, and we must get them off the endangered species list.	Estimation numbers, implies not allowing hunting with dogs	2	
	All of it	Yes	Considering all aspects with all parties in mind	Lack of an open season	4	
	Most of it	Yes				As a person who first visited our family cabin on Devil's Creek in the Blue Hills of Rusk County in 1962 and has since lived on or near that sight in Wolf Hunting Zone 3 for over 40 years, I have experienced first hand the impact of wolf hunting with dogs on contemporaneous outdoor recreational activity. 1. Every time hunting seasons are lengthened or new seasons are introduced it often infringes on other people's enjoyment of public lands. For instance, for about 25 years my husband and I hunted ruffed grouse on foot with one of our bird dogs. We also liked to ride our horses, hike, and cross-country ski. Starting in early September we now travel elsewhere for our outdoor recreation even though we live 2 miles from public land. 2. To me, hunting wolves with dogs seems cruel and unnecessary for the both the dogs and the wolves. Also, if traps are used, how do owners of bird dogs and other pet dogs know where the traps are so their dogs won't be injured by them. 3. For people who are worried about their personal safety or that of their pets, perhaps carrying Pepper Spray or Bear Spray would make them feel more confident. 4. I believe the DNR could do a better job of educating the public about how extremely unlikely it is that they or their pets might be injured or killed by wolves. Carrying Pepper Spray or Bear Spray might help people's confidence to enjoy the woods.
Timothy Coburn	Most of it	Yes	That you got rid of the 350 cap on wolves that number is outdated & justifies constant killing	It seems your committees are always stacked with anti wolf, pro killing groups. There's enough killing going on every day on the news it's another mass shooting. I'd like Wisconsin to take the lead & not encourage killing & guns. The animals are here to teach us, not to be harvested like some crop.	6	Thank you for letting us have our voices heard & making a very good attempt at a wolf management plan.
	Most of it	Yes	I like that people are noticing the problems wolves cause.		7	My experience with wolves is that they reduce wildlife in the area they are living at a high rate.
Katie Franklin	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Any plan that allows life to co-exist with the human species in the way that the original inhabitants managed their resources is good.	Any actions that destroy life without regard for the balance that was evolved and allows for diversity.		
Susan Roberts	Most of it	Yes	I favor not setting a numerical goal for wolf population. I like that you seem to be involving the tribes more. I like an increased emphasis on education. I like the buffer zones regarding tribal land.	I think that trophy hunting interests are still over represented. I would like to see even more emphasis on non-lethal management around farms and "wolf caution" areas that hounders continually ignore. Let's get rid of paying them for their dead dogs.	7	I think that the use of hounds on wolves needs to be restricted to the greatest extent possible under the current law. Let's face it. This does not have broad public support and is really only supported by a group of bear hunters who do not reflect public sentiment. Everyone else is horrified by this.
	All of it	Yes	That it will be controlled by the WI DNR, as all WI wildlife is.		5	Delist the wolves. The WI DNR should manage control and numbers - like all other wildlife.
	All of it	Yes	i like the sub zones around the reservations with zero quota. I like the management without a specific kill number per year.	I would like to see wolves encouraged to repopulate the counties along the Mississippi River in zone 6. I would like to see that listed as a goal.	8	I have hunted deer for years in wolf country, and I view wolves as a positive part of the environment. If wolves could be encouraged to live in the southwest part of the state, I think it could help to reduce the overpopulatio of deer, and contribute to controlling CWD in the deer herd. The tribes need to be heard and there opinion taken into account. What happened with the overharvest of wolves in the last hunt was very disrespectful of the tribes, and I hope it never happens again. If the tribes decide not to use their quota, that does not mean that others get to kill those animals.
Mike Peterson	All of it	Yes	What's there to like? The plan of a train wreck and needs a multitude of changes.	The Goal Statement is inappropriate. No other species in Wisconsin is managed to it's maximum biological carrying capacity. Wolves are not an appropriate species in many places. Wolves and humans do not need to habitat next to each other. Ideal locations for wolves needs to be scientifically found and the zones need to be based on those findings. The plan implies no dog hunting will be allowed and it's our Constitutional right to be able to do that. Rewording the plan is necessary.	1	The public hearing time frame is ridiculous. We're hunting, trapping, enjoying the outdoors. Add in holidays and that public hearing time is just too short. Besides, not everyone has readily accessible internet or email. There has to be a better way you can notify everyone and give them appropriate abilities to respond.
roland d'amour	All of it	No		no lethal intervention nor hunting of wolves should be allowed.		
Erica Ripp	All of it	Yes	I like the fact that you agree we need a plan.	One of the things I dislike is the idea of restructuring zones. Wolves have now populated spaces that are not ideal. Zones should be returned to the science and habitat based zones. Another thing I dislike is the implication that the ability to hunt with dogs would be removed. Verbiage in the plan also reads that the wolves holds more right to the land than hunters do. That's not science based. Rewording is clearly needed. How about population? Wisconsin Wildlife Federation has stated that 350 is the carrying capacity. Let's stick to the science they have provided. And while you're at it, a timeline of accountability would be great to ensure the population goal is achieved before the population gets excessively high and out of control.	0	The way public comment is being handled is frustrating. Overlapping hunting seasons and holidays leaves many folks unable to properly respond. Please extend the public comment period. Also, public hearings/meetings should be held in wolf populated areas. They are the ones dealing directly with these animals. Their voices v should be heard.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Casey Zirbel	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the detail, and the indepth coverage of various tangents of input.	I dislike the idealogy of having to have a strong population of wolves to allow them to flourish. The state is not ecologically the same as it was 50 to 150 years ago. Most land is developed into farm lands, meaning hedge rows and marshes. This will make deer hunting less enjoyable for the general populace of hunters, meaning lost funds and lost traditions. This also means wolves will be more prevalent in human populated areas. Depredation will be a huge concern. Coyote hunters will start seeing less coyotes and more wolves, which we can't hunt nor can we do anything about. Wolves can stay north of highway 10, that would be feasible and reasonable. But to have an expectation of of having wolves go as far south as Adams and Buffalo counties are going to put unnecessary strains on biodiversity and the ecosystem. The Elk herd is struggling enough, introducing more wolves will reduce that population further. The first animal of mine I lose to wolves will be the last, most wisconsinites feel the same.	1	I appreciate the concerns for biodiversity and retaining a healthy populace of natural wildlife. However, the state has changed. The animal populations are ever changing. Let's get Wisconsin to where we have too many elk and deer, then let wolves roam free with a hunting season.
Mary Amunson	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I would like to see a reasonable hunt if necessary to manage wolf numbers, however I am against trapping as it is too much suffering for the animals. Beyond that, I think shooting wolves that are threatening domestic animals should be allowed on a case by case basis.
	Most of it	Yes	I like the different zones, and the iformation on how much money has been spent.	I didn't like the some of the surveys with people that don't live close to any wolves, they shouldn't be able to give their opinions.	4	In northern wi the land values have been rising, which helps support the local tax base for our roads and schools. The people spending 3 to 4 thousand a acre to white tail hunt they didn't buy the land to see wolf tracks or bear. I can see there are less deer hunters in the northwest areas of wi. Some deer camps have been active for many years and after the wolves moved in they are not seeing deer to harvest so they closed up camp and haven't came back.
Gene Szymaszek	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	*inclusion of tribal values and their historical traditions *importance of yearly data to determine trends on the health of the wolf populations *attention to a possible wolf hunt, and definite boundaries of management zones, time of hunts and reporting requirements (to avoid what happened with that last Feb slaughter) *expansion of non lethal controls of emerging wolf populations in parts of the State. *continued discussion of a sustainable wolf population and monitoring of impacted areas of the State.	*Need to ban hunting wolves with dogs. Bears, and raccoons can be treed. The almost 400 dogs injured is a red flag of cruelty. *National forests regulations should be different than for farming areas (like no dogs used for hunting) *continued improvement of wolf population estimate systems. *Need a balanced oversight group of scientists, wolf experts, hunters and some to monitor. *Admit that the science data is imprecise and continue to leave emotion and politics out - just the facts as presented. *Overturn PA 169 as a conflict. Dogs should not be used to hunt wolves and the State should not pay for injured dogs that should not have been used to hunt them (almost 400 over the years)	7	Great job putting all this data in one document, especially the trends over many years. For years we were led to believe that 3 to 400 was the target population for our State. The study "shows" a larger number can be sustained without any unusual impact on deer hunting (in most of the State). And the process of reducing the size of the wolf population in certain areas can be supported by science and data so that decision makers can make solid acceptable recommendations for all concerned. We know how to kill these animals (without hound dogs). But how to live with these animals will take some time and hopefully less bullets to find a sustainable population balance. The committee appears to be over represented by hunting interest groups. Hopefully their bias has been (will be) diminished in the operation of this plan. Great effort and recognition of a good plan
Annette Zeman	All of it	Yes		see below	1	My 2 main concerns are: the unlimited Population and the Buffer zones. As a landowner in Sawyer county we see constant signs of Wolves. I am concerned with the amount of sign I see. we are unable to let our housedog out for fear of a wolf getting him. It is only a matter of time before some child gets attacked and you can believe their will be a court case then. Obviously, those who put this plan together are not having to deal with the day to day potential exposure of an attack perhaps if they were they would redraft and once again limit the number of wolves
Paula Doyle	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Acknowledging the ecological benefits of wolves and the part they play in indigenous/tribal values & the knowledge those communities have about wolves. Using non-lethal methods reduce conflicts between wolves & other creatures.	There should be no hunting of wolves. They manage their own populations without our interference. No trapping of wolves. Plan needs an oversight committee of biologists and other professionals who understand the role of the wolf in our ecology. No use of dogs to track or hunt wolves.	5	
Anthony Gulig	All of it	Yes	Wolf biology, predation numbers, and statistics, relationship with tribal managers and tribal interests	I dislike nothing about the plan as proposed. Should a wolf harvest again be authorized, regulations have to be put in place to prevent hunters and trappers from overharvesting. The delayed registration procedures encouraged such an overharvest.	10	
Marsha Stanek	All of it	Yes		1. We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. 2. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on “lethal management” and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to “non-consumptive users.” The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. 3. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. 4. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and “training.” We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.	3	

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Andrew Vrakas	Most of it	Yes	It seems like you recognize last year was an epic failure.	You appear to be ignoring whole chunks of peer reviewed data that suggests we have a lot fewer wolves. You start with the presumption that we have too many wolfs and wolf packs in the state and that they cause actual problems. They need to be left alone, not because they are cute and cuddly on a license plate but because they are crucial apex predators who have a right to exist. Further the dog hunting lobby exerts undue pressure and that activity is extremely unpopular with the general public. We all know how that would go if you put it to a statewide vote. The practice of financial compensation for lost dogs is infuriating. The human contact and conflict level with wolves at this time does not want any lethal harvesting on a wide scale basis.	1	Quota=0. Focus on control of problem animals if and when they arise. Eliminate hounding.
Adrian Treves	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I support the elimination of the ill-conceived population goal of 350 wolves in late winter of the 1999 plan. I support continued use of winter snow-tracking because field-based ground-truthing is the only way to sort out the mess created by the inappropriate use of the scaled occupancy model explained next.	Note it is unlawful to limit the word length of a public comment, so I am hereby notifying you that http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/archive_BAS/Treves comment on wolf policy 2023 WI DNR.pdf (letter) and http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/archive_BAS/Pubs_for_public_comments.zip (scientific articles). My biggest concern about the WDNR wolf management plan is the proposed use of the scaled occupancy model (SOM) to estimate statewide wolf abundance. With Dr. F.J. Santiago-Ávila, I have found five major shortcomings in the WDNR use of the SOM that each lead to over-estimation bias. I describe the five shortcomings below but first the implications. The bias we found in methods used by the WDNR means the 2022 estimate of the state wolf population is an over-estimate by a large margin. Future use of the SOM in such an unscientific and inaccurate manner makes all future population estimates suspect. The risk of such bias is to place the wolf population in jeopardy if a wolf-hunt is ever held again. Therefore, based on the science and without remedy, I predict the next wolf-hunt will lower the state wolf population to the statutory listing level or lower (Treves A & Louchouarn NX. 2022). 5 major problems with the WDNR SOM and the application of Stauffer et al. 2021: Unprecedented two winters of snow-track surveys included in the 2022 population estimate, spanning Dec 2020-Feb 2021 and Dec 2021-April 2022. This means dead wolves were likely counted towards the probability of occupancy by wolf packs. Models of past wolf occupancy were validated on data 2-5 years after the last wolf-hunt not 1 year after. That makes the 2022 application invalid. Models of land cover were from 2016 and insensitive to increases in human-caused mortality (e.g., Feb. 2021 wolf-hunt, both legal and illegal killing, and summer 2021 USDA-WS killing). That makes Stauffer et al. 2021 invalid today. Its occupancy probabilities need appropriate validation with more recent data. WDNR abandoned quality control standards for snow-track surveys that had been in place since 2000-2004. By using data from surveys blocks that were snow-tracked zero to two times, the WDNR likely included lone wolves, transient wolves, non-wolves, and erroneous counts of wolves for calculating occupancy probability. Pack size and territory size were based on small samples that were not representative of the whole state yet were extrapolated across the state. Our papers are available for free (Treves & Santiago-Ávila FJ. 2023. Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods. Pre-print free at http://facultynelsonwiscedu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOMpdf http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOM.pdf and Treves A and Louchouarn NX. 2022. Uncertainty and precaution in hunting wolves twice in a year. PLoS One 17: e0259604. 10.25.465697https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0259604). Please note that if you do not click and download this free pre-print, I will assist any who would hold the WDNR accountable for collecting and reviewing the public administrative record. If you attempt to justify ignoring our evidence because it is currently a pre-print under review by a scientific journal, I hereby notify you that I post all published papers freely on my website and by the time you read this the paper is likely in print. Contact me directly at [redacted] if you cannot find the published version. Finally, if you attempt to justify your approach to the SOM by simply citing Stauffer et al. 2021, I will expose the undisclosed competing interests behind that article and the fact that the Journal of Wildlife Management was not signatory to the Committee on Publication Ethics until 2022, and is therefore not a well-regarded or reliable journal. Furthermore, please note the WDNR application of the SOM violates the steps required by Stauffer et al. 2021 to apply their model scientifically. Therefore, I recommend fixing your unscientific application of their work, following our recommendations, and aiming for the best available science. Above and beyond the problems we have found in the WDNR use of the SOM, this commentary addresses common policies and claims made by wildlife	1	...cont'd ... Therefore, articles in that journal, the Wildlife Society Bulletin and Wildlife Monographs did not have the guardrails on publication ethics recommended by the Committee on Publication Ethics, which include scrutiny of potentially competing interests among authors, peer reviewers, editors, and the publisher, the Wildlife Society. Nor did the journals have guardrails for correction and retraction of misleading or fabricated science. I asserted above that meta-analyses and systematic reviews are relatively more valuable than single studies for drawing generalizable inferences about the effectiveness of any method for preventing wolf predation on wild or domestic animals. Although the 11 studies below differ in standards of evidence, sample sizes, and inclusion criteria, one consistent conclusion emerges: without RCTs or other robust designs that control confounding variables, it is impossible to claim with confidence the effectiveness of any method. That does not mean we have zero information or knowledge, but rather that your caution should be heightened when we lack RCTs for this field of science. Krausman PR. 2022. Improving the journal of wildlife management: A response to the perspectives of Johnson et al. (2021) and Gould et al. (2021). The Journal of Wildlife Management 86: e22167. https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.22167. Therefore, articles in that journal, the Wildlife Society Bulletin and Wildlife Monographs did not have the guardrails on publication ethics recommended by the Committee on Publication Ethics, which include scrutiny of potentially competing interests among authors, peer reviewers, editors, and the publisher, the Wildlife Society. Nor did the journals have guardrails for correction and retraction of misleading or fabricated science. I asserted above that meta-analyses and systematic reviews are relatively more valuable than single studies for drawing generalizable inferences about the effectiveness of any method for preventing wolf predation on wild or domestic animals. Although the 11 studies below differ in standards of evidence, sample sizes, and inclusion criteria, one consistent conclusion emerges: without RCTs or other robust designs that control confounding variables, it is impossible to claim with confidence the effectiveness of any method. That does not mean we have zero information or knowledge, but rather that your caution should be heightened when we lack RCTs for this field of science. Moreover, van Eeden et al. 2018 in PLoS Biology showed how differently four studies regarding lethal methods published between 2016-2018 drew from the literature despite similar search criteria. "Our four reviews [6–9] jointly screened >27,000 candidate studies. The four sets of inclusion criteria differed in geographic coverage, carnivore species, and standards of evidence and research design (see S1 Table), which limited overlap in the studies that passed screening (only 19% of studies were included in two or more of the four reviews; no study was included in all four, S1 Fig). The differing inclusion criteria also meant that it was not possible to conduct a quantitative comparison (meta-analysis) combining the data from our four reviews, but we suggest that such an analysis should be conducted in the future as evidence increases. None- theless, our reviews came to remarkably similar conclusions, irrespective of methods, suggest- ing that our conclusions are robust."p.3 van Eeden et al. 2018 PLoS Biology. Because we brought together almost two dozen authors from 11 countries for van Eeden et al. 2018 in PLoS Biology, it is the leading review that drew the clearest consensus. That consensus included (a) the field needs stronger inference and (b) that lethal methods have not been studied with as high standards of inference as non-lethal methods. Moreover, combining van Eeden et al. 2018 with more recent work indicates that several non-lethal methods are more effective in protecting domestic animals than lethal methods appear to be. Note that even though these meta-analyses do not concern only wolves, one can learn from studies of the effectiveness of interventions against other predators to draw inference about how these would work against wolves. Among those non-lethal methods shown to be more effective and studied multiple times are fladry and livestock-guarding dogs when deployed and maintained correctly as explained in the source articles reviewed. The studies also endorse effective fencing albeit fewer RCTs have evaluated it. Other promising methods tested by RCT only once against wolves includes

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				agencies about their jurisdiction's wolf populations. I have attempted two steps: (1) disentangling value judgments from scientific claims, and (2) my perception of the consensus in the scientific community if any. Paraphrasing Oreskes 2019: No single study should be considered reliable, even replicated studies await consensus in the scientific community, and only qualified experts with a track record in the particular field can weigh in on that evidence. Sometimes it is too early to claim consensus and sometimes consensus in the scientific community should be reached but the intrusion of claims by those who have financial or non-financial competing interests will distort or delay scientific consensus and its application to policy. Therefore, I offer below my own view of consensus within the scientific community about several bodies of evidence in the wolf science-policy interface. Where I cannot find consensus I try to illuminate the standards of evidence one should employ to weigh contrasting research and select the best available science. Section 5 addresses scientific integrity requirements under US federal law and the potential legal jeopardy for lower jurisdictions receiving federal funding that do not adhere to federal rules on research misconduct. Here I am primarily concerned with the breach of scientific integrity represented by selective citation of articles that support the predetermined policy outcomes. See the recommendations ons scientific integrity from the National Academies of Science (NAS 2017. Fostering integrity in research. Washington, DC:) The National Academies Press), which states, "…careless or negligent crediting of prior work violates the value of fairness" p.36, https://doi.org/10.17226/21896 . Moreover, many scientists view selective citation as misconduct, e.g., see this Science article for the data supporting that claim De Vrieze J. 2021. Landmark research integrity survey finds questionable practices are surprisingly common Science 7 July 2021 https://www.science.org/content/article/landmark-research-integrity-survey-finds-questionable-practices-are-surprisingly-common. Beyond selective citation, the WDNR has an issue with transparency in data sharing, disclosing assumptions, and clearly explaining methods. I direct them to the following articles explaining objectivity in methods and assumptions: Treves et al. 2021. Transparency about values and assertions of fact in natural resource management. Frontiers in Conservation Science: Human-Wildlife Dynamics 2: e631998. 10.3389/fcosc.2021.631998. & Treves A. 2019. Scientific ethics and the illusion of naïve objectivity. Front Ecol Environ 7: 361. doi:10.1002/fee.2091. & Treves A and Santiago-Ávila FJ. 2020. Myths and assumptions about human-wildlife conflict and coexistence. Conserv Biol 34: 811–818. 10.1111/cobi.13472. & Treves A. 2022. Best available science" and the reproducibility crisis. Front Ecol Environ 20: 495. 10.1002/fee.2568. 1. Population viability assessments (PVAs), minimum viable populations, and strict numerical delisting targets. First and most importantly, value judgments arising from personal, organizational, or governmental commitments, investments, and preferences for certain outcomes are the first steps in PVAs because the following inputs or decisions are value-based choices not scientific decisions: (A) how far ahead in time should one forecast (e.g., perpetuity or a few years, see Frankham et al. below for preserving evolutionary potential and consider whether the jurisdiction is fulfilling the trustee duty to preserve the asset for future generations); (B) how much risk of extinction is the public willing to tolerate and how much is the agency allowing? (e.g., near zero? Or a predetermined level of risk?). (C) Did the modelers exclude any threats (e.g., super-additive mortality from human-caused killing, illegal killing, catastrophic disease)? (D) Most PVAs risk being misapplied to jurisdictions rather than to actual biological populations. (E) The decision to focus on census population size (all individuals) or effective population size (Ne, shorthand definition is all breeding individuals). Each address different aspects of viability. The former addresses demographic viability without guarantees that the surviving animals will be healthy and reproducing effectively, whereas the latter is more precautionary and addresses evolutionary potential. If evolutionary potential is preserved, one can generally assume demographic survival has also been preserved. In wolves, where virtually all packs contain only two breeders, effective population size can be estimated by the number of packs in one year (although this too may be an over-estimate because not all pairs breed each year) but the rest of the population provides a source of new breeders to replace those that die. References and notes for section 1 only Consider the distinction between science-informed decisions and making decisions based solely on science from the quote from Vucetich JA, Nelson MP and Phillips MK. 2006. The normative dimension and legal meaning of endangered and recovery in the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Conserv Biol 20: 1383-1390. "The ESA's requirement that endangerment be determined 'solely on the basis of the best scientific		range riding using low-stress livestock handling. Likewise, I recommend consideration of methods that proved effective from RCT studies with other predators, despite never having been tested on wolves, such as painted eyespots on livestock and humans assisted by deterrent noise-makers and dogs. Recent meta-analyses of lethal methods against predators of wild ungulates suggests unpredictable outcomes. Although it did not focus on wolves, many of the included studies were of killing wolves to protect wild ungulates. The authors below review the many decades of research on this question and note the shortage of RCTs or the poor quality of controlled studies used to address the question. Therefore, I see no scientific consensus on the effectiveness of killing wolves to protect wild ungulates. I do see consensus on a value-based issue relating to evidence; namely that the design of predator-killing programs should be treated as experiments and monitored scientifically by independent uninterested parties. A recent study in Alberta, Canada also shows that "increasing large-predator populations do not necessarily reduce hunter harvest of elk" and that sustainable hunting of elk has continued, and populations have increased with increasing large predator populations (Trump et al. 2022). Another recent study analyzing 4 decades of efforts in Alaska, US to reduce abundance of large predators, including gray wolves, brown and black bears, found: (1) no positive correlations between killing of bears and subsequent moose hunting, (2) moose hunting was negatively correlated with the prior year's wolf killing (weak relationship) and (3) no differences in mean moose hunting during periods of recent liberalized killing of predators relative to prior periods (Miller et al. 2022). Even when interventions to protect other animals from wolves are effective, there is little consensus on how long effects persist. As the authors below have shown, virtually all studies are one grazing season or briefer. Few interventions have been studied long-term. One has to look at single studies to understand the likely short-term and long-term effects of an intervention, but then I caution the results apply only to that design and experimental set up. 3. Estimating wolf abundance with methods other than validated mark-recapture methods Recent work by Creel (2021) and Treves & Santiago-Ávila (2023) points out the many scientific shortcomings in the recent approaches taken by the states of Idaho, Montana, and Wisconsin to estimate their statewide wolf abundances. Before shortcuts can be safely taken to estimate wolf abundance accurately, precisely, reproducibly, and with sensitivity to changing conditions, the new methods should be validated by third-party, independent scientists comparing new methods to old methods. Thus far, no shortcut to mark-recapture methods has proven reliable. Creel S. 2021. Methods to estimate population sizes of wolves in Idaho and Montana. Comment on "endangered and threatened wildlife and plants; 90-day finding for two petitions to list the gray wolf in the western united states". Federal Register 86: 51857. https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FWS-HQ-ES-2021-0106-49075. https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FWS-HQ-ES-2021-0106-49075 Treves, A., Santiago-Ávila, F.J. 2023. Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods. Pre-print posted for pre-publication review. http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/pubs/Treves_Santiago-Avila_critique_of_WDNR_2022-2023_SOM.pdf 4. Killing for tolerance Finally, the claim that killing wolves improves public tolerance has failed multiple tests by multiple lead authors using different datasets and entirely different approaches to the question (social scientific, population ecology, wolf survival). Unfortunately, I am a co-author on almost every study, so opponents may cite non-independence of the studies. That assumes I can somehow persuade or compel other scientists to do my bidding. That is ridiculous on its face but is probably best disputed by pointing to the diversity and independence of these authors compared to the homogeneity of the opposing side. Moreover, disputing the independence of the many studies refuting the idea that killing improves tolerance also ignores the Nordic studies that do not involve me (see below) and ignores the weakness of evidence that killing improves tolerance. The contrasting views are either not peer-reviewed, have not been replicated, have shortcomings that have been exposed in subsequent peer-reviewed work, or did not address the question. Furthermore, some advocates for killing for tolerance have pivoted to claiming killing wolves opens a space for dialogue with a few powerful, narrow interests. Setting aside the ethics of killing wolves for that purpose, the evidence from Hogberg et al. 2015 does not support the claim because the prime target demographic group in Wisconsin (men residing in wolf range who have familiarity with hunting) had the sharpest decline in tolerance for wolves after wolf-killing was liberalized to include public hunting and trapping. In summary Attitudes to wolves became more negative or did not improve when protections for wolves were reduced [1-5].

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				and commercial data available' does not mean scientists have exclusive right to determine the normative dimensions of specifying the conditions of extinction. This mandate merely provides science the exclusive right to determine whether specified conditions for endangerment are met by particular species." Carroll C, Lacy RC, Fredrickson RJ, Rohlf DJ, et al. 2019. Biological and sociopolitical sources of uncertainty in population viability analysis for endangered species recovery planning. Scientific Reports 9: e10130. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-45032-2. Abstract: Although population viability analysis (PVA) can be an important tool for strengthening endangered species recovery efforts, the extent to which such analyses remain embedded in the social process of recovery planning is often unrecognized. We analyzed two recovery plans for the Mexican wolf that were developed using similar data and methods but arrived at contrasting conclusions as to appropriate recovery goals or criteria. We found that approximately half of the contrast arose from uncertainty regarding biological data, with the remainder divided between policy-related decisions and mixed biological-policy factors. Contrasts arose from both differences in input parameter values and how parameter uncertainty informed the level of precaution embodied in resulting criteria. Policy-related uncertainty originated from contrasts in thresholds for acceptable risk and disagreement as to how to define endangered species recovery. Rather than turning to PVA to produce politically acceptable definitions of recovery that appear science-based, agencies should clarify the nexus between science and policy elements in their decision processes. The limitations we identify in endangered-species policy and how PVAs are conducted as part of recovery planning must be addressed if PVAs are to fulfill their potential to increase the odds of successful conservation outcomes. Frankham R, Bradshaw CJA and Brook BW. 2014. Genetics in conservation management: Revised recommendations for the 50/500 rules, red list criteria and population viability analyses. Biol Conserv 170: 56-63. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2013.12.036 Abstract: Conservation managers typically need to make prompt decisions based on limited information and resources. Consequently, generalisations have essential roles in guiding interventions. Here, we (i) critique information on some widely accepted generalisations and variables affecting them, (ii) assess how adequately genetic factors are currently incorporated into population viability analysis (PVA) models used to estimate minimum viable population sizes, and (iii) relate the above to population size thresholds of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened species that were derived from genetic considerations. Evidence accumulated since 1980 shows that genetically effective population size (Ne) = 50 is inadequate for preventing inbreeding depression over five generations in the wild, with Ne ⩾ 100 being required to limit loss in total fitness to ⩽10%. Further, even Ne = 500 is too low for retaining evolutionary potential for fitness in perpetuity; a better approximation is Ne ⩾ 1000. Extrapolation from census population size (N) to Ne depends on knowing the ratio of Ne/N, yet this information is unavailable for most wild populations. Ratio averages (~0.1–0.2) from meta-analyses are sufficient, provided adjustments are made for dissimilar life histories. Most PVA-based risk assessments ignore or inadequately model genetic factors. PVA should routinely include realistic inbreeding depression, and genetic impacts on evolutionary potential should be incorporated where appropriate. Genetic generalisations used in conservation, the treatment of genetics in PVAs, and sections of the IUCN Red List criteria derived from genetic considerations, all require revision to be more effective conservation tools. Finally, the selection of a specific numerical target or even a range of targets presumes a value judgment at some point in the process. For an explanation of how this plays out in sustainable harvest models applied to wolves, please see Treves A, Paquet PC, Artelle KA, Cornman AM, et al. 2021. Transparency about values and assertions of fact in natural resource management. Frontiers in Conservation Science: Human-Wildlife Dynamics 2: e631998. 10.3389/fcosc.2021.631998. 2. Are lethal methods *valuable* tools in the toolkit to prevent adverse predation by wolves? (* you can replace valuable with other value judgments such as best, essential, necessary*) None of the terms surrounded by * are scientific in this context, they are all value judgments. A scientist would write lethal wolf control is a tool in the toolkit. The adjective is a flag that someone is attempting to impose their values on their readers. A scientist would add the adjectival phrase "effective to achieve x" or "ineffective to achieve x" or related measurable criteria that do not presuppose a normative judgment about whether one should use lethal control (as do the * adjectives). Note the word control can be misleading if not defined as it may convey to some audiences that prevention has been achieved even when it has not. In most cases in wolf policy, effectiveness of lethal or non-lethal		Poaching was higher when wolf protections were reduced, measured by individual wolf survival rates [6-9]. Poaching was higher when wolf protections were reduced, measured by wolf population dynamics [10-13]. Attempts were made to challenge the latter results, all of which failed because they lacked data to support their claims [14, 15] or had shortcomings that made them irreproducible [16-23]. Our calls for corrections of the latter studies have yielded one correction thus far [24-26]. We await further corrections and retractions. Poaching is the major cause of wolf mortality and it is mismeasured or under-reported by agencies because of cryptic poaching [27-29]. Miscellaneous work on poaching and the effects of lethal management, to guide more or better enforcement and also more effective management policies: [24, 28-38]. Note a debate in the Nordic countries remains unresolved pending sharing of all data and transparent debate about statistical methods. The Scandinavian analysis that claimed that liberalizing wolf-killing will reduce wolf-poaching has been challenged [39, 40]. Similarly, two papers by the same pair of authors studying the Finnish wolf population concluded, "We conclude that tolerance for carnivores cannot be promoted by legal hunting alone…" [41] but in 2018, they concluded, "Our results provided evidence that poaching is a matter of local intolerance toward wolves and that the problem is mainly related to wolf hunting." [42] but suggests legal killing pre-empted illegal killing by removing wolves that would have been poached [41, 42]. Clearly, further investigation with accepted methods is warranted. I oppose the use of hounds in mammal hunting because the precautionary and prudent scientific study of this method has not been conducted to confirm that unlawful interactions do not occur and harm endangered species, target wildlife, by-standers, or the hounds themselves (36). 5. How research integrity influences the quality of science Certain principles of research integrity affect the quality of science so strongly that failure to adhere to minimum standards of scientific integrity result in unreliable, irreproducible, or fabricated scientific findings. The US federal government has repeatedly tightened regulations and policies to avoid breaches of research integrity, so I will restrict myself here to point out the most common and problematic research misconduct that would render policy based on such science unsound and vulnerable to legal jeopardy. Falsification, fabrication, or plagiarism is illegal for any recipient of federal monies, which could place state and tribal wildlife agencies in legal jeopardy if they produce such work, because of federal support for fish and wildlife agencies. Financial penalties may be due upon conviction. A portion off such penalties can be won by whistle-blowers who report research misconduct (see https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/ for federal regulations and policies including relevant Congressional Acts). Non-disclosures of potentially competing interests, whether financial or non-financial. Authors of scientific work whose institutional affiliations are state or tribal wildlife agencies should beware of this breach because it can lead to correction or retraction of scientific articles ,following the Committee on Publication Ethics guidelines on transparent disclosures https://publicationethics.org/. Similar recommendations apply to US government agencies NAS National Academies of Sciences EM. 2017. Fostering integrity in research. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. & Biden JR. Order PE (Ed). 2021. Memorandum on restoring trust in government through scientific integrity and evidence-based policymaking Washington, D.C.: & Treves A and Batavia C. 2021. Improved disclosures of non-financial competing interests would promote independent review. Academia Letters Article 514: 1-9. Other breaches of research integrity include selective citation, sloppy peer review, publishing in predatory journals that simulate peer review but publish anything if paid, and intentional use of inappropriate statistical analyses or p-hacking (De Vrieze J. 2021. Landmark research integrity survey finds questionable practices are surprisingly common. Science 7 July 2021, https://www.science.org/content/article/landmark-research-integrity-survey-finds-questionable-practices-are-surprisingly-common. Kretser et al. 2019. Scientific integrity principles and best practices: Recommendations from a scientific integrity consortium. Science and Engineering Ethics: 1–29 & Mejlgaard et al. 2020. Research integrity: Nine ways to move from talk to walk. Nature 586: 358-360. 10.1038/d41586-020-02847-8. & Nelson A and Lubchenco J. 2022. Strengthening scientific integrity. Science: 10.1126/science.abo0036. & Bohannon J. 2014. Who's afraid of peer review? Science 342: 60-65. http://www.umass.edu/preferen/You%20Must%20Read%20This/BohannonScience2013.pdf . A general lack of transparency, failure to share data, failure to disclose assumptions, methods, value judgments, and failure to embrace open, independent review can all affect the reliability of science. Indeed, articles published by the Wildlife Society before 2022 were published without the ethical guardrails of the Committee on Publication Ethics, COPE

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				methods is oriented to reducing future losses of domestic animals or wild animals. Starting with domestic animals, beware of certain value judgments inherent to this question: (A) do the domestic animals or wild ungulates take priority over wolves, especially when lethal control is envisioned? That would also be a value judgment. (B) Also beware of the value judgment that all lethal methods can be meaningfully grouped into a single category. Scientifically, neither lethal nor non-lethal interventions can be grouped for a claim of effectiveness because each variety and each implementation may differ from the next in effectiveness based on design, location, conditions, effort, etc. Only when followed by the details of studies of effectiveness can one group two or more methods together to make claims (i.e., the advocate for either needs to anchor their conclusion about a method in a study specific to that method). (C) Some methods for protecting domestic and wild animals from wolves are in a gray area between lethal and non-lethal. This and other false dualisms are common in this field. (D) Effectiveness as I have defined it above has no spatial or temporal specification but should. No method is always effective, therefore the claim of effectiveness should be applied to a particular time, place, and design of the intervention. When scientists communicate clearly, we cite a study when making such a claim. All implementations are experiments, no single study will predict with perfect certainty whether a new application is effective. (E) Another subtler value judgment is whether the effectiveness of lethal methods and effectiveness of non-lethal methods are commensurable, because the effects of one cannot be reversed while the other may be. Given the caveats above, single studies are no basis for confidence until replicated. Therefore the methods that have been replicated by two or more studies show they are effective should give the most confidence. Therefore, systematic reviews or meta-analyses are our best basis for predicting whether a given intervention is effective. Even systematic reviews and meta-analyses are prone to error if they have a small sample size to draw from, authors have competing interests, or the analysis did not consider strength of inference. The strongest inference is drawn from randomized, controlled trials (RCTs) of methods to prevent predation on domestic or wild ungulates. Preferably those RCTs include crossover designs, blinding, and are subjected to authentic independent review and efforts at replication. The next and much lower strength of inference is the silver standard of before-and-after comparison without randomization. That is the highest standard reached for lethal control of wolves and was only reached in 3 studies to my knowledge. Michigan USA: Santiago-Avila FJ, Cornman AM and Treves A. 2018. Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. PLoS One 13: e0189729 10.1371. France, 9 regions: Grente O. 2021. Présentation des objectifs et de la méthodologie de la thèse sur l'efficacité des tirs de loup et la gestion adaptative du loup, menée conjointement par l'oncfs et le cefe. Gières, France. Slovenia: Krofel M, Černe R and Jerina K. 2011. Effectiveness of wolf (canis lupus) culling as a measure to reduce livestock depredations. Acta Silvae et Ligni 95: 11-22. (Note the data from this study were reanalyzed in a silver-standard design by Treves, A., M. Krofel, and J. McManus, Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 2016. 14: p. 380-388.) In the below graphic, I summarize the three studies' findings on the effects of lethal methods on wolves but again note that we still have no RCT on killing wolves to protect domestic animals and note the methods for killing wolves in the three studies differed somewhat. My co-authors and I do not consider the analysis by Bradley et al. (2015) in the Journal of Wildlife Management to be reliable because (a) the authors could not explain several steps in the methods to us, (b) they did not share the data for us so we could use our own methods, (c) their methods biased the results toward favoring lethal control by extending the time horizon for livestock losses beyond the point where wolves held a territory. Thereby, they counted vacant territories as if territories can kill livestock, rather than packs. Their approach seems analogous to a study of a hospital treatment that measured filled and vacant hospital beds rather than the survival or death of patients) - see detailed explanation and discussion in Santiago-Ávila et al. 2018. Furthermore, the journal in which Bradley et al. 2015 was published, only subscribed to the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE, https://publicationethics.org/) in Krausman 2022.... continued in the next text box...		(Krausman PR. 2022. Improving the journal of wildlife management: A response to the perspectives of Johnson et al. (2021) and Gould et al. (2021). The Journal of Wildlife Management 86: e22167. https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.22167), signifying that such articles should be considered less reliable until proven each article followed COPE best practices on its own. This also means the Journal of Wildlife Management is considered less reliable than journals or publishers that have been signatories to COPE for longer. Finally, government agencies in the USA are trustees of nature including wildlife. They are trustees for current and future generations, so their duty is to preserve first and regulate current uses second, to prevent substantial impairment of the trust assets. Catering to a subset of the public or interest groups is unlawful. Failure to regulate illegal uses or over-use is likewise unlawful. Note it is unlawful to limit the word length of a public comment, so I am hereby notifying you that http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/archive_BAS/Treves comment on wolf policy 2023 WI DNR.pdf (letter) and http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/archive_BAS/Pubs_for_public_comments.zip (scientific articles).

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
steve	All of it	Yes	I like the very in-depth information about the effects of wolves and the habitat in which they live. Of course this is based as a general assessment of the whole Wisconsin lands scape. People who manage our lands for wild life create browse and cover for more animals to exist. The facts and stats were very easy to read and understand.	I do not like the overall methods of population estimation. My belief is there's more wolves then estimated. Jus t in the last 5 years I have gone from an occasional wolf to many on trail cam pictures. I have not harvested a doe in that time and my main food plot went from 10-12 deer to 2-3 ,This is in a 200 acres owned. Watching the numbers in this time and looking at the data it does not match up. I also do not like the fact that the reservation numbers are not included. Wolves on average room 50 miles and can decimate land owners outside of the Res.The population cap needs to be lowered to the original numbers or close to. Hunters are a much more human way to control deer numbers then wolves. I believe this is a tool for DNR to control numbers. On that subject, I did not read anything about how wolves kill there prey, It is not pretty. My property has very healthy deer. I have had my share of pictures of healthy deer that survived attacks only to have chunks of the rear end chewed bit marks. They kill many fawns ,again not pretty. 300 wolves would be plenty to maintain a population. Out west they hunt wolves pretty hard legally and illegally and still have a herd they have troubles controlling.	2	I think the public opinion and input is skewed by groups that use there numbers, which is fueled by videos only showing the beauty of the wolf. They are beautiful and majestic animals. But there is a very ugly and viscous side to them. Think of the very healthy animals they take down and dine on while still alive. The healthy live stock they kill and leave to rot. I believe the people that have conflict and property that the wolves live on have a better idea of whats going on. These are reasons why I think the wolf cap should be to original number of 300. The old adage you give them an inch they take a mile. This strategy has been used many times in history. Another reason to weight opinions to people that deal with wolves not people that look at pictures and pretty videos.
Linda	Most of it	No	I like that the benefits of wolves are stated through scientific study, that the public survey shows more people have positive views of wolves and support their protection, and that the original intentions of the number "350 wolves" were to INCREASE it to that number as a realistic goal at the time, not in the context of today and reducing it to that number.	Any mention of allowing trapping makes me cringe, it is nothing other than torture.	9	350 wolves to me means they are on the brink of extinction. These beautiful and important animals are important to the health of entire eco-systems. I am sick of people wanting to kill vulnerable animals just for the sake of killing them, not to mention the horror they cause to them and their packs before the actual killing. It is a very small number of people that could ruin the survival of this important animal for all of us, as they came very close to doing in the past. There are non-lethal methods that can be used for management.
Mary Emerson	Most of it	Yes	The inclusion of tribal concerns and culture surrounding the wolf. The history of the wolf in Wisconsin from the time settlers arrived in Wisconsin. The scope and comprehension of the entire report is impressive.	I understand that wolf management is necessary, but I'm not convinced that depredation is as wide spread as reported. I have great concerns about trapping, though I applaud you education efforts and careful regulations about it.	8	Thank you for the tons of effort that went into this report! I don't support trapping at all because I think it's cruel. I also remain opposed to the use of dogs in hunting. Why is Wisconsin the only State to allow this?
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	ha			
	Most of it	Yes	none	just like deer and bear population goals the wolf population needs a number per "unit"	0	
Patricia Lowry	All of it	Yes	I greatly appreciate the efforts of the Wisconsin DNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan, particularly in light of the egregious wolf slaughter of 2021 that resulted in 200+ wolves killed in a few days. Hopefully, creating a wolf management plan that utilizes unbiased, scientific principles free of political manipulation will yield a humane approach to managing a respected carnivore that inhabits the northern portion of our state. Improvements to the previous plan, which I support include: The elimination of wolves in Wisconsin being managed by the previous numerical goal of 350 wolves. Acknowledgment that wolves play an important ecological role in our state. The use of a social survey which demonstrates that wolves are high regarded by most citizens of our state who also understand the important ecological role that wolves play. According to the survey, 75% of Wisconsin residents surveyed agreed that people and wolves should be able to coexist and 80% agreed that it's important to maintain a wolf population in Wisconsin. Objective A; Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role Objective B: Address and reduce wolf-related conflict Objective D: Increase Public Understanding of Wolves in Wisconsin Objective E: Conduct Scientific Research to Inform Wolf Management	Objective CI: Provide multiple benefits associated with the wolf population I do not support recreational wolf hunting in any form. Many wolf hunters aren't like other hunters that hunt for food or sport. Perhaps the WDNR isn't aware of the painful torture that occurs when hunters set their hounds on wolves found in their traps or when groups of 6+ hounds chase down wolves and tear them apart. I've seen many images of these gruesome acts on Facebook and elsewhere. This isn't hunting, this is animal abuse. WDNR Wolf Population Estimates: The management of Wisconsin's wolves should include an independent, scientific review by scientists from multiple disciplines who have peer-reviewed, scientific publications on wolf mortality, hound-hunting, or human dimensions of poaching. The independent scientists should be chosen to add unbiased research so as to provide best practice recommendations for wolf management and avoid scientists with conflicts of interest or beholden to the USFWS or the WDNR. That panel should be authorized by the USFWS to inspect all data collected by the WDNR and make recommendations based on scientific evidence instead of possible biased management strategies that promote recreational killing. Wildlife management should be based on science and not politics. Objective C - Product C2h: Pursue administrative rules to establish a designated season for dog owners to train for wolf hunting activities: Wisconsin is the only state in the US that allows hounds to harass and/or kill wolves during the hunting season or during training. What are the long-term effects of this? Why hasn't the WDNR considered the impact of running hounds on wolf populations? Most lethal interactions between hounds and wolves favor the owner of the dead hounds who are reimbursed financially, but who is monitoring the deaths of wolves during hound training? And is poaching taking place during these unmonitored dog-on-dog events? It's interesting that dogfighting is illegal in all 50 states unless one of the dogs is a wolf. In addition to using hounds for wolf hunting, wolf hunters are allowed to train hounds on wolves without strict regulation and without safeguards for wolves or hounds. The unregulated use of running hounds on wolves can't guarantee the safety of wolves that might be confronted by large packs of hounds consisting of as many as six or possibly more dogs. This activity is unmonitored because hound training is not currently regulated. Has	6	There are more citizens of this state that value wildlife without having to "harvest" it. When will we be represented in WDNR management plans?

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				the use of training hounds on wolves been factored into statistics on wolf populations? What are the long-term effects of training hounds on wolves? How does this impact the cohesiveness of a wolf pack in addition to impacting rates of reproduction and survival?		
	Most of it	Yes	I think the history of the wolves is interesting.	I understand that having some wolves in the ecosystem is a good thing. I also understand that the original goal number of wolves was around 350 animals. We are well above and beyond that number. There NEEDS to be a goal number. We cannot let the wolf population continue the grow the way it is right now. It is currently out of control and there is no end in sight. I also do not like that there are buffer zones around reservations. If a property owner owns land with in the buffer zone, will they be able to hunt there own property? It is not right to tell them they cannot do so. I also think hunting wolves with dogs should be allowed. I find it ironic how we protect the reservations by creating buffer zones because of the heritage with wolves, but when it comes to the heritage of dog hunting we have no problem nixing that.	1	We need to go back to the original plan of a goal of 350 wolves.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			8	
Russ Wanke	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Hunting seasons to reduce population and "shift" wolves away from populated/farmland areas	I agree with the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation's 32 objections and specifically that the 350 wolf population limit be maintained, landowners/residents be able to protect livestock, pets and family; and no special zones outside of reservations.	2	I was a lifelong resident of WI until moving out of state to care for ailing parents. Still own 320 acres in northern Wisconsin and still spend considerable time there managing the land
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	focused wolf harvest in problem areas	There needs to be a population goal. How can we properly manage without a population goal??	4	People who stay in their houses like the idea of wolves. My family lives in a very rural area and we like to enjoy the outdoors. We have seen way too many wolves close to our home in the past few years, including on trail cameras near our house as well as wolf tracks. Last year I almost hit one with my truck!! That means there are TOO MANY!! They are not spread out evenly in the state, they are in packs, and we don't appreciate having to live by a pack!!
	Most of it	Yes		Should have a season on them every year. There is more out there than you guys are reporting.	2	
	Most of it	Yes	Hunting seasons to bring down the population and increase likelihood wolves stay away from homes and farms	Plan needs to return to the 350 original population goal, allow landowners to protect their livestock, pets and family, and avoid the slippery slope of Indian Tribes ability to regulate game outside of reservation.	2	Commentary of the landowners within wolf range should be given much more weight than residents or non-residents not living or owning land in northern Wisconsin. Where is that criteria in this commentary plan? Isn't it basically unfair for those who don't have to live with the wolves (the negative aspects) to push a higher number of wolves on those who do have to live with the negative consequences?
Jennifer	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The detailed research being done from birth to adults.	The thought of a hunt being done on these beautiful animals. I'm sorry for the problems the farmers face, but can't there be a more humane way?	9	
Arlen Brown	Most of it	No			8	I applaud you and thank you for your concern and time and caring..for the wolves and for our planet.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I don't like that there is no population goal	1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
Margie Sprecher	Most of it	Yes	The 350 number is gone. Including multiple tribal voices.	Dog training. Population number process is bogus. Depends on area. There should be No hunting in the high population area such as Chequamegan. Who will implement the management plan not stated. The 25% who are unsure on trapping and dog use are not in favor of either. Comparing wolves to deer hunting is not comparable. Natural balance is so important. Too many deer. Wolves help with that. Poison! Bear baiting needs to be banned and it impacts other animals. No reimbursement for hounds. That is their choice.	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Mark sherman	All of it	Yes	None	All	1	Not needed
Donna Huntington	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Science based. Quotas `are not a specific number, but varies by area, population and conditions.	Allowing the use of dogs in wolf hunting. Being the only state which allows this is not an honor.	8	
Austin Hundertmark	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	A season is need every couple of years atleast to keep numbers in check and depredation of hounds down. The hunt isn't just about killing wolves but even running on and pulling the dogs off will put the fear into the wolf so they know there are other things out there bigger and stronger.	Thinking we need any around in the first place. Look at the deer populations in Northern Wisconsin. Its pathetic. Bars are closing because they live on the couple weeks of deer season but people just don't travel to the north to hunt now. Land cost has depreciated, people payed 2 times what it is worth now just because the wolves are so thick there are no deer left to hunt. The wolves aren't just ruining populations they are ruining the local economies in the north woods.	1	We need more hunts to control to population and to put the fear back into the wolf so we quit hearing about all the dead dogs. Old bear hunters have been running dogs forever and no they are slower and less agile. They shouldn't be punished with a dead dog because it takes them a little longer to get to a tree. Let's bring the population down atleast so we can hunt and feel good about hunting in the northwoods.
Kyle	All of it	Yes	More hunting.	Less hunting	1	Need better management of wolves. Need a hunting season now.
Brandon hill	Most of it	Yes	That wolves would be managed.	We need to better know their numbers and follow the original management goal of 300. It is to arbitrary	2	
Carsen Severson	All of it	Yes	I do believe the state needs a hunt. The numbers listed on population I believe are low and they need to be kept in check	Taking non lethal methods only works for so long why not get rid of the problem from the start by issuing tags.	7	I personally believe your numbers are off. There are way more wolves then what the dnr count says and more conflict between people and wolves that are documented in the draft.
Tyler nicholson	Most of it	Yes	There isn't much to like about the plan other than the information is spread out fairly well	Non-residents should not be considered for wolf tags. The wolf population estimates seem incredibly low for the wolf sign I see from southern Jackson County to Eastern trempeleau all the way to clam lake. The projected wolf population was 350, that's where it should stay or atheist close to that number. It definitely shouldn't over double. The deer population in Clark County where I mainly hunt for deer has dropped drastically over the last 10 years and the wolf sign is inevitable.	2	Listen to the hunters, farmers, homesteaders, and other people that actually live with the wolves, not the people that live in Southern Wisconsin or the big cities that think wolves are just wonderful animals that have no negative effect on everything else in the state because of the beautiful pictures they see on the internet.
Judy Archibald	Most of it	Yes	● The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	● Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Most of the plan is good. Hunters are over represented despite being a minority of people in the state. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
Dana Lawrence	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Must have mngmnt	Use science not emotions	1	
	Most of it	No		The best guess for population is way off. Come to northern Wisconsin Price, Ashland, Iron Co. wolves have decimated our deer herd age class. Finding a buck of 2.5 years is almost non existent.	2	
	Most of it	Yes	That you are actually making a plan	The no mention of the set population goal, and the creation of subunits!	1	Have set goals in writing in the plan!
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves should always remain under federal protection and also remain a non-game species animal		7	
	Most of it	Yes	Needing to manage them to keep numbers in check	Total number in the state	1	We need a season to keep them in check one that won’t be taken away every other year
Ester Gonzalez	Most of it	No	I appreciate that this plan is being revisited. Mainly, that 350 will not be a threshold for wolf populations, and that the WDNR is open to receiving input from a societal survey. Plus, the recognition of wolves as an important part of ecological cycle in Winsconsin.	There are not enough studies to calm down misinformed opininions that blame wolves for the demise of deer, etc. A more Holistic study is needed to see the real impact on the environment from killing wolves. Also, more nonlethal methods of reducing livestock depradation are needed, and for this, there needs to be more studies since it is too easy to blame wolves and other predators on the loss of livestock. Change in habitat, and economical loss also lead to cows dying off.	7	I lost trust in the Wisconsin DNR after the wolf massacre of 2021. I feel like it is weak against rifle associations, hunting groups, poachers and hunters. The DNR should be protecting wildlife and their natural resources instead of selling out to special interest groups. It supports a culture of violence and not appreciating or protecting life, and white supremacy. Animals are not here to serve as shooting targets, we know better now, we have to protect what was wrongly eradicated by ignorance before. I prefer to see wildlife alive, it's priceless and should not have a dollar sign attached to its head. Thank you for taking my comment, may an ethical and scientific decision be made.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	No		No scientific research, no consideration of the impact of killing wolves on an individual wolf and destruction of their wolf family	2	Please consider the wolf as a family member with feelings and social being of a group in which every wolf has a clear defined role and not only consider wolves ass numbers you can reduce
Judith McDermott	All of it	Yes	1) No longer following an arbitrary or outdated set number for the target population. 2) Emphasis on use of non-lethal methods to reduce wolf/human conflict. 3) Including tribal values in the plan and having buffer zones around tribal lands. 4) Having a zone-specific hunt with licenses being zone specific. 5) Shortening reporting time requirements	1) THE USE OF POISONOUS BAIT SHOULD BE BANNED. It is shocking to me that the DNR allows hunters to place poison on our public lands. Public lands are used by everyone, and to allow a particular group to place toxins on our public lands is a travesty to the rest of the population. In doing so, you are allowing the poisoning of all wildlife, along with pets & even children who come into contact with it. And because chocolate is toxic to canids, it should also be banned as a bait. 2) If chocolate is continued to be allowed as bait, then the compensation program should include dogs belonging to the general population that are sickened or killed by bait placed on our public lands. By not including this, the plan shows favoritism to a particular group when all taxpayer dollars support public lands. 3) The plan contradicts itself by allowing dogs to be used to hunt wolves, as this practice increases the very conflicts that the plan states it is trying to reduce. Compensation for dog losses is controversial, as it provides hunters an incentive to use dogs to hunt wolves, yet also provides scientists accurate data & numbers for dog losses and eliminates credibility of media exaggeration of these. At the very least, if dogs are going to be used, then hound training should be restricted to only the zones open for hunting at the time, not starting the day after Thanksgiving and remaining open until the last day of the last zone's season as the draft plan recommends. 4) Western Lincoln County is core wolf habitat and should be in Zone 1 or 2, not in Zone 3 as the draft plan is written. 4) Zone 3 & 4 should NOT have hunting allowed, as, with the exception of western Lincoln County, these are areas with a lower wolf population to begin with. 5) The "Occupancy" model that is used for estimating deer population is NOT an accurate way to estimate the wolf population as it is not based on scientific data. it only works for deer because of the large deer population in our state. 6) The plan should include an oversight committee comprised of large carnivore biologists & other scientists.	5	The plan doesn't take into consideration the species-specific aspects of wolves. Because wolves live & hunt in packs, indiscriminate human hunting of wolves breaks up the pack & causes wolves to hunt smaller, easier prey like livestock & pets. This creates more human/wolf conflict, which is exactly what the plan states it's trying to reduce. (In their plan, Michigan actually stated that recreational hunting doesn't reduce conflict with wolves.) In closing, wolves don't need humans to regulate their population - abundance or lack of prey regulates wolf populations. This plan promotes the killing of wolves, not co-existence as it states.
Tessa	All of it	Yes	-Wolves won't be managed based on a numerical goal/ quota. -Emphasis on public education, research, monitoring & protections for wolf dens. -Subzones not assigned quotas but rather limits. -Establishment of buffer zones in relation to tribal reservations.	-Subzones 1B & 2B should have a limit of zero. If you must have a numerical limit please include any wolves taken illegally/ suspiciously. -The continued use of killing of wolves for recreation and the use of lethal management. please consider non-lethal management strategies and let ecology be your management tool except in truly lift threatening cases. - you need to make hounding or hound training illegal - it is cruel to wolves and hounds alike and should be banned altogether- it is archaic and barbaric! yes, that would also mean no hunting of bears with hounds. -The plan should outline more severe and immediate punishment for those illegally killing wolves. -	5	Although this management plan appears to be a huge improvement over the abused quota system, I would like to see the bulk of the management be focused on research and education. There is so much scientific evidence that should be used and WI could contribute to that body of evidence with dedication to fact finding, monitoring and understanding the benefits of a healthy wolf population to all our wild animals and their interactions.
Kyle Johnson	All of it	No	Not much	You need to prioritize hunting as a method of legal take. You also need to admit that wolves need to be managed to much lower population objectives given how populous the state is.	1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves should remain under federal protection always,,, wolves should also be considered a non game species		7	
	Most of it	No	Wolves must remain federal protected	Wolves must be considered a non-game species	5	
Benjamin Paul Bishop	Most of it	Yes	I like all of the objectives outlined in the plan.	None.	9	
cara	Just the parts I am interested in	No	-Wolves will not managed by the goal of 350 wolves. - Finally realize wolves play a vital role in our ecosystem. - Realization that people actually like wolves, know that they are so important to our lives as a species and are against killing them! -buffer zones	-Bad science! The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): -wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing -effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution -The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. -The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. -A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard	4	Save wolves!

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				and incidence of illegal killings. -Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. - The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. - Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. -Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. -Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. - The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. - The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). -All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). -Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). -Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). - There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) -There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. -In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. -'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed		

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				method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	Yes	Maintaining the ability to harvest wolves via hunting and trapping to regulate the wolf population.	The buffer zone around the tribal lands, designated as the sub zones. When determining harvest numbers and allowing half of the harvest tags to go to a tribe that publicly declares they won't use them is bad science. If you are setting a population reduction goal but only having access to half of that but pretending like that isn't a factor in the population dynamics is BAD SCIENCE.	5	There should be direct explicit advocacy in the report stating that Wisconsin's wolf population is NOT endangered and needs active management by the WI DNR via hunting and trapping
Mara Lang	All of it	Yes	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the *minority* opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence. There also needs to be a complete removal of the use of trapping.
	Most of it	No	The plan recognizes the greater ecological role wolves play in our natural environment.	There are non - lethal alternatives to Recreational killing and culling of wolves . These should be explored in depth and with true concern for our natural world.	4	The plan should prioritize wolf protections . Wolves are a vital part of the ecosystem in Wisconsin and throughout the United States.
Ray Boyer	Just the parts I am interested in	No	That you seemingly understand the importance of Wolves and that they should have some protections.	The killing of Wolves. It should not be permitted. First they are endangered in Wisconsin and most importantly they are DOGS. You dont shoot DOGS! If numbers get too high in a particular area some should be moved. Ideally a few bonded Wolves moved together as they are very social Animals.	1	Wolves are majestic wild Dogs and they should be protected. Other means rather than killing should be used to manage Wolf populations.
Kell Took	All of it	No		Killing wolves. Just stop killing them.	1	
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	Poor population estimates due to the wolf tracking units not all being tracked and not all being tracked to the three time standard. Lone and dispersing wolves not being counted. Creating further buffer zones around the reservations. No numeric population goal. I believe population goal should be maintained at 350 wolves. Wolves should only reside in high quality habitat where their will be low interactions between humans.	1	This draft plan does not seem balanced for the state. This plan seems to favor pro wolf groups and seems to ignore the concerns of the northern Wisconsin residents as well as hunters in northern Wisconsin.
Carolyn Forde	All of it	Yes	-I appreciate the DNR expertise, time, and energy that went into the plan process. -I concur that it is important to remove numeric goals from the management plan. -I endorse science-based management of wolves. -I endorse an expanded focus on outreach and education.	-I understand current state law requires a hunt when the wolf is not under federal protection. However, based on the literature cited in the plan, it would seem hunting is not an effective means of management. I would prefer to see more focus and energy around non-lethal means of management. -I disagree with the removal of "reservation wolves" when considering wolf hunt quotas. -I disagree with the use of dogs to hunt wolves. Again, I understand that current law allows this practice. I would like to see education about the negative repercussions of hunting wolves with dogs in any DNR outreach and education. -A weakness of the plan is that it was formulated without many citizens at large like myself.	7	I have tried to educate myself about wolves in Wisconsin. My thinking has evolved over the years. First, I supported federal protections for wolves. Then I embraced the idea that Wisconsin was the best manager of its wolves. I have lived in Sauk County, Marathon County, and now live in Rusk County. After listening to people around the state discuss wolves, learning about the 2021 wolf hunt, and giving this issue a great deal of thought, I have concluded that federal protection is necessary for the wolf. Culturally, Wisconsin citizens are stuck with antiquated notions of wolves. Fear mongering continues to be the order of the day. Special interests and politicians pander to the public when it comes to wolves. My children who are in their late 20s want wolves on the landscape. They see the value of wolves in their lives. Only when my children's generation alongside Wisconsin's native peoples are making policy for Wisconsin, will Wisconsin be a responsible manager of the wolf population. As if to prove me right, a "gentleman" named Matt Lallemont from Chippewa Falls has placed a letter to the editor in this week's Ladysmith News: it purports to share comments made about the wolf in Wisconsin and the proposed Wolf Management Plan from a WWF listening session on Feb. 18 in Solon Springs. There is not a single positive comment about wolves in the piece.
Rita Meuer	Most of it	Yes	It doesn't seem like much of a compromise.	Hounds being used to hunt. Hounds are treated as poorly as wolves and their babies. Having a numerical limit on shooting these creatures. It is used against the conservation people. There needs to be a separate division of science and current DNR people. The current DNR are Ani wolf and pro hunters.	3	See above.

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Kenneth Chong	Most of it	No	Increasing public understanding of wolves in Wisconsin sounds like a great thing to have as an objective.	Scaled occupancy model for estimating wolf populations is using data from years prior to 2021 wolf hunts, which would have a major impact on accuracy due to significantly reduced wolf populations since that year.	7	
	Most of it	Yes	removal of numeric goal---focus on ecological benefits and sustainable population(and address conflicts), redrawing zones, buffer zones around reservations, focus on population monitoring, scientific approach, education and outreach, the protection of den sites, mandatory harvest registration, in-person certification and zone specific permits	return western Lincoln Co. to Zone 1--a core wolf range(most suitable wolf habitat), limit dog training to only when zone is open to hunting/trapping season, make sure licenses are issued so quotas met in reasonable time to avoid long season that interferes with wolf breeding/normal activities and winter tracking surveys, need to explain how each zone's population will be guided to achieve plan's goals and a healthy, sustainable wolf population, a wolf advisory committee needs to strongly represent science and tribal concerns and a true wildlife conservation mission, the DNR and NRB need to ask for changes in ACT 169 (ACT 169 has caused serious problems in the way wolves are treated.), DNR should periodically meet with scientific experts to review wolf population, more general public and school education, more research needed(CWD and wolves, the connection between WI, MI, and MN wolves,)	8	should limit the killing of wolves by focusing on only those wolves that are truly causing problems/conflicts with honest farmers DNR needs to resist outside forces and use the powers it has to set quotas and other details of the wolf season plan needs to always put emphasis on science, truth, fact and ethics plan should never yield to individuals or groups that push otherwise
	All of it	Yes	Let the wolf population grow to 1500 or more.	Minimum wolf population of 1000 wolves is to low.	5	No trapping of wolves. No hunting wolves from the air. Drones cannot be used to hunt wolves or any other animal.
Marc Thwaits	Most of it	Yes	The continuation of research being conducted by the WDNR to maintain a healthy wolf population in the state. Giving the Native tribes more input in wolf management. Creating more objective ways of deciding how the animals are to be managed rather than bowing to the gripes of barroom "biologists" who have little objective data to contribute.	Paying for hunting dog and pet deaths. Paying for livestock predation when nothing has been done to prevent the predation in the first place.	9	Reduce the plan in size by eliminating repetitive sections on history of wolves in WI, what wolves prey upon, and similar repeated sections. I appreciate all the hard work from all the people who did the research and assembled the information into this document.
Cathryn Corey	Most of it	No	It is very detailed . It covers a lot of information. I appreciate that such diverse groups were involved in the process.	HArvest information .	6	
William R. Seybold	All of it	Yes	The previous plans referred to a 350 wolf recovery goal set when the population was much lower. The number proved contentious over the years, even though the original plan authors said it was never meant as a cap. The 2022 draft plan does away with that debate entirely. It's also reflective of a new direction for wolf management in the state. Most Wisconsin somewhat or strongly agreed that predators like wolves keep nature in balance(77%), wolves are culturally important (71%), and wolves are special animals that deserve our admiration (75%). Similarly, a majority of Wisconsinites agreed that people and wolves should be able to coexist (75%) and that it is important to maintain a population in Wisconsin (80%). More than ever before, the DNR has taken consideration into the ecological benefits of wolves, including CWD, landscape of fear, etc, This should be priority one over all the goals. Increased acknowledgement of tribal values and goals is essential. Tribal Perspectives and cultural Significance as part of the development of this plan, the department formally requested that the federally recognized tribes in Wisconsin contribute a written narrative on the cultural significance of wolves to be included in the plan. The invitation was extended to all tribes and their needs were addressed. While I am firmly against recreational hunting of wolves, I think the zone system and shortening if reporting is a step in the right direction. I support buffer zones. We should not allow what happened in 2021 to ever occur again. While I also oppose lethal removal of wolves for depredation I am glad to see extensive talk about nonlethal abatement and increased scientific proof when it is needed.	Overall, most people in I would first like to state that when the DNR stacked the committee with pro-wolf-hunting groups they continued an anti-democratic and failed policy of the Walker administration by dismissing the values of the majority ot the public that do not support killing wolves even in cases of livestock loss (Manfredo et al. 2020) and completely ignored the will of the youths and future generations of Wisconsin residents. Therefore, any claim about a majority view or balanced committee in this report in inaccurate on its face. We should not be using recreational hunting as a conflict resolution tool	7	The DNR did a good job overall. Please include those who want to move wildlife management towards an ethical, science-based, democratic vision of wildlife conservation that respects diversity and the intrinsic value of all life.

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Lisa Hannon	Most of it	Yes	I support farmers being able to shoot a wolf on their land. Yes to buffer zones around tribal lands (and I am very glad that Native representatives helped develop this plan). I understand the concern of livestock owners who may be affected by the buffer zone, but that is less critical than the EPIDEMIC of missing and murdered Native women in this country. As a white woman survivor of sexual assault, I am enraged that this continues, so anything that keeps non-Native men away from tribal lands is a big yes for me. I commend your adaptive wildlife management approach, and use of best practices to count and collar the wolf population, and I love that educating the public about wolves is an important component of the plan, as I have helped give classroom presentations on wolves myself.	No to USING dogs to hunt wolves. No to trapping. No to night hunting.	8	If wolves are on the Endangered Species list, there won't be a hunt, will there? Finally, here is a link to a resort I just learned about where you can view passing wolves from a glass wall in your cabin. If we had something like this in Wisconsin, with proper safeguards to prevent habituation of the wolves, it could be a wonderful tourism draw. I'd go there myself in a heartbeat. https://www.parcomega.ca/en/accomodation/sleep-with-the-wolves/wolf-cabins/
Jay Jocham	All of it	Yes	Wolf history and phenology. Scientific and fact-based research. Plan to scientifically maintain wolf populations in Wisconsin.	I don't like the fact that wolves are still hunted with dogs. I would hope that wolves are allowed to exist in significant numbers without excessive hunting or need for conflict resolution.	8	I enjoy living in a rural town in a management district. I have seen wolf sign and tracks but never a wolf. It is good knowing they are here and I don't understand the hatred for them. I hope your education component is successful in addressing this ongoing problem of misinformation. Thank you.
	All of it	Yes	I like the information on the history of the plan and how arrived at its current interpretation. I especially appreciate the tribal feedback to the project	It has been too long that the DNR has looked into solid science on the Wis. wolf management plan. Especially when as it was debated on numerous programs including NPR Science Friday. Very informative!	6	I never had a wolf intimidate or threaten my daughter while playing outside. However, I did have her run into our home with fear of wolf-hunting dogs wearing collars and trespassing on our land.
Linda carr plourde	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Removing the arbitrary wolf population goal. Focus is now on the ecological benefits of wolves.	Better regulation on hound training so that it does not disrupt the WOLF breeding seasons. HOUNDS SHOULD NOT BE USED TRACKING AND HUNTING WOLVES.	9	I am from Wisconsin, 2 college degrees from Wisconsin, taught in the public schools in Wisconsin, receive Wisconsin State teachers retirement benefits, & have my cemetary plot is in Wisconsin. I currently have a home in the Seattle area. But my heart & home is Wisconsin. My daughter as a student at the university of Washington studied & observed the wolves in Yellowstone national park. She shared what she learned and currently works for US Forest Service in Idaho. I followed the Wolf season last year and would to see a change. I am not a hunter or farmer.

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	Most of it	Yes	There are many instances of planning to study or continue studying the many different aspects of the whole wolf issue. It is very hard to make a smart plan without studying and taking the scientific part out of the information gathering. The DNR is the scientific reason behind animal populations and the public emotion needs to be kept at bay.	Overall there are many many bases covered by the plan in theory, but saying and putting together the correct information are two separate things, and over my lifetime it seems the correct decisions don't always get made from the data that is collected.	4	I don't have as many comments on the wolf plan, as I do on the outcomes. Plans can be made until we are all blue in the face--what matters is if the plan is actually producing outcomes that society can live with. Myself, I want to see wolves be a part of Wisconsin, but it has to be manageable. Wolves have marginalized many enjoyment of their pets, livestock, and recreation, and the been detrimental to alot of the economics of Northern Wisconsin. There is no doubt that the explosion of the wolf population in the north has had a drastic effect on the deer and elk populations, which has in turn decimated economic development and even just continuation in the north. The lack of deer, as a result of added wolf pressure, has played a large part in land values across the wild land areas of the north being rather worthless. These areas once thrived with deer camps that brought alot of money to the region, and that is almost all gone. I commend the DNR on staying with the elk project as long as they have, but goodness gracious...if getting a viable elk population in Wisconsin was a business, it would have been dropped long ago. Look at Kentucky's elk population--we started long before them. Yes, they do not have the predators that we do. But, what is the sense of striving for the elk herd if we aren't going to do anything about the depredation? As far as wolf control goes, I feel there is a disconnect for wolf, bobcat, bear, etc. in Wisconsin management that needs to be looked at. Take the level of bobcat tags as a good example since it has been in existence a long time. Hound hunting drives the force being the harvest. But, when applying for a tag, it seems like you have a year where snow is good, and there is a good harvest. Then is said there were too many taken, so tags get cut. The next year, snow is bad, so harvest is very poor, and it is looked at as oh no, the harvest was bad because the harvest was low. No it wasn't, and it can't be both ways. The same can't be done with wolf populations. I know the modeling plans to be different, but the resource regulates itself to an extent. If populations are low, people don't harvest game. If populations are high, harvest is decent. But an even keel needs to be looked at for populations and let the resource manage itself a bit. I must reiterate though, the detrimental economic impact that wolves have on northern Wisconsin is much more than is given credit, and I don't care what anyone says, any meaningful wolf 'tourism' dollars to the north is laughable. I have spent alot of time in wolf country recreating and working, and I have seen very few wolves in my life. If people are going up north to view wolves in Wisconsin, that will be a total of once per person when wolves inhabit areas where you can at best see 8 feet into the woods. And unfortunately, anybody's best chance of seeing is if they are killing something that was by the road and in most cases that will be the wolf killing the person's dog. No other game species in Wisconsin is just let free to do whatever it pleases to the rest of every other species. When deer got high in the early 2000's, plenty of doe tags were offered to supposedly make that healthy again. As I stated above though, the emotion is killing the whole thing by the courts letting the emotions in and stopping the DNR from being able to properly manage the wolf scientifically as a game species--but once science prevails, and not emotion, strive for outcomes, not just plans.

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Caryl Pfeiffer, Cloverland Twp, Vilas Co	All of it	Yes	-Designed to be adaptable based on new information through multi-faceted oversight objectives, hopefully throughout the year. -Harvesting quotas-issued licenses zone specific. -Wolf monitoring through GPS collaring (hopefully increase)-look at sponsorships & donations for collars. -Buffer zones around tribal lands. -New zone boundaries seem easier to enforce. -Decisions based in science, world-wide research findings, and input from all citizens. -Exclusion of dog depredation reimbursement while hunting wolves (include training as well). -Continued efforts to find nonlethal methods for depredation issues. -Ethical/humane focused hunter/trapper programs. Providing key information/literature with license applications (required wolf-related hunter training-better). -Preventing going over quotas; reduced window for harvest registration (4?), in person certification, tagging requirements. -Honoring Native tribes wishes in every way possible. -All in-the-field methods to determine wolf populations. -Any and all authority given to DNR to prevent unethical/inhumane hunter practices/behavior.	-Feeding/baiting of any kind (particularly sugar products). -Night hunting of any kind. -Hunting using dogs for wolves (bear/coyote). -Killing contests (not mentioned in plan). -Compensation for dogs used hunting wolves (training also). -Electronic calls. -Any loopholes/exclusions/exceptions in rules enabling poaching. -Training dogs using live animals in barrels and confined areas (not mentioned). -All unethical/inhumane but accepted practices (DNR and/or State sanctioned). -Sanctioned wolf seasons when specific wolf management is more effective. Wolves themselves, best mechanism for managing own populations given the chance. -Missing is satisfactory non-hunter satisfaction indices. -Unsure about comparative accuracy of the scaled occupancy model.	7	Sincere thanks to everyone (past and present), who played a part in the creation of the 2020 Wolf Management Plan Draft. I can appreciate the challenge of creating a plan that is very controversial from the start, involving many opposing views and legal constraints.Overall, my concerns with the 2022 wolf management plan relate to the ethical components, partially based on the following: 1) "In the United States, while the right to keep and bear arms is constitutionally assured, hunting is a privilege to be repeatedly earned, year after year, by those who hunt. It is well for hunters to remember that in a democracy, privileges, which include hunting, are maintained through the approval of the public at large. Hunting must be conducted under both laws and ethical guidelines in order to ensure this approval." – Jack Ward Thomas, 13th Chief of the US Forest Service 2) Those entrusted in our State to protect our wildlife and the ecosystems that sustain all life (taken from WI DNR mission statement), must never allow what happened in February 2021 to be repeated again – EVER. The brutal slaughter brought by those of unconscionable integrity, will forever be associated with Wisconsin, including: our citizens, the WIDNR, DNR Advisory Board, State Legislators and the WCC board. 3) It is easy to forget that we humans are a miniscule, dispensable part of the overall ecosystem, but the most egocentric destructive part of it. We are doing a phenomenal job of destroying our entire planet in record time, because we put our selfish interests before anything else. Wildlife species throughout the world are in serious decline. There is an exploding increase in sanctioned hunting of wolves in western United States. 4) US Rep Tiffany's latest proposed bill to delist wolves, asks that reissuance of the final rule not be subject to judicial review, essentially attempting to interfere with basic democratic processes., as well as having States independently manage "their" wolves. Wolves in Wisconsin are not confined to just Wisconsin. Gray wolves and wolf population dynamics are interconnected throughout the US and beyond. We saw briefly what State management of wolves in Wisconsin (with republican legislative control) looks like, with the February 2021 wolf harvest. It was a tragic and disgraceful display of wolf mismanagement, influenced by a group from outside of Wisconsin. Sponsors of Tiffany's bill includes only 2 Wisconsin groups (of 20 from outside WI). Not one democratic US representative supported Tiffany's bill (only 5 WI republicans supported the bill. 5) NORTHWOODS CULTURE: I have lived in Wisconsin my entire life. I have visited northern Wisconsin for many years, now living in Vilas County-Cloverland Twp (year-round) for nearly 24 years. In recent years I have witnessed an increased egocentric arrogant attitude by gunowners, citing their constitutional right to hunt on their property at any time of the night (year-round), regardless of its impact on those living in very close proximity. If you complain to the authorities, you get a harassment citation against you. Northern Wisconsin has a long history of racism against Native Americans. I believe the DNR should consider that political, racist, anti-government and nationalist views may all be connected to wolf intolerance, and what can the DNR do about it.Would like to see formation of an independent permanent ethics board to review all sanctioned hunting practices with goal of improving integrity of Wisconsin hunting.
Rich Gullixon	All of it	Yes	The plan doesn't seem like a management plan, but relationship plan were we just really need to learn to live with the 1000's of wolves despite the terrible consequences. I really don't see any upside to the new plan. It will be challenged in court and wolves will continue to be unmanaged despite selling us a lie with first plan to manage wolves after 300 or so. Was this number put so low to get public favor? Now the rug is pulled out from under our feet and the wolf experts are saying that WI should have many times more wolves.	It will not result in wolves being managed at an acceptable number. Your collusion with the anti's, Natives and extremist downstate at the expense of the true conservationist will continue. You do not have a handle on the population, or if you do you are under-reporting the true population.	0	What has happened to the DNR? Your actions tell us who you represent and it is not the sportsmen and conservationist who fund your organizations and programs through licenses, fees, etc. The way the last wolf hunt was portrayed in the media and hyped up by the DNR to portray the exact opposite of what happened and why so many wolves were harvested so quickly was shameful.
L. Ciorlieri	All of it	No	Thank you for including the First Nation letters as part of the draft plan. Very eloquent. Also, thank you for the history of wolves in Wisconsin. Very detailed. Also, having numbered zones is an improvement.	Occupancy modelling for wolf population numbers seems too broad. Population between 741 and 1200? Probably 972? I am pleased, though, that no "cap population number" has been included. Thank you	4	Having a RECREATIONAL wolf hunt legally required when (not if) wolves are again delisted is horrifying and barbaric. It is as though the plan was written in the 1950s, not in a world of climate change and the sixth extinction. Wolves are intelligent beings who have a pack structure which is destroyed when humans randomly kill their members. They have as much right to their lives as you do yours. A wolf hunt does NOT help resolve predation, quite the opposite. And using hounds to hunt wolves? Using hounds to hunt bear? Having a huge training window for hounds who will hunt bear seems an invitation for inevitable conflict with wolves Crops are harvested. A wolf is not harvested. It is killed for the thrill of seeing the light extinguished from its eyes. And if the wolf is trapped, then it is killing by torture.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	I like that there were lots of statics	Where are the appropriate/manageable population counts for each zone? Where are the approximations of wolf population to maintain an appropriate deer population? What is the set season?	1	
	Most of it	Yes	Showing how many pets and livestock are getting killed. Shows you that's there is a problem	The radius outside of reservation should not even be considered	1	
Nicole	Most of it	Yes	Recognition of the ecological value of wolves	Missing updated/recent evidence illustrating negative effects of wolf hunting and trapping on pack structure, and it's connection to increased livestock predation.	2	Research shows the many negative impacts of human interference in wolf populations. Wolves are critical in a healthy ecosystem, let's focus on coexistence, education, and prioritize non-lethal means of management. Outlaw the vile practice of hounding, which indiscriminately harms wildlife, people, and the hounds themselves.
	Most of it	Yes	Not 1 thing. I totally object to all of it	All of the plan is nothing but politics. The state needs to leave the politics out and face the reality of the problem. Let's get real about the reality of the states wolf population	0	
Kyle Paulson	All of it	Yes	I liked section 1 the gray wolf biology segment.	I don't like how you don't have a population goal. The Wolf needs to be managed like any other predator animal. The 350 max goal of population should remain. There are multiple conflicts with hunting dogs every year because of the wolf. How is it that in original plan of 350 wolves and we are now over thousands of wolves without managing them? It doesn't make sense having a goal and letting it run out of hand. The state needs to take control and instead of having federal protection. I dislike how you have buffer zones around native reservations. You're implying if someone owns land in these buffer zones, pays taxes, buys hunting license, they can't even partake on hunting the wolf on their own land?	1	Please have a season on the wolf in Wisconsin in fall of 2023. It is getting out of hand when I can drive around in areas I hunt and see more wolf tracks than any other animal.
	All of it	Yes	-All aspects are being reviewed. Hopefully, a reasonable outcome/resolution can be developed; although I am cautiously optimistic.	-As stated in the previous question, I believe the holistic approach is a smart idea. However, it seems (historically speaking) the weights and balances favor the hunter and the hunter's agenda. I, myself, am a hunter and enjoy the past time of hunting for food (not trophy hunting). I strongly disagree with any "potential" piece of the plan that may allow for an unfair advantage, the near or distance future, that may cause a repeat of killing far too many wolves (or any animal for that reason) as was the result of the recent wolf hunt.	7	While wolves are an adaptable species, humans are much more so. No law or plan will ever make all people happy/content. I believe this plan is, in theory, well-developed and takes into account the beliefs of multiple groups. Ultimately, I sincerely hope the wolf population will regain a foothold in our state and nation. Humans, on the other hand, have taken far too many liberties when it comes to hunting, development, and more, without much regard for other species/the planet. This plan, assuming it is worth the paper it is written on, is a step in the right direction.
Pamela Alvesteffer	Most of it	No	A greater recognition of the ecological role of Wolves. The social aspect that there's an increase in positive views of Wolves and their roles in their ecosystems. Acknowledging the social oppositions to the motives and methods of killing Wolves. Proposing buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Does not reflect the best scientific research available and is lacking scientific reference in the following areas: 1. Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing 2 Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones 3. The impact of widespread killing on Wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, and social dynamics. The plan should prioritize Wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of Wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Hounding practices should not be allowed The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.	5	Wolves are an essential part of their ecosystems - we must learn to coexist with Wildlife using non-lethal methods and strategies. Thank you
Ivy Alcazar	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The explanation of the vital aspects wolves possess and the non-lethal methods provided.	n/a	5	Why Wolves are Important Wolves are an extremely important aspect of the ecosystem and provide many different varieties of creatures in the balance of nature. The overpopulation of deer has been blowing up over the past few years and consuming the vast majority of plant sources--which many other animals such as beavers--assist in building dams for balanced river flow. This can improve the lives of songbirds, fish, bears, and other animals. All of this is connected to wolves. One of the main reasons these beautiful and stunning creatures are persecuted is because they "target" cattle. In early US history, settlers traveled over the land by horse-drawn wagons over the new west. The massive settler population nearly wiped out all of the elk, deer, and bison; which are animals that wolves naturally prey on. Because of this, the wolves have no choice but to resort to hunting the cattle instead. As a result, the wolves became hated and persecuted throughout the world and were hunted maliciously. Wolves almost went extinct in the early 1900s--if it wasn't for the ESA (Endangered Species Act) Wolves were placed on the Endangered Species list and were saved. But, many years later, the Trump administration removed them once again and they were hunted to the brink of extinction once again. But, on a faithful winter day on February 10th of 2022. Wolf advocates can only hope that this will stay the same. But despite the wolves being protected in many states such as Colorado and parts of North America, they still need protection in the Northern Rocky Mountains.
	All of it	Yes	Just the general consensus that we should be using this resource.	Catering to the antis	7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jesse Boettcher	All of it	Yes	Lots of good data and statistics. I especially noticed that humans can kill up to 29% of the wolf population annually before there would be a drop in sustainable population. Objectives A, B, and C were well thought out and comprehensive.	I do not appreciate that Tribal input is ranked so high in value as to how we manage wolves on non-tribal lands. I do not like that Tribal members get equal quota numbers, despite the fact that they will not be harvesting wolves. This lowers the annual harvest numbers and will not be effective in managing total wolf numbers. We will continue to see increases in wolf population.	6	There needs to be a number set for maximum wolf population per management zone and not a "statewide population goal". Something like 500 wolves for Zone 1, 200 for Zone 3, 50 for Zone 6, etc. Then allow for a 25%-30% harvest rate per zone per year. I would also like to see different quota limits for hunting vs trapping. Actually, the same quota for both. 50% of wolf tags for hunters (hound or predator callers) and 50% for trappers. Also, I believe that there are more wolves in my area (Sawyer County) than the DNR claims. I run an extensive trapline for beaver throughout the winter. I see more wolf tracks than coyote tracks every time I'm in the woods. I trap a lot of remote areas far from major roads. There are a lot of wolves. I can no longer trap coyotes in my area, because I will catch wolves and they aren't fun to release.
	Most of it	Yes	They need to be managed	Take opions none woodsmen	4	There more now then ever
	All of it	No	NONE OF THEM! Wolves are ESSENTIAL! The data shows wolves have a NEGLIGIBLE EFFECT on livestock. There are 2.8 million cattle and sheep in Idaho and only 173 were killed by wolves in 2020. IT IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO ENCITE CONTROL ON WILDLIFE POPULATION! Hasn't humanity done enough?	NONE OF THEM! Wolves are ESSENTIAL! The data shows wolves have a NEGLIGIBLE EFFECT on livestock. There are 2.8 million cattle and sheep in Idaho and only 173 were killed by wolves in 2020. IT IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO ENCITE CONTROL ON WILDLIFE POPULATION! Hasn't humanity done enough?	1	There are incredibly shoddy science + ethics behind some of the policies. Adding to the slaughter of wolves has a profound effect on wildlife. Since when did humans know whats best?
LYNN CRAWFORD	Most of it	Yes	Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population is a goal. Reducing the incidence of chronic wasting in the white tailed deer population is mentioned as part of the wolf management plan.	That 62% in areas with wolves approve of the inhumane practice of trapping and that 51% outside of areas with wolves approve of trapping. I also am disappointed that the barbaric practice of hunting with dogs is permitted.	9	Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
	Most of it	No	Proposed buffer zones; acknowledgement of wolves' ecological, cultural and environmental value; recognition of increasingly favorable public sentiment towards wolves; willingness to avoid traditionally cruel and inhumane control methods (eg, will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.)	Should focus more on non-lethal control, and should be based on the best available, nonbiased science to address the effects of lethal control on wolf packs and their ability to recover, and the effectiveness of non-lethal vs. lethal control. Plan should also require livestock owners to use nonlethal control methods in order to qualify for compensation due to loss of an animal to wolf depredation.	4	Please take sound science and improving public opinion into consideration, especially the views of Native American tribes in Wisconsin. THank you for considering my comments
Maureen & Dale Gross	Most of it	Yes	This new plan is much more comprehensive, more holistic and more open to the general public then in the past. The WDNR claims this management plan is formulated, unbiased scientific fact. The WDNR must hold true to this in every way. Implementing citizen education will also be very beneficial as people become better acquainted with our native wolves which eliminates much of the fear of the unknown when it comes to wolves. We have had 6 unintended encounters with wild wolves and never felt threatened. Education can go a long way in vanishing human/wolf conflicts.	t is generally felt that wolves themselves should be allowed to determine their numbers and distribution on the broader landscape, as opposed to having humans make this determination. In addition, taking a wolf's life is a serious consideration that requires substantial justification. pg. 43 of the Plan. This is the philosophy we need to follow moving forward. Farmers should be encouraged to raise bison rather than cattle since bison take little care, evolved with wolves and provide a healthier, tastier meat for the table. Farmers must immediately dispose of any afterbirths and house any wounded livestock to discourage any interaction with wolves. Have a hunting season will not reduce poaching. Even legal hunts create problems with hunters acting like they own all the land and roadways during the hunt. There have been issues with bear hunters also resulting in vehicle collisions with residents. Also hunting predators with hounds needs to be outlawed. This is a barbaric practice with both hounds and predatory game being seriously and/or mortally wounded. This unethical hunting method must be stopped immediately which will end hunting dog/bear/wolf conflicts. Wild canids are not eaten by humans and the fashion market has fallen out of favor for furs. There is no purpose to hunt/trap these animals other than to fulfill "fun" for blood thirst humans. There is already a heavy toll on wolves from other human caused wolf deaths. Hunting of coyotes during pupping season needs to end now for it leaves the pups to starve to death--totally unacceptable. The bottom line is that wildlife management plans must foremost deal with managing people which is the basis of nearly all wildlife/people conflicts. The plan mentions problems with wolves killing pets, but does not address dogs killing wolves. Why? Dogs killing wolves result from irresponsible dog owners. Dog packs kill wildlife and threaten, even kill humans. This must stop.	8	The botched wolf hunt of Feb. 2021 must never happen again. This was a hard lesson. It appeared as though the WDNR lost all control over the hunt and the number of wolves killed. A very bad reflection on the Dept. "Hunters and trappers killed 216 gray wolves in the 2021 Wisconsin wolf harvest season, 82% above the state-licensed goal. The swift pace of the wolf kills, mostly by hunters using trailing hounds, took the DNR by surprise." Milw. Journal. Wolves play a vital role in our ecology and they should be allowed to do so.
William J Ebbott	Most of it	Yes	See attached comments sent to you by my brother, which I agree with.	See attached comments sent to you by my brother, which I agree with.	3	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Michael McLain	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I was impressed by the serious and substantial aspect of the draft Plan, which is evident in the goals that are put forward, the topics that are addressed. Thank you to all concerned for the huge amount of work and seriousness of purpose reflected in the Draft Plan.		8	I am a resident of the state of New Mexico, a place where I have come to appreciate nature and wildlife as a vital and precious part of our heritage as Americans. The presence of wolves in the wild is something I hope our grandchildren and great-grandchildren and all future generations of Americans will have because wolves are an essential part of the richness of our American wild. Wisconsin is an important state and what you ultimately decide to do with respect to management of wolves will have an effect nationwide. From the draft Plan I perceive your seriousness of purpose as you approach the issue of Wolf Management. I sincerely hope wisdom, fairness, and foresight will guide your deliberations and inform the choices that are ultimately made. You hold part of the soul of America in your hands. As a citizen of this country, I thank you for your work and I pray that the final result will benefit the long-term presence of wolves in the wild of the beautiful and great state of Wisconsin.
Kevin Schiebenes	All of it	Yes	I like how there are no specific number of wolves that are managed for. I like that the positive impressions of wolves in the state is a consideration.	I would like to see minimum population limits set regardless of the public's perception of wolves. I'd also like to see more research looking at the impact of wolves on chronic wasting disease in deer.	8	I think that the indigenous people's input on this plan should be placed in high regard and see the Wolf as a brother to share life with. I personally support a high wolf population and would like to see it expand it's range and population.
Terry Sorenson	Most of it	Yes	I read it about a month ago,now I don't remember much about it.	I don't think the dnr is aware of how many wolves there are in different counties.	2	Last year,my family did a spring Turkey hunt,which I have been doing for the last 30 years.Our group of 4 hunters didn't even see one Turkey, but I did see my first wolf.We also bow hunted in the fall and I saw 7 deer and my brother didn't even see one deer in 4 days of hunting. We had several pictures of wolves on our trail cameras and so did our neighbors.It was the worst year we ever had in 50 years of deer hunting. The wolves are killing all the wild life in our area of Adam's county. There needs to be another wolf season,or there won't be any deer or Turkeys left.
dennis germain	All of it	Yes	nothing	your team is not helping. find a new team that doesn't cater to the liberals or the Indians.	0	WOLF SEASON SOON' THIS BULLXXXX HAS TO STOP...
Karen Samelson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan takes the tribes into account and sets low quotas in the zones around the tribal lands where requested. The plan uses science. The plan doesn't set an arbitrary total. The plan acknowledges the benefit of wolves to the ecosystem. The plan talks about working to improve education and also working with farmers to decrease depredation and conflict.	It does not set a timetable to reevaluate the plan. It does not do enough to limit hounds and training, which among other things could interfere with breeding season.	9	Thank you for taking the time do a comprehensive plan and survey public opinion. This was sorely needed after the recent hunting season debacles.
T. J. Edwards	Most of it	Yes	Background research into wolves.	No specific management/population goal for wolf numbers.	3	This plan is sorely lacking in having some solid population goal for wolves in Wisconsin. The tribes are not interested in harvesting wolves so they should not be allocated part of any harvest quota. Additionally, it is both wrong, biased and impractical to have a six mile non-harvest goal around tribal lands. In 2021 APHIS captured and euthanized over 40 wolves in three townships in Douglas County. These are wolves that could have been harvested legally but hunters/trappers if a better management plan were in place. DNR should also consider "auctioning" off a certain number of wolf kill permits to raise money for wolf management. This potentially could raise thousands of dollars for management. I am very pro-wolf and believe that they have a significant place in Wisconsin. During the last wolf season I harvested a wolf the first day via predator calling. These animals are truly a trophy and should be managed in part as a trophy animal. I believe that the population goal should be above 500 wolves. DNR is dropping the ball by not having a wolf management plan that does not include hunting/trapping and a population goal.
Dean Schaffer	All of it	Yes	Most of it.	We need a numerical quota, you cannot manage any species without a population goal.	2	
Caleb	All of it	Yes			1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	not much	I believe the wolf population has a negative effect on other wildlife and needs to be heavily managed.	1	Open the season back up on them
DAVID REICHERT	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	We need a plan that addresses all issues. We don't need warm and fuzzy. We need a firm number that we manage to.	Precluding harvesting of wolves outside of the reservation boundaries.	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Carole Ackelson	All of it	No	I like that the government of Wisconsin is open to protecting wolves	I dislike that wolves are still being hunted despite numbers being low. I dislike how they're being hunted with the use of predator calls, baiting, hunting dogs (which if injured the government then reimburses. Wouldn't it be easier not to bring them if they'll be hurt?) In Pennsylvania, it's illegal to use baiting for deer during hunting season, why is it legal for wolves which are in a more difficult position when it comes to humans, as humans see them as a threat to both themselves and livestock.	4	There should include sections which help the public understand that wolves are a necessary part of an ecosystem and not to be killed "as needed"
	Most of it	Yes		No population goal. Subzones around Indian reservations.	1	
	Most of it	Yes	The goal to educate people about wolves Sustain the population goal	Buffer zones around tribal land…they should have no say on what I can do on my own land since it borders tribal land!!!!!! Not taking numbers and population control from the people that spend every day in the woods and witness the number of wolves and how they are affecting the population of other animals, What was wrong with the wolf population 10 years ago? Why change something when it's working???????	1	If we let the Native Americans have the right to make decisions for us…we should have the right to make decisions for them!!!! Pretty soon the whole state will be no hunting but for the Indians!! Listen to the people that are in the woods every day the hunters. Not the people sitting in an office in Madison controlling with no experience.
Douglas Marhefke	Most of it	Yes	The history, details, facts, numbers are great and easy to find, overall, it's a very comprehensive, easy to navigate report.	Why are you proposing the use of sub-zones? There are no viable reasons for sub-zones, other than to take away the rights of citizens and private land owners in Wisconsin. Why are tribal nations allowed to dictate jurisdiction over Wisconsin residents, when the residents of Wisconsin cannot dictate to tribal nations how they conduct business? This was not clarified in the report. If sub-zones are created, whom is to enforce the rules in the sub-zone areas? The tribal nations or DNR/local municipalities? It appears as if tribal boundaries and authority is being extended onto state, county, local and private land will this require statutory clarification through the legislature? Will the federal government be involved as tribes are actually foreign sovereign nations. Why should Wisconsin and local governments, private landowners relinquish their rights? Per your research, wolves are increasing in population by at least 5% a year. A number that seems to be highly sustainable and healthy for the. The legal precedence this creates into the future…what eventually is to prevent other species from being added to the proposed "sub-zones" in the future on the behest of tribal nations? Also, will the tribal nations have wolf tags allocated to them? Will they need wolf tags to hunt on their reservation? Can the tribal nations hunt on state, county, township property, with or without tags as they do spearfishing? Will they be able to hunt on the private property of individuals without the owners consent? From pages 62-63….there needs to be more and complete transparency. Where will the funding will come from….Wisconsin tax payers, game licensing fees, tribal partnership? More details are needed. There are so many multifaceted legal rights points to dissect in this report that were left out, but mostly, how can my state, county, township, and private ownership rights be stripped away to a different (foreign) sovereign nation? Just a little bit of my background, I'm neither a hunter nor a fisherman. I'm not against wolves and believe they are good for the ecosystem. Also, I do feel we should have a yearly wolf hunt to keep the bio system healthy and in harmony as we do with other animals. I feel the DNR does a fine job of doing this for the residents of the state of Wisconsin.	0	Thanks for your time
Doreen Germain	All of it	Yes	nothing	we need a season and we need it now	1	there is nothing in there that makes sense. the tax payers that live and hunt up north should have more say in the matter.
	Most of it	Yes	"There is a need for additional research to identify circumstances under which wolf predation impacts deer population." There are fewer deer in public hunting areas. Many deer have moved into residential areas - Is this an attempt to avoid wolves? What about the decline of coyotes? They too seem to be moving into residential areas to avoid the wolves who don't tolerate them being in their territory.	Solutions for managing the overabundance of wolves. WI is way over the original goal. I wish they were never reintroduced in our state. Who's bright idea was that?! Their numbers are out of control! I can't walk in the woods with my dog because wolf tracks are everywhere. What is WI doing to get the wolves delisted? You have a plan for zones and hunting permits but when will this happen? What is the DNR doing to support this? What are our politicians doing to fight for being in control of what is happening in our state? It is ridiculous that a federal judge keeps getting them delisted. If the argument is there are not enough in the lower 48, then let's share them with other states. (Although I don't really support this either because we would be setting them up to face the struggles we have now.)	2	Wisconsin needs to fight to have the wolves delisted! We need to take back control of our wildlife management!! There used to be plenty of deer and coyotes in northern Wisconsin but that is no longer true. Every year in the winter, I find fewer and fewer deer and coyote tracks but NOT WOLVES! The wolf population is out of control and it is very disheartening for those of us who live near them. Wolves have changed our outdoor experiences in a very negative way.
Joy Burk	Most of it	No	Wolves not being managed by an arbitrary numerical goal of 350 wolves.	I dislike the hunting season; I dislike the allowance of trapping wolves; I dislike the use of hunting dogs; I dislike the fact that the use of proven nonlethal methods to minimize, reduce, or eliminate wolf-livestock conflicts are not included and not at the forefront of the draft plan.	1	I read a journal article that illustrates positive results to deter wolf-livestock conflicts by use of nonlethal methods. The study was conducted over a 7-year period on large scale grazing operations. Journal article: Adaptive use of nonlethal strategies for minimizing wolf–sheep conflict in Idaho. Journal of Mammalogy, Volume 98, Issue 1, 8 February 2017, Pages 33–44, https://doi.org/10.1093/jmammal/gyw188 Published: 02 February 2017 Please read. I request that Wisconsin take measures and implement these nonlethal methods into the management plan.
William Gauger	All of it	Yes	Killing wolves	Not Killing enough	1	Too many

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes			1	Please stop allowing and enabling the killing of the wolves.
	Most of it	Yes			6	I still believe you have not shown where there are packs are located in zone 5 and 6
	Most of it	Yes	did not see much I like	going away from the 350 wolf goal	0	myself and kids hunt northern Oconto and Forest county sit all day and never see a deer ,how long do you think I will get the kids to go
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				I'm asking you to behave like a resident of a planet whose creatures are all in danger of destruction. We humans have done nothing to care for our only home and its animals. To think you have to "manage" wolves is the height of hypocrisy! They are necessary - we are not. They better the planet - we do not. We are beyond stupid while trying to impress other humans with our need to "control" what happens on this earth. We have destroyed nearly everything we have touched, including the native peoples who know so much better than white people ever will. So use this opportunity to prove you have a right to be on this planet. Leave the wolves alone! They manage themselves and the ecosystem just fine without anything humans can do. Don't use tax dollars to coddle ranchers and cattle. Be of some value.
Lois Bressette	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I liked reading about the wolf habitat. Particularly the diversity of where they live. The most interesting is how varied the wolf diet is. From white tail deer and elf to small mammals and berries. I also enjoyed reviewing the data to support your narrative. For example the data on year by year causes of elk mortality.	I would have preferred to see more relevant (local to Wisconsin) empirical research to support the plan. The plan is not concise and lacks clarity. There are many sections that ramble on, with no coherent direction. For example while reading several sections, (pages 99-100) I was confused and left with more questions.	5	I would like to one day see a consensus among the people of Wisconsin in regard to wildlife management. The voice of non hunters need to be heard as well as the voice of those who hunt. Hunting groups and trophy hunting outfitters should not be the only ones driving wildlife management. Their claim to increase tourism and contribution to the economy is over valued. What is undervalued is the significant roles that predators (wolves) play in maintaining a healthy ecosystem.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	I am a supporter of WI Wildlife Fed. and am in full agreement with their assessment of the wolf mgmt plan.
	Most of it	Yes	None	Allowing for any method of wolf “harvesting”	1	
Ron Heinrich	All of it	Yes	The number designations and order in which they are presented do not indicate a level of importance as to which elements were liked or disliked most. 1) The development/use of zones and subzones, as well as tribal lands, to think about about the effects of wolf populations in various parts of the state 2) The use of widespread and tested methodologies when determining the best analytic tools, i.e., use of overwinter abundance estimate rather than overwinter minimum account 3) The use of scientific methodologies generally, and an ecological approach more specifically (Objective A), to address wolves and their role in healthy ecosystems 4) Priority placed on addressing possible depredation conflicts in a timely manner (Product B2b) while recognizing claim submissions may take some time (Product B2d) - . getting buy in from those most affected is obviously extremely important.	The number designations and order in which they are presented do not indicate a level of importance as to which elements were liked or disliked most. 1) The apparent equal weighting, from survey data, of opinions expressed by those of us from cities (I'm from madison) who have little or no interaction with wolves, and those whose lives are influenced on a much more regular basis - rural communities are likely to felt "less heard" 2) I didn't see any explicit discussion of efforts going forward to relate wolf populations to those of other non-canid mesocarnivores (a possible Product of Strategy E5), it would be good to know how bobcat, lynx, and wolverine populations may be affected by wolf populations. 3) While low quota harvest numbers around tribal lands are a welcome addition to the wolf plan, I would like to see zones 1b and 2b off limits to hunting, i.e., expanded non-quota buffer zones but with the caveat that if lethal removal is necessary for say livestock depredation (figure 23 seems to show some past examples) that would be done by the DNR. 4) The notion that if substantial depredation were to occur in a year livestock payments might have to be prorated (Product B4d). This seems unacceptable, at least it would if it was one of my livestock. This relates to comments made below about the budget for the wolf plan more generally.	8	I'd like to thank the DNR for an informative management plan with a very valuable (at least for me) historical component, I learned a lot. While not part of the management plan, per se, the lack of a budget outlining anticipated costs of the various Objectives, particularly Objective B, makes getting completely behind the draft plan a little tenuous from my perspective. Overall though, it seems well researched and ecologically driven both of which are very positive.
	All of it	Yes	Listening to tribal voices	It could be a reckless plan	5	I am a traditional deer hunter and so is my family for over 100 years. A wolf hunt hurts healthy deer population as well as natural wildlife cycles.
	Most of it	Yes				I'm commenting regarding this statement I just received in a DNR email ojectives to balance tradeoffs: "Providing multiple benefits associated with the wolf population, including hunting, trapping and sightseeing." What???!! Benefits of wolves? How arrogant, as if they exist for us. In one clumsy statement, you've lumped deranged recreational wolf killers/torturers with people who want wolves left alone?! Nobody goes sightseeing for wolves! What a ridiculous attempt to appease hunters. Why don't we white people just turn the land back over to the native tribes? They will have nature back in balance before we can say the despicable word "quota."
Dave Schmitt	All of it	Yes		Not having a more definitive, numerical population goal.	4	Would like to know more on how the wolf numbers are to be determined per local.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Charles Norz	All of it	Yes	I like the plan as it lays out a science based approach to wolf management.	I dislike the lack of details around decisions for harvest quotas. As stated "This plan recommends engaging the department's Wolf Advisory Committee in the process to annually assist in reviewing data.... " I would like to see that there is transparency in this process. Without transparency, there can be an abundance of influence from outside lobbyists. The annual reasoning of decisions of zone harvest, and even no harvest by zone should be made public. This adds transparency and also a annual record that can be reviewed to help ensure trends are moving in a positive direction.... or if in a negative direction then corrective action can be made based on past actions.	7	I believe there is inconsistency regarding the wolves benefit in regards to CWD. In the section "Selective Predation and Chronic Wasting Disease" I believe the conclusion is not accurate. The document states ". In conclusion, whether predators can truly reduce CWD prevalence and spread remains unknown and more research is needed." I would say a quick web search details several reports that shows strong evidence that predators do help reduce CWD. I would also note on page 23 there is a quoted study that indicated predators do help reduce CWD in whitetail dear. ....."The cascading effects of wolf presence also reduce disease transmission, such as Lyme disease to humans and chronic wasting disease in white-tailed deer (Wild et al., 2011; Levi et al., 2012; Bergstrom, 2017)." Thank you for revieing my concerns
gaila olsen	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I don't care to read it because wis's wolf plan is always way behind minnesota's plans (where i originally come from)...and that is where i have most of my wolf encounters...up in the BWCA....why don't you study theirs and learn....
Dr. Allyson Dallmann	All of it	No	The removal of a numerical population goal, adding buffer zones around tribal reservations, recognizing the wolf's Keystone, Apex predator status and being essential to ecological balance, conducting and including the social survey showing the population's positive perception of wolves is increasing as well as their opposition to reasons and tools for killing this amazing animal.	The mission statement of the WDNR begins with "To protect and enhance our natural resources: our air, land and water; our wildlife". Wolves are wildlife and natural resources contributing to the "ecosystems that sustain all life." Allowing them to be killed is NOT protecting them. Mission statement continued: "To ensure the right of all people to enjoy these resources"- We cannot enjoy them if you allow them to be killed. "To work with people to understand each other's views and to carry out the public will." The vast majority of the public oppose wolf hunting, so that should be sufficient to stop it. Further you state "In total, the plan is focused on a holistic and pragmatic approach to wolf management, conservation, and stewardship." Wolves don't need human "management" (killing) because they regulate their own populations. Adrian D. Wallach et al, 2015, stated "apex predators are distinguishable by a capacity to limit their own population densities (self-regulation). We tested this idea using a set of life-history traits that could contribute to self-regulation in the Carnivora and found that an upper limit body mass of 34 kg (corresponding with an average mass of 13–16 kg) marks a transition between extrinsically- and self-regulated carnivores. Small carnivores share fast reproductive rates and development and higher densities. Large carnivores share slow reproductive rates and development, extended parental care, sparsely populated territories, and a propensity towards infanticide, reproductive suppression, alloparental care and cooperative hunting. We discuss how the expression of traits that contribute to self-regulation (e.g., reproductive suppression) depends on social stability, and highlight the importance of studying predator–prey dynamics in the absence of predator persecution." What is an apex predator? - Wallach - 2015 - Oikos - Wiley Online Library In 2017, Brandy R. Fogg stated, "Current wolf population management strategies in the U.S are not supported by scientific research and are doing more harm than good." The Dangers of Controlling Wolf Populations - Yale University Press Allowing wolves to be hunted is antithetical to conservation, ignoring the very nature of nature itself. Selectively valuing some species and working hard to extirpate others, is neither conserving nor following best, current science, nor adhering to the majority of constituents, nor being ethical. The dictionary definition of conservation is "preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment and of wildlife." I am very concerned that Wisconsin and other states have twisted the word conservation to allow apex predators to be eliminated, or at least reduced to the point that their genetic diversity be so minute that they cannot survive as well as denying their innate right to live. Quantifying the effects of delisting wolves after the first state began lethal management (wisc.edu) In 2021, Treves et al stated "…the State of Wisconsin began lethal management first among all states and tribes that regained authority over wolves. Here we evaluated the initial success of reaching the state's explicit objective, "…to allow for a sustainable harvest that neither increases nor decreases the state's wolf population…" We used official state figures for hunter-killed wolves, population estimates from April 2017–2020, and the latest peer-reviewed model of individual wolf survival to estimate additional deaths resulting from federal delisting. More than half of the additional deaths were predicted to be cryptic poaching under the assumption that this period resembled past periods of liberalized wolf-killing in Wisconsin… we expect a maximum of 695–751 wolves to be alive in Wisconsin by 15 April 2021, a minimum 27–33% decline in the preceding 12 months. This contradicts the state expectation of no change in the population size. We draw a conclusion about the adequacy of regulatory mechanisms under state control of wolves and discuss the particular	2	As other authors, researchers and wolf observers have noted, wolves are sapient, sentient, social beings forming closeknit bonds, feeling sadness, pain, joy, and loss. Many humans have tried for so long to distance themselves from other species based on the misconception that non-human animals don't think or feel, but we know this is false and ignorant. We humans don't speak the same language they do so we don't understand what they are thinking, feeling or saying; this doesn't mean they don't think, or feel, it means WE DON'T UNDERSTAND, which is a human shortcoming. Killing one family member DOES disrupt the functional capacity to find food, care for their young, AND they feel a heart wrenching loss, like we do when a family member dies. The USFWS uses the 3Rs, Representation, redundancy, resiliency to inform species recovery and so should Wisconsin. Wildlife watching has always been my favorite thing to do; unfortunately, we always had to go to Yellowstone to see my favorite species, wolves, because of their near extirpation in America. The focus on wolf decimation especially in the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem is baffling, ignorant and fiscally irresponsible. As a vet, I've witnessed animals suffer, their sensitivity, compassion, personalities. Just because humans don't understand wolf-speak, and non-verbal forms of communication, does NOT mean they don't do and feel it. Their cortisol, heart, respiration, blood pressure- increase under duress, but do you really need a monitor to know if your son or spouse is killed you and your kids will suffer? Protecting wolves helps stabilize their families, benefits ecosystems, advances non-lethal management aiding ALL species, and exhibits societal growth to step away from short-sighted killing of our keystone, apex icon who thinks, feels, and loves family as we do.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				governance conditions met in Wisconsin. We recommend greater rigor and independent review of the science used by agencies to plan wolf hunting quotas and methods." Brandy R. Fogg, 2017 questioned "How many times must agencies be trusted to enact wildlife management policies based on scientific research be shown that removing top predators from an ecosystem leads to a breakdown at all levels of the food web? The science against these policies is overwhelming but when it is ignored there is ultimately more damage done than ever would have been inflicted by the wolf populations being targeted for extermination." The Dangers of Controlling Wolf Populations - Yale University Press This draft excludes current scientific studies and documentation or inaccuracies on most topics including: 1) Wolf family dynamics such as interdependence, sentience, sapience, and stress individuals and the whole family suffer due to killing one of their family members. Wolves evolved to depend on family structure stability year to year, but lethal control and hunting destroy stability and prevent them from performing ecological functions including predating ungulates much larger than they and raising young. Just one loss can significantly alter family dynamics, as Cassidy et al 2023 noted researching decades of data concluding human-caused mortality of any wolf decreased odds of pack persistence through the biological year 27% and reproduction next year 22%. If a pack leader is killed persistence decreased 73% and reproduction 49%. Human-caused mortality triggers pack instability in gray wolves - Cassidy - Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment - Wiley Online Library Beyond PVA authors: "recommend a framework based on the three Rs—the ecological principles of representation, resiliency, and redundancy". Beyond PVA: Why Recovery under the Endangered Species Act Is More than Population Viability | BioScience | Oxford Academic (oup.com) This methodology for "conservation and survival" is in line with the WDNR mission to "protect and enhance natural resources" and as wolves are natural resources, they need to be protected, not hunted. This document refers to Resiliency in part as "population size: maintain higher abundance", which allows families (packs) to work together, each having their own "job" within the family. In "Among Wolves" by Gordon Haber and Marybeth Holleman, Karen Deatherage stated "They (wolves) weren't just individual animals, but a highly social, efficiently coordinated group." Haber states "The intimacy between wolves in a family group, which enables them to cooperate closely, also means that each is keenly aware of the identity and presence or absence of others. From what I have seen, the intimacy of a family group is often comparable to, and sometimes exceeds, the degree of intimacy found within a typical human family." All of this current scientific documentation directly contradicts multiple pages including 12 and 19 of the draft as you state that "regardless of mortality cause, wolf pack structure creates resiliency in the event of a pack member's death." I am concerned that you developed this draft utilizing outdated information and not taking the sentience of the individuals and therefore the family into account. Their resilience is dependent on the integrity of the family structure as stated above by Cassidy and others, but you have denied this scientific fact using information. Another problem is not focusing on the high degree of efficacy of non-lethal methods to avoid conflicts. "Nonlethal measures were effective at reducing or preventing sheep losses to wolves across a large landscape during the summer and early fall grazing periods. The most common factor that led to confirmed predation by wolves on sheep in the PA (protected area) was not having active deterrents in place". "Stable wolf packs are easier to manage with nonlethal deterrents than unstable packs because stable packs tend to hold and remain in their own established territory, which discourages new wolves from entering the area." "Comparative results between the Protected (nonlethal) Area and Nonprotected Area indicate that adaptive use of nonlethal methods reduced the number of sheep preyed on by wolves, reduced the need for lethal removal of wolves, and helped train and convince sheepherders that nonlethal methods can effectively manage wolf-sheep conflict." Adaptive use of nonlethal strategies for minimizing wolf–sheep conflict in Idaho | Journal of Mammalogy | Oxford Academic (oup.com) We found that: (1) lethal control and translocation were less effective than other measures, (2) deterrents, especially fladry which is a fence with ropes marked by hanging colored flags that sway in the wind and provide a visual warning signal, were more effective than guarding dogs; (3) deterrents, fencing, calving control and herding were very effective" "and (4) protection of cattle was more effective than that of small stock" The effectiveness of livestock protection measures against wolves (Canis lupus) and implications for their co-existence with humans - ScienceDirect Future generations deserve to benefit from wolves on the landscape and the balance they confer to the ecosystem, but wolf killing policies preclude the rights of		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				future generations to experience these benefits. Lethal "management" along with hunting, trapping, snaring and hounding of wolves is completely unnecessary and steals future generations' ability to experience awe moments that wolves inspire as well as wolves' keystone species contribution that future generations deserve. Eliminating predators including wolves, bears and cougars without whom our natural balance is destroyed, indicates a serious lack of understanding about species interdependence. Biodiversity depends on keystone species, apex species, and prey species as do food webs; ecosystem balance is destroyed without these vital components. (99+) Quantifying the effects of delisting wolves after the first state began lethal management | Adrian Treves - Academia.edu We also know that allowing a hunt increases poaching and current occupancy model estimates underestimate wolves killed by poachers as Adrian Treves et al documented in 2017 (99+) Mismeasured mortality: correcting estimates of wolf poaching in the United States | Adrian Treves - Academia.edu "With evidence from 4 endangered wolf populations in the United States, we showed the miscalculation biased estimates substantially upwards for legal killing and biased them substantially downwards for other human causes (mainly poaching and vehicle collisions; Fig. 3 and Supplementary Data SD3). The error is non-random (systematic bias) and will increase under several common conditions: high rates of legal killing (Fig. 1B), high proportions of unknown fates (Fig. 2A), and high rates of cryptic poaching (i.e., unreported killing associated with destruction of evidence; Fig. 2B)." The wolf hunt quota should be ZERO, which would be publicly acceptable as well as recognized biologically, ecologically, and morally appropriate. Another issue with the 'scaled occupancy model' is that it grossly overestimates the wolf population. Because you are using unverified methods and permitting hunting and therefore poaching, you are clearly ignoring current best science and common sense: how can you permit killing a species when you don't even know how many are there and, as stated above (see Cassidy) killing one family member has devastating effects on the entire family. I am also concerned about the lack of biologists, scientists and field professionals. These are the people who should be used in an oversight committee to keep current, best science at the forefront of all wolf regulations, interactions and education. Adrian Treves fits the bill on all levels and would give credence and balance to protocols which have here to for been biased in favor of the hunting community which actually only represents 11% of Wisconsin residents. The plan ignores survey results in which the majority opposed another wolf/trapping season. 64% oppose specific methods of harvest by hounds and 70% oppose traps. 62% feel wolf hunting is unnecessary and 57% say it's culturally offensive to Native Americans. It is offensive to continue to ignore the very residents you are supposed to be serving. Excluding the vast amount of scientific, evidence- based documentation that wolf hunting is unnecessary, ecologically, biologically, and morally unsound, demonstrates a lack of understanding and integrity that people expect you to have. On pages 51-53, you acknowledge the importance of the Wolf's cultural significance: Ma'iingan- brother and The Wolf is sacred to the Menominee people and the wolf's cultural and spiritual connection, in many ways, still exists today. But this plan completely tramples these sacred beliefs. The fact is that the majority of Wisconsinites also value wolves and their right to live without being hunted. This draft fails to include a plan to overturn PA 169 and stop payments for hounding dogs who are killed by the wolves they are sent to kill. Hounding is cruel, inhumane and should be banned. Training hounds to hunt wolves is abhorrent; there are too many wolves being slaughtered without hounds, so allowing it just adds another dimension to cruel, unethical, and abusive and they should never be reimbursed for their own ignorance and cruelty. We know that 2 million wolves roamed much of North America, but federal and state wolf extermination programs which were short-sighted, ignorant, and cruel left very few in Minnesota and Michigan. Wolves, bison and Native Americans have all suffered severely from this cruel mentality. We have learned so much about wolves, wildlife and ecosystem balance and the ease with which it becomes unbalanced that even considering killing wolves in any manner indicates an inability to learn and or choice to ignore new knowledge. Egregious errors of the past should not be repeated. The fact that wolves' populations have been seriously diminished also means their genetic diversity has been significantly reduced. The higher the genetic diversity of a species, the better the chance of long-term survival. It increases their ability to adapt to nonanthropogenic hazards and stressors such as climate change, disease, injury, and habitat loss. Wolf pup survival rate is only 30% so, again, killing them in any manner is short-sighted, ignorant and cruel. I am also concerned that the Impacts of Regulated Harvest on Wolf Dynamics beginning on page 20 is focused on		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				why and how "harvest"/killing wolves is supposed to be acceptable. However, not only does best current science state the exact opposite, but the very premise of killing wolves is antithetical to conservation and this is in part because many wolf killers/hunters/commissions and others reference The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (NAM) when purporting reasons to kill wolves. NAM, however, lacks current, peer-reviewed science and a basic understanding and focus on species and ecosystem balance and interdependence. While hunter license purchases have helped some game species, such as deer and elk, recover from over hunting, they overstate the impact of these contributions. Bighorn sheep, pronghorn and bison have only recovered to 5%, 2% and less than 1% respectively from their mid-19th century numbers. One problem with NAM supporters is their focus on carnivore eradication and being especially antagonistic against wolves. The model is not used to halt the massive decline of many species that are not hunted and yet, these species are vital to ecosystem balance. Another issue NAM fails to recognize is the non-hunting community's contributions in protecting wildlife, education, and work towards ecosystem balance including our recognition of the value wolves, cougars, bears and other species contribute to a balanced system/food web. We value all species, created and helped get the Endangered Species Act passed which is actually responsible for preventing the extinction of about 291 species since 1973 and has saved more than 99% of the species under its' protection. We continue working to protect all of them, unlike the hunters who pay to "replenish" only the ones they are going to kill. We have radically different paradigms: one focused on balance and biodiversity, the other on killing species they don't value and refusing to recognize as vital for balance. Considering the vast amount of current, peer-reviewed scientific data on ecology, biodiversity, ecosystem balance, species interdependence- how nature works- NAM is as outdated as a rotary phone and less effective. NAM also ignores the fact that as of 2020, 95.4% of Americans are non-consumptive (89% of Wisconsinites don't hunt) and yes, we are stakeholders- these animals belong to the public trust and we are the public. We enjoy wildlife viewing, hearing and photographing them, but this is excluded because of the killing focus. Wildlife is of more value to more people alive-this too should be obvious- but is ignored by NAM, hunters and commissions such as WDNR. Most people appreciate the intrinsic value of wildlife and respect their right and necessity to be here. The fact is that hunter interests are antithetical to conservation because they only value the species they hunt do anything they can to eliminate the others. You need only look at Montana's goal to kill 85% of their wolves in spite of the $82 million boon they bring in to the economy annually, as well as the remarkable recovery Yellowstone made after wolves' reintroduction. Idaho's stated goal is to kill 90%. You get the picture, they are not conserving nor following best, current science, nor adhering to the majority of their constituents, nor being ethical. These are places Wisconsin does not want to follow, and Wisconsin has an incredible opportunity to lead the country in conservation with its' true meaning "preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment and of wildlife." NAM's tenet "wildlife should only be killed for legitimate purposes" is abused by the same people who usually support killing contests, trophy hunts, trapping and other abhorrent behaviors that the vast majority of Americans oppose and never consider legitimate. NAM supporters seem to ignore the "elimination of markets for wildlife"/" the commercialized use of wildlife should be prohibited." Very clearly, outfitters, trappers, private land tags and commercial fisheries are all for-profit and commercialization by definition: "the process of managing or running something principally for financial gain." NAM's primary use these days is for propaganda; many people don't know what it actually says and how it's used, yet the public trusts that when commissions and other wildlife associated organizations use the word conserve, they follow its' dictionary definition, instead of the hunting community's definition "search and destroy." More personally, I do not have the opportunity to see wolves if they are killed; I can't share the experience of listening to them and watching them with my grandchildren if they are dead; I cannot hope this keystone, apex icon, about 2 million of whom once roamed our country (along with bison and Indigenous people), will be able to recover with the current draft plan. We like to see our society as learned especially in comparison to previous generations, but when the focus is on predator killing be it lethal control or hunting, I fear we have ascertained nothing.		
Charles R Peeters	All of it	Yes	None	The lack of a specific population goal of 350 wolves as we have been promised for the last 20 years	0	It is imperative that future population counts are accurate towards a total pack count.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Barb Switzky	All of it	Yes	First off, my address is Madison WI but I would like you to know that I grew up in Upper Michigan where we had wolfs, I also frequent Price County and Onida county remote areas so I am not responding as someone who has been exposed to wildlife in the wild. I accept and regret that there is going to be a wolf hunt and zone specific seems to be far better than statewide. I do think the harvest numbers are too high and the DNR should start slowly with any planned reduction. There are still too many variables that are not known, such as how the last hunt and the increased use of bear hound training and hunting, as well as how it is going to affect wolf populations and health. I like that DNR is not going to let individuals keep wolf carcasses and using them for education, though I think that should be written in law. I like that there is some minor consideration given to individuals who appreciate wolves in their natural habitat and perhaps expanding ecotourism. The Boundary Waters have keen examples of the benefit of ecotourism. I also appreciate a level of respect for our Tribes and their wisdom. Thank you for the plan's educational element. Educate, educate, educate. As with our political divide, there is no way that some people will change their attitudes toward wolves. Strong educational programs to younger individuals and citizens in general. Those who live in the city should know some of what the farmers are experiencing, as well and those rural individuals should learn more about their wolf neighbors. Adding the deer/car impact costs, possible control of CWD, and reforestation, and how often wolves are not successful, why, and the real toll they take on deer herds which is far less than rumored. It is also helpful to know how many reports are determined not to be wolf damages and the cause and the reporter.) Historically, wolf are considered big and bad, from nursery rhymes to prescription medication ads the are portrayed that way. The stigma of this amazing creature can only be changed over time. If there ever is an opportunity to assist with some citizen educational opportunities, I would be willing to possibly give it a try.	I dislike that the wolf numbers do not include the pregnant wolves killed by cars, number of poached wolves, and other human caused mortality. (2018 60% of mortality of only radio collared wolves was human caused.) I also am very concerned by the grip bear hunting groups has on the DNR. There is a enormous divide among ethical law abiding hunters and a growing bear hunter population that, at any cost or inhumane action, wants to rid our state of wolves. I believe there is no need for me to elaborate on attitudes. This can only be addressed head-on with non-emotional driven science and laws. The situation has been created and can't be taken back but is out of hand. The dog training time allowed is while bears have their cubs and wolves have their rendezvous sites. It is a natural instinct to protect their partners and young and there are going to be subsequent attacks caused by the first. 32 states allow bear hunting and 14 ban dogs. Wisconsin's is the longest by a long shot. Heat stresses the bear and separates sows from cubs. It's the longest of any state, bait piles are a nuisance and attract conflict. A cooperative study done by Michigan Tech in 2014 involving similar populations of wolves and bears in both states - WI and MI looking at wolf dog interactions found that Wisconsin, because of the much longer dog training and bait piles had a 2-7x higher dog loss. (see the research at MI Tech) As you know, in WI, by State Statute, dogs are considered property by law and the ACV of the dog is what an average dog of the same breed, sex and age may costs; though the analogy is unpleasant, it's sort of like your car, you don't necessarily get the same car and the fact that the dog may know some tricks this doesn't make it more valuable. It is unfathomable that the State of WI pays hunters $2,500 per dog and vet bills to even those who are breaking hunting laws, hunting in known wolf/dog conflict zones or zones where there are a concentrated number of wolves. These owners say their "dogs are like their kids" or it was "just bad luck", and "smoke a pack a day" (these are quotes). This is obviously not the case; if it were, they would not jeopardize them as they do. I think the dogs should be licensed, be up to date of their vaccines to prevent the spread of disease, remain in close proximity to their owners while hunting like other game hunting dogs must, and when applying for a license, the hunter should be required to accept the risk, agree to only run the allowed number of dogs, agree to share their dogs GPS if killed or injured, be prohibited to hunt in conflict zones, if breaking a DNR law or being punished for breaking a law then forfeit reimbursement, and they should attest to this as part of getting the privilege to hunt. Only WI hunters should be allowed to collect and it should be a one-time reimbursement that would be accompanied with a educational material on how to prevent the deaths in the future. WI has set us up for failure as the only state with any payment, what's more $2,500. In 2021 there was a concerted effort to wait as long as possible to report their wolf kills to keep the hunt going. Only bear hounds that follow scents should be allowed, and any larger breed that chases anything that runs and will fight with their prey should be banned. This would be allowing legal dog fighting. Any payment for dogs should be as property and if the vet bill is greater than the dogs value the owner should only get the value of the dog with a cap. Since this most certainly not going to happen, then the DNR must start to rachet down the payouts as either/or and maybe starting at $1,250 (1/2 of prior), observe the effect and ratchet down further. Because the money paid out is troublesome, it's a huge hunk of money for a small number of individual, and repeaters and these practices are harmful to both the dogs and wildlife. (Note: As an aside, I suggest you review the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Alliance Mission Statement. It is contrary to their actions.) There are many other uses for this money that would benefit wildlife and land stewardship. Farmers are experiencing challenges and I think that some of the money saved from reducing the payment for dogs could be used to help them with measures to further prevent depredation; for example, if a farmer has an animal loss and implements a specific number of measures and has another, the DNR should increase the payment by 1 1/2x the value of the animal if they undertake further measures with the help of their local DNR and the DNR Representative and farmer would be required to work together for a specified time period. This would create a working relationship which is necessary for success, and again, the extra cost for the Representative could come out of the lowered dog loss payment.	3	My rating was based upon current conditions and the possibility that there is so much to do. Continue research on the possibility that carnivores may be able to play a greater role in CWD management and reforestation. FINALLY - On this survey, as well as on the Conservational Congress questionnaires and others related to wolf and reported in this Plan. I think that it is absolutely necessary the individuals identify themselves and sign on that they are being truthful on whether or not they are from WI; if not what state. This would be helpful for ecotourism as well, and on this Plan's feedback whether or not they live in a rural area. The DNR should then separately compile and report the responses by Residents/Non-Residents. Last year in Price County on the weekend bear hunting started, my family and I observed 8 trucks with hounds traveling down the road past us. They stopped at the edge of the National Forest and released all their dogs. This is shameful. I used respect most bear hunters, my dad and brother hunt bear in MI. I have lost my respect for many when they use dogs, electronic devices, bait piles, and vengeance; this, to me, is no longer hunting, where both the hunted and the hunter are challenged. I hope that you will consider my views and continue to strive for science based decisions. It's tough, I'm sure. Well, I do thank you for accepting my feedback and, as you probably can guess, I certainly have a lot more to say! Barb Switzky, [redacted] Madison Wi 53718
	Most of it	Yes	The amount of time dedicated to this wolf problem.	The control that the federal government has on a state issues.	5	The population goals are too high.
Lee Vanden Heuvel	Most of it	Yes		I really want to see a population number goal in the plan and then manage the population accordingly.	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jack Saltes	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Its specific area by area , state pack territories and populations, and science based approach in trying to establish hunting quotas by area. (wolf management zones)	The very few TAC meetings (over just a few months) and lack of population research time and efforts to properly and accurately accomplish no.4 above.	4	In the sands of time, I'd like to see WDNR slow down and take the next 3-5 years to really take the time and efforts through hiring project or LTE Wolf staff (" pack and package the staff to study the packs") to fully assess the populations of our state wolves , in size, growth or decline, health and other population ecology dynamics BEFORE setting premature and tenuous hunting quotas. Three to five years will go fast and our wolves deserve that " accountability". Thank you. JgS
Sa Rei	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural	1	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

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				benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	Yes		I do not like the idea of having No population goal.	3	Wolves should be managed to the original socially acceptable number of 350 animals.
Roxana Martillo	All of it	No	● The elimination of a number/target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	● Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves ● Hound training must be stopped! ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	It seems to me that the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. I think it's important that there is representation of the non-hunting community Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence. Wolves should not be killed in national forests! The use of hounds should be banned. You must establish am oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.
Jason Rabuck	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Science based management moving away from arbitrary numeric population goals. Focusing on ecological benefits of wolves. Pubic input and opinion has been incorporated into the plan.	Probably needs to be more regulation for hound hunting and training in wolf zones. Need a plan to cut down wolf-hound conflicts. No plan for regularly updating the plan.	9	
Ann McLellan	All of it	No	Increase public understanding of wolves Involving tribal nations. Plan acknowledged wolves as a keystone species, to keep the ecosystem in balance. Acknowledge that wolves are family packs and they are social animals and killing disrupts this. Wisconsinites had favorable attitudes towards wolves. Many Wisconsinites have never had an encounter with wild wolves, and few had experience with wolf attacks on domestic animals. I agree with this, because I was born and raised in the country in Wisconsin where there are wolves and I never saw a wolf (I wanted to see them). We had dogs and were in the woods all the time and never encountered a wolf. People and wolves can coexist. I live 2 miles from the Wisconsin border in Minnesota so I regularly visit Wisconsin and I have never seen a wolf (even camping) so I do not believe that there is human wolf conflict. People generally wanted about the same or more wolves as the current level across the same or more area of the state. Wolves are important Non-lethal methods Zone system, even though I am against any hunting and trapping of wolves Increase Public Understanding of Wolves in Wisconsin. Show the	The WMPC has more anti-wolf members than pro wolf members. I do not like the word "harvest". The word harvest implies that they are a crop. Wolves are animals and they are killed not harvested like plants. Where the plan says that current research says that 24 to 29% of wolves can be removed via human-sourced morality before the wolf population will decline. If that is true, then there should not be any hunting of wolves, because wolves will be killed by cars, by climate change, by loss of habitat. Most people would worry for the safety of their pets and children when recreating in areas. I disagree with this statement because I was a child and had dogs when I grew up in the country in Wisconsin where there are wolves and I never saw a wolf. 2022 survey results showed that support (46%) for a regulated hunting and trapping of wolves is higher than opposition (29%); one-quarter of Wisconsinites were undecided. So 53% of Wisconsinites are not for hunting and trapping of wolves is what this really is saying. I disagree with lethal conflict mitigation strategies. I only agree with non-lethal conflict mitigation. I know Wisconsin farmers who are pro-wolf. Where the word "overpopulation"is said, as there will never be in over population of wolves. There should be no maintenance of wolf numbers as wolves regulate themselves; climate change, loss of habitat, people accidentally killing them (I saw a wolf killed by a car). There should be no use of hounding. (Only Wisconsin allows this).	6	I would like to see a regional perspective as I live 2 miles into Minnesota on the Wisconsin border and I go to Wisconsin regularly. I am against hunting and trapping of wolves. Education should be communicated to the public on how to coexist with wolves and the importance of wolves. Education about wolves should be required for every deer hunter.

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			importance of wolves as keystone species and how they keep the ecosystem in balance.			
steve s ripp	Most of it	Yes	having a hunting season for them. As they have no natural predation and disease and other factors will not contain their numbers.	putting equal consideration to residents that do not live in wolf territory- with those that do.	7	If the plan is going to work, the federal judicial system should stay out of it. currently we have a plan but can not use it. therefore it is not effective when used occasionally.
Maureen Baron	Most of it	Yes				I'd like to see the depredation charts to include farm animals lost vs elk and deer and also showing a map of the packs in those areas. I don't know what to make of what seems to be wolves really going after farm animals.
hukar	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the importance of wolves' ecological benefits, elimination of a numerical target population, inclusion of tribal knowledge & values, adopting buffer zones to minimize recreational hunt impacts, emphasis of non-lethal methods to reduce conflict.	Dislike hound training and lack of DNR effort to remove payments for hunting hounds killed by wolves. Dogs to hunt wolves is cruel & irresponsible. Ban it esp. from our national forests. The occupancy model shouldn't solely be used to determine wolf population.	7	Need an oversight committee with biologists. Plan was mostly represented by hunting organizations, a minority of the population. Would rather see ways to exist with wolves and not just kill them.
Tom Evans	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	not mush	no minimum number 350 is enuff	1	I think there are way more now than what you saying and you know it.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Having many different stakeholders involved is very important to have a more fair plan; it's important to use science to keep the population stable. Education is very important to help the public have a better understanding.	It looks like very young wolves can be hunted, which I don't approve of. Predation compensation should require that non-lethal steps must have been taken first.	5	The plan helped me understand better the complexities of the whole issue.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I support the elimination of the outdated, unscientific, and non-transparent population goal of 350 wolves in late winter of the 1999 plan. I support continued use of winter snow-tracking because field-based ground-trothing is the only way to sort out the mess created by the inappropriate use of the scaled occupancy model explained next.		1	
Brian Graykowski	All of it	Yes	None	Going away from specific population to an ecological one.	0	Wolfs were eradicated for a reason. Period. Should they exist? Yes. A wolf doesn't care about man's laws nor boundry lines. Point being there should be only One hundred wolfs allowed to exist in the Great Lakes Region. Period. Also, more bear tags.
Steve	Most of it	Yes	none	all. how the hell can there be a plan with NO NUMBERS????? pre wolf - we had a few deer. now with wolves-9 days and see 1 deer. and DNR wonders why hunter numbers are going down?? bunch of geniuses running the show, all leftist anti hunting anti gun from the looks of it/		millions spent on the wolf bs that could have gone for something that WI hunters and fishers actually want what a waste of our license dollars!
Tomek	All of it	Yes	Getting rid of the population max	Allowing for dogs statewide as long as any zone is open for hunting. The questionable and highly likely overestimation of the current population. The absence of best available science, there is strong evidence that calls into question benefits to livestock or social acceptance through lethal management. Selectively ignoring inconvenient facts calls into question the integrity of the report, either through gross negligence or deliberate malfeasance the report doesn't present a truthful and factual picture to the public.	2	The integrity and trustworthiness of the WDNR will become highly suspect if this draft becomes the final report without addressing glaring and obvious holes in the information presented. Even a rudimentary search for related peer reviewed articles shows evidence of strong arguments that should be explored but are completely absent from the report. After reading it I feel it was put together to meet a predetermined conclusion rather than something that objectively presents the currently best available science.
Kathy Simonik	All of it	No	I like that it is being at least DISCUSSED, after seeing all.the turmoil that has been going on.	There is only one answer after following all the wolf massacres in several states. Wolves need to be relisted as Endangered.	1	I have been closely monitoring all the wolf hunting and poaching. It is a mass murder scene driven by politicians that are NOT pro-wolf. A strong group of Ranchers and rich politicians in strategic positions of power are running everything. Example being, Montana The home of Yellowstone. Why? Why kill Wolves and Wildlife that visitors come to see. The answer is there are too many hunters/poachers not reporting their kills and hiding information. There is proof of all this mass cold Blooded Murder. Call it what it is. Wolves must be relisted and protected immediately. Wolf cubs are even being shot to death in their dens! Again..Why? These are fun kills by psycho people. The evidence is all available. Please can someone stop all these killings. Help desperately needed or the lands will run silent...
Trish King	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like the collaboration effort. I encourage information that covers the use of non lethal methods with livestock conflicts. This is so important! Strong laws should really enforce these values.	I don't want wolves taken for any reason unless it was a personal attack of which this would be most unlikely. I do not support hound hunting on wildlife, or trapping, snaring, or chasing down. No contests or trophy hunting either. Livestock producers need to be required to provide non lethal protection to their investment or else they pay hefty fines. Wolves need federal, state and county protection. Information for wolf protection, eco wolf friendly business and revenue from tourism to view them should be encouraged. Programs containing info on how to maintain farms and ranches in wolf country should be made a priority .	4	I do not support trophy hunting! Please do not allow wolf hunting to be legal. Enforcement to poaching crimes must be strong and upheld! We can't allow what happened in 2021 to ever repeat.

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Jake Levy	Most of it	Yes	This plan appeared to take many viewpoints into consideration which was appreciated. There was also considerable thought about not reinventing the wheel and keeping policies in place that make sense. Liked the mention about supporting wolf research. Would like to see effort go into wolf education in the k-12, undergrad, and graduate research. Enjoyed that adding and supporting peer reviewed literature is a goal. Happy there was a sub objective about law enforcement. While education is the best enforment tool It is hard to thread the needle of education vs enforcement when issues come up with a species with numbers so delicate to shifts due to illegal activity. Hope the department works on keeping the public happy with the DNR while still decreasing violations.	I think the plan could use additional details in how this plan will interact with other State wildlife populations. There was some mention of how this plan and the Elk management plan / Elk population interact, but less information on other species. This directly extends to deer but should also extend to indirect species relations such as how wolf presence will impact vegetation, fish, and small mammals. Would like to see more effort placed on objective A and less in objective B in zone 6. This plan makes Zone 6 seem like a loss for being able to support a quality wolf population and any wolves that are in the zone should be removed. In fairness, zone 6 has a different land use makeup then the other zones which figure 36 shows. Further the high farming and urban centers will have the highest negative human wolf interactions). However, zone 6 is where wolf population may be needed most from an ecological standpoint. Urban areas have some of the highest deer populations, most invasive species, and lack of diversity. While it may not work out where wolf population can be maintained naturally in zone 6, it feels like this plan does not make a reasonable effort give zone 6 a fair shot to support a population.	8	Plan makes no mention of the quality of Act 169. While it is noted that this law requires a wolf hunting season, should this law exist. This plan should have provisions about the DNR studying the impact of Act 169 and asking our legislature to repeal or replace the law if it does not meet the objectives of the plan. Does the DNR support Act 169 and if not what can the department do about making a change. I agree that keeping farmers and hunters who lose cattle and dogs to wolves compensated is critical to maintaining their support of a wolf population to begin with, however, over time it may be good to decrease the physical compensation. The money that is paid out may have better uses in the department and the burden of these losses may better be handled by private insurance. As figure 3 notes, Wisconsin as a whole was once home to the range of wolves. Farmers came second and are on the wolves' home turf, not the other way around. Further, losing a dog when hunting is part of the risk of having a hunting dog and occasional losses should be expected. In the long term, the State should not carry the burden of paying compensation claims, even if the money comes from hunting license fees. This money is much better spent on conservation.
Oliver Starr	All of it	No	These additions represent improvements to prior plans: The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and the inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements, and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	There are still numerous areas where the plan is seriously flawed. In particular, I object to the following elements of the plan or failures to address the following issues: Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas of prime habitat. ● Recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model which should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	3	Hounding is despicable. Paying hounders for the death of their dogs when they loose them on wolves - essentially legalized dogfighting - is a disgrace. The wolf committee lacks ethical oversight, includes individuals with massive conflicts of interest, and does not represent the general population.
Jason Neton	Most of it	Yes	I like that there is recognition of the value of wolves to the environment, that is important. Also, I am very much in favor of non-lethal approaches to the issue so I like that as well. And given the unknowns still, glad to not put a number or what is the right number of wolves in our lands.	We should eliminate the use of hunting dogs in this process and not train dogs to hunt wolves. Sure, have hunters use dogs in traditional duck and other hunting but not for this. Definitely not compesating hunters for the loss of their dogs in such a danger and unwarranted approach to wolf management. One other suggestion is how about engaging biologists and professional conservationists on this important matter. Perhaps a consultative committee for this topic?	4	Thank you for soliciting public input on this, that is very important.
Michael H. Schultz	Most of it	Yes	I like very little of this plan.	The areas that wolves should be allowed in. I would suggest no wolves south of highway 10. Eliminate all 1B zones. Establish a population goal of no more than 35. Hold public hearings in EVERY county where there are wolves.	1	
Alex Graeff	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	I wish I had more time to read and evaluate the plan, but alas		5	I think WI in general does a pretty good job at stuff regarding natural resources. Quick opinions: I am a plant ecologist and a huge proponent of preservation (as opposed to management or conservation) There's no need for a recreational wolf hunt. Mitigation for livestock take or other human conflicts? Sure. Otherwise let the land support however many wolves it can support. Please never allow recreation wolf hunting... like, why? We should be actively encouraging wolves (and native humans, but that's way different conversation) as a part of ecosystem preservation and restoration. We should be doing all we can to promote the "natural state" for as much of our forests and landscapes as possible. It's very upsetting to go into a high-quality habitat and see it completely ravaged by deer. Would wolves fix that? Maybe not, I can't pretend that I've done the research to find studies that demonstrate that. But it makes a lot of sense. Got a swamp with rare plants and too many deer? Would be real interesting to see what wolves could do. We know from Yellowstone that wolves simply altering the behavior of prey animals has cascading effects on landscapes and vegetation. I admire your efforts to inform the public and dissuade the propagandist "big bad predator" views that somehow still persist.
Tom Kuklinski	All of it	Yes	The thoroughness and detail. Held biases of all involved.	I did not like the influence of urbanization on determining quotas in rural areas such as Barton County. I prefer that counties with wolf populations have more voice in determining wolf management. Seems like urban populations are having a strong. Influence on policy but they don't live here among wolves.	6	I would like to see a review happen every year and adjustments to quotas being made often as the wolf populations increase or decrease.
William Walter	Most of it	Yes	The emphasis on the value of our wolf population and the buffer zones around native lands. Also making hunting licenses zone specific.	No specific demands to overturn PA 169. Nothing specific about making the use of dogs in hunting prohibited.	6	
DEBORAH	All of it	No	PLEASE SAVE ALL WOLVES FROM BEING HUNTED, JOY KILLINGS, MONEY MONEY KILLINGS, ETC....STOP THE HARMING &/OR KILLING ALL WOLVES, PLEASE!!!!!!!!	TURN IT ALL AROUND TODAY, TO STOP THE MURDERING OF ALL WOLVES, PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!!		SAVE ALL WOLVES!!!!!!! PLEASE STOP THE HORRIFIC KILLINGS TODAY, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.....THANK YOU 🙏

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Robert Jaeger	Most of it	Yes	Wolf population should be based on science and ecological benefits, not an arbitrary number. The plan reflects recent public opinion surveys. The realization that wolves are a keystone species. I'm very glad the plan acknowledges the requests of Native American's for a low quota zone.	I am against hound training for hunting in general, so would like to see at least a reduction of the hound training activities. I would like to see non-lethal recommendations for wolf-livestock conflicts emphasized.	9	Would like to see scientific oversight for plan reviews which should be more frequent.
Lynn Sommers	All of it	Yes	Historical background and letters from Tribal groups. The overall plan is clearly stated with objectives well identified. I appreciate the goals of improved public education for this keystone species.	While I appreciate wolf stewardship may be necessary, current or future, I cannot tolerate a $2,500 compensation for the depredation of a hunting dog. I am also dubious that the wolf conflict strategy, B3 (assistance) + B4 (funding) are attainable.	5	Thank you for the incredible effort it took to produce this plan.
Mark Consigny	Most of it	Yes	Managing the wolf population rather than simply leaving it to its own devices.	It looks to me as if the plan endorses a much higher population of wolves than was originally proposed for WI and higher than I personally believe to be acceptable. It also appears to endorse continued acceptance of the need to spend wildlife funds to compensate for depredation rather than reducing populations through legalized hunting to a point where depredations are reduced both due to no need to hunt domestic livestock and a learned fear of humans. I also don't think there is enough emphasis on maintaining populations of prey species sufficient for human hunting, an important socioeconomic benefit to this state. As the Western states have learned, if wolves reduce prey populations too much, people will no longer travel and pay for licenses to hunt those areas. I also think the whole zone/subzone issue is obtuse and typical of government regulation.	5	
			The eliminating of a numerical target population. The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. The significant attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. The emphasis on the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	There needs to be a real commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves and stop hound training! The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. There needs to be a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas of Because there is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Thank you for the serious hard work and inclusion of stakeholders please no more dog involvement and continued emphasis on non lethal solutions. Deer hunting, although important in Wisconsin, should not be the driver of wolf policy in the northern portion of the state.
JAMES SAUER JR	Most of it	Yes	NONE OF IT	NONE OF IT	0	I LISTENED TO THE POD CAST OF ITS ENTIRELY OF THE PUBLIC IN PUT WITH THE WOLF PLAN I TRIED TO GO INTO WITH A OPEN MIND WHAT I CAME ANY WITH IT WAS A FEW THINGS ONE THE PUBLIC IS FED UP WITH DOG HUNTING BE IT WOLFS OR BEAR I AGREE I HAVE TO DEAL THEM YEARLY ON MY PROPERTY I AGREE ALOT OF PEOLPE CANT UNDERSTAND WHY MY DOLLARS ARE PAYING FOR WOLFOR BEAR DOGS WHEN THERE USING THEM TO HUNT THEM JUST SEEMS ASS BACK WORDS ..I WISH THE STATE WOULD JUST BAND THE USE OF DOGS FOR WOLFS AND BEARS NOW LETS GET INTO IT .. LISTEN TO THE 3 + HOURS POD CAST OF PEOPLE CALLING IN ABOUT 5 MINS WHEN I HERD WERE THE PEOPLE WERE CALLING FROM AND IF THEY WERE HUNTER S YOU COULD TELL WHAT SIDE OF THE FENCE THEY WERE ON .. WHAT A JOKE THE PEOPLE THAT ARE NOT LIVEING IN THIS ARE NORTHERN WI FOR NUMBER YEARS ARE CLUELESS IF YOUR NOT LIVING HEAR OR BEEN HERE FOR 25 YEARS HAVE NO IDEA WHATS HAPPEN WITH THE WOLF PROBLEMS JUST LIKE I DONT GO TO THERE BIG CITIES A FEW TIMES I A YEAR AND TELL THEM HOW THERE LIVING LIKE AMINALS AND HOW TO FIX THERE PROBLEMS THEY SHOULD HAVE VERY LITTLE WEIGHT ON HOW TO MANAGE THE WOLF OVER POP PROBLEM .. IM FOR WOLFS IN N WI BUT KEEP IN CHECK AND RIGHT HOW THERE WAY OUT CONTROL . ALSO I NOTICE LISTING WAS MORE ONE SIDE BECAUSE MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO TOOK THE TIME TO COMMIT WERE OUT OF STATE OR A CLUB ASSOCIATION THAT WERE PRO WOLF ..ALSO I JUST SICK OF MY TAX DOLLARS PAYING FOR WOLF DAMAGE IF THE STATE ISNT ALLOWED TO MANAGE AND CONTROL THE OVER POPLATION .. ALSO WHAT THE HELL TALK ABOUT AN ON FAIR COMMINIT SESON WHY WAS THE NATIVE RESERVATION GOT TO GO FIRST AND NOT ONLY THAT EVERONE ELSE GOT TO SPEEK FOR 2 MIN WHILE THE MONITOR ALLOW THE NATIVES TO SPEEK FOR 5 MIN EVEN LONGER ..AND IF I OWNED LAND IN WHAT THE STATE WANTS TO CALL A BUFFER ZONE ON MY OWN LAND WICH I PAY TAXES EVERY YEAR WHICH WAY TO MUCH BUY THE WAY THEY CAN STICK THAT WERE THE SUN DONT SHINE WHAT A JOKE THAT IS WE DONT GET TO TELL THE SOVERICE NATION RESVERVATION WHAT THEY CAN DO ON THERE PROPERY THERE SURE HAS HELL ARENT GOING NOT TO TELL ME ON MINE THE DAM PROPERTY LINE IS THE PROPERTY LINE ONE SIDE IS RES AND ONE SIDE INSNT ..... IN CLOSEING IM AM SO SICK OF LIBERALS SOUTH OF HYW 8 THAT ARE CLUELESS GOVERING THINGS UP HERE THAT NO VERY LITTLE ABOUT N WI BUT FROM WHAT READ IN A BOOK OR SAW ON TV

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
JR Hecht	Most of it	Yes	Hard data, science-based facts and history. Information regarding population estimates with a new approach, especially if it helps understand population dynamics.	Lack of a specific population goal. Seriously, did you think that the sportsmen and other hunters would accept leaving a subjective goal in place? This was an embarrassing omission, in my opinion that lacked credibility.	1	As a concerned citizen, environmental educator and sportsman of over 50 years, you must measure population accurately and have numeric goals for management purposes. I believe the following: -current tracking method undercounts portions of wolf range -lone wolf numbers were not taken into account when estimating overall wolf population. -the accuracy of wolf counts is questionable, even with the new scaled occupancy model and stating a “minimum count” over winter is a tacit admission that population numbers are likely higher -current wolf population estimates do not count numbers within the boundaries of reservation lands in Wisconsin. Since they travel greatly in search of prey and are not hunted by the tribes, it is likely that these areas contain high numbers of wolves that should be considered as they move through non-reservation territory or nearby states (Minnesota, Upper Peninsula of Michigan) -previous hunting seasons for wolves has not caused a catastrophic population crash. Arguing it puts the wolf population in jeopardy of extermination is simply a fear tactic. Minimum counts subsequently have shown a resiliency in the population in a short period of time -without numeric goals, management is more subjective and will create a lack of confidence in DNR and lead to potential illegal kills as social carrying capacity and conflict increases Buffer zones around reservations are not realistic because: -they restrict management options and create tensions -wolves travel great distances daily and while greatly respected by them, they do not “belong” to the tribes -Minnesota has an estimated 5,000 wolves and they will disperse into NW Wisconsin as packs compete and individuals disperse as is their nature -There is little to no consideration of what a sustainable wolf population is for the long-term. Conflict with residents, farmers with livestock and those who live and work in wolf territory must be taken into account. -Indian tribes will not harvest wolves and should not be considered when setting goals for harvest when hunting seasons are re-established I'm very concerned about a tropic cascade in deer and elk population when all predators are considered: -wolves, bear, bobcat, coyote -cumulative effect devastating deer and soon, elk population in the northern forest region -previous predator study in northern Wisconsin is almost 10 years old and indicated a very low survival rate for whitetail fawns. This creates an unsustainable recruitment rate and leads to low hunter satisfaction and generally less wildlife observation opportunities for residents or visitors to the area Social carrying capacity is stressed, especially in areas not suitable for wolves, such as an increasingly fragmented wolf habitat because it: -creates negative interactions with domestic animals/farmers -limits hunting opportunities for those with dogs (black bear, upland birds) -stress on cattle and other livestock from wolf presence impacting productivity -greater representation from residents in wolf areas introduced potential inequities in the survey weighting Financial implications are important for various reasons as follows: -a lack of viable game populations, namely deer will reduce license sales which provides significant funding for DNR management and research -younger hunter recruitment will decline, creating budget challenges for the agency -wolf predation payments will increase with higher wolf numbers and is rising most recently, indicating that numbers are unsustainably high and will cause further lack of confidence in management staff -DNR elk reintroduction efforts are paying to bolster the elk herd in Wisconsin, however, wolves have learned to hunt and kill them. This is the equivalent of artificial feeding of wolves by bringing the grocery store to them. The Endangered Species Act has created a situation where technical aspects of the law have to been used to protect wolves in the Upper Great Lakes where their recovery has been well established. I know the WI DNR isn't responsible for this status, but isn't it time to acknowledge their recovery and begin managing population of wolves to a more realistic number to address all parties. Wouldn't it be a powerful statement if the WI DNR would actively encourage the US Fish & Wildlife Serves to begin delisting again? Any silence on this issue only indicates to those advocating population goals and a reduction of wolf numbers that the DNR is actually opposing such moves to placate special interests. Two things can be true at the same time: -wolves are an important apex predator with a role in the ecosystem -wolves can decimate wildlife populations because each kills an estimated 20 deer per year The study indicated a potential correlation with wolf presence and fewer car crashes, CWD and Lyme Disease and other wildlife tourist benefits. I'm not aware that Wisconsin has the equivalent of the Hayden Valley in Yellowstone, however, I'm sure there are people who would travel to hear wolves howl. As for the other possible positives, I think this is wishful thinking and came across as a rather thin veneer to support higher wolf numbers. Human population per square mile in Wisconsin wolf territory are high relative to Minnesota or other states with high wolf numbers. This can create undesirable social capacity conflicts, not to mention potential predation upon family pets. Population goals

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						should consider suitable habitat and provide enough area to avoid wolf pack territorial conflicts. It is not compassionate to introduce wolf pack social conflict, leading to deadly rivalries. Yellowstone wolf pack fatal interactions have been well documented given their territorial nature and how they viciously defend it. Wolves are not a significant factor in controlling CWD in Wisconsin's deer herd. The prevalence of the disease, where tested, does not indicate a high infection rate in wolf territory compared to downstate regions where wolves are scarce. This is a specious argument in favor of high wolf numbers, unless of course the predation pressure continues to increase without population control and there are few, if any huntable prey populations remaining. Anecdotally, I've hunted for 50 years and have noticed a steady decline in deer sign in southern Ashland County over the last 10 years where wolf sign and observable kill sites on our property have increased. The last two years, I've only observed 2 deer sightings in 8 days of bowhunting for significant portions of the day. The lack of sightings does not engender future generations interest in hunting and will ultimately result in less license revenues. There have been few, if any young deer tracks in the snow indicating fawn recruitment is suffering across the landscape where I hunt. I don't believe my experience is unique when talking with local residents and other hunters in the area who are ready to give up and stop buying hunting licenses until things improve radically. I know there are multiple factors including severe winters and other predators, however, it's time to take a hard look at managing the most successful predator when it comes to adult deer. Harvest - according to a study (Fuller-2003) and later updated by others, wolves could withstand human-induced losses of 25-35% annually without a decline in population. Using the most recent population estimate from the new scaled occupancy model indicated most likely population at 972 wolves. This would equate to a harvest quota of approximately 250-350 wolves. A reduction in the current population would reduce human-wolf conflict and would also serve to balance the needs of all interested parties, both the proponents of expanded wolf population and those who desire lower wolf populations. In fact, the management plan acknowledges that wolves are "remarkably resilient to human-caused losses, including regulated hunting. Experience with regulated wolf hunting in Wisconsin has largely supported this finding". As an added benefit, it would provide additional revenues from application and license sales to fund further wildlife research and management activities. Depredation payments have increased regularly since 2017-18, indicating greater conflict and wolf-confirmed losses. This is a clear indicator of human-wolf conflict, however, it fails to take into account loss in productivity from livestock who are stressed from wolf presence. This economic cost is a significant consideration when determining wolf population dynamics and the resulting impact to families operating businesses in or near wolf habitat. Consultation with tribal parties regarding wolf population and harvest goals while noteworthy, is not a relevant issue since there is no measurement in the population model on reservations, nor are the tribes supportive of harvesting wolves due to their belief system. Wolf harvest licenses, when legal under the ESA may have been applied for by those who have no intention to hunt wolves given their preference to protect them. The quotas for actual licenses were reduced based on a 10% success rate, however, not all individuals eligible to purchase a license actually did so. Based on the 2021 hunt data, only 65% purchased a harvest license who were invited to do so. This additional factor must be considered when determining license quotas for future hunting seasons as it is likely this trend will repeat. The number of farms experiencing verified depredation losses increased almost 100% from 26-48 in 2021. This indicates a significant level of wolf-human conflict. When you add that to the rapid closing of the most recent hunt in 2 days, it argues strongly that the wolf population is not only robust, but likely is being undercounted. Use of the scaled occupancy model is brand new and may not accurately or faithfully represent the actual numbers of wolves on the landscape. Given the increase in the number of wolf packs, the model makes several assumptions regarding the size of each pack. The use of assumptions in any model needs to be validated and tested. With only 28 active GPS collars, it does not seem to be a large enough sample to extrapolate these types of pack size estimates. Furthermore, confirmation using winter tracking observations is incomplete due to lack of complete coverage in all transects. A quick view of pack distribution in Wisconsin indicates that the areas covered by wolves is nearly complete in the northern forest region of the state. Hunters who pursue upland game or other species, especially black bear would effectively put these dogs in heightened danger from wolf packs in one third of the state, prime hunting area for these species. The management plan also recommends a "buffer zone" surrounding tribal reservations, further limiting hunting opportunities. This is patently wrong and should be

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						completely removed from the Plan as it limits public hunting areas and is possibly a violation of their constitutional rights and state law. The fact that the DNR did not fulfill its obligation to prepare for a wolf hunting season upon the elimination of ESA restrictions and had to respond to a lawsuit by Hunter Nation brings into question the true intentions of DNR management. Added to this most recent Plan that clearly avoided any numeric population goals has created an atmosphere of distrust by the public. I would also mention that recent harvest quotas designated half in the ceded territory for tribal purposes, knowing full well this quota would not be utilized. This is especially true of hunters who view the current wolf population as detrimental to game species such as whitetail deer, elk and other prey species. The ongoing conflict between the Natural Resource Board and the DNR is further evidence of a political bias where science-driven management action must control. A huge credibility problem exists in my opinion with the stated goals of the DNR and actual practice as evidence by their actions or lack of action. In summary, I disagree strongly with any Plan that lacks a numeric population goal or range of population for the wolves in Wisconsin. It is my belief that the Gray Wolf belongs in the ecosystem and I'm respectful of this species and have enjoyed hearing them howl, mostly recently as I was returning to my hunting cabin in the Chequamegon NF after dark. In fact, I howled back and listened to the three wolves in different locations around me, never fearing for my safety. Like most things in life, balance matters and wildlife must be managed and cannot become a hostage to the political whims of one group or another. The recent actions and tenor of this Management Plan has caused me to lose confidence in the Wisconsin DNR's prior history of objective, science-based approach to managing our precious resources. Please take my comments into consideration and understand that I am seeking a respectful balance between the groups who love and protect all wolves and those who see the practical reality of needing to manage the population of this very powerful apex predator. Thank you.
Donna Gasbarro	Most of it	Yes	Having input from tribal members, using non lethal methods to reduce conflicts, considering the ecological benefits of wolves to our environment, not using a specific # for population control.	Wisconsin residents do not need hunters using hounds to train or hunt wolves or any other wildlife in our forests or anywhere in our state. Wisconsin taxpayers should never have to contribute to reimburse hunters if their hounds are killed by wolves or any hound death from hunting. Oversight committee should be from Biologists & professionals not hunters.	5	Wolves or any other wildlife don't need humans to control their population. Good attempt at a plan & to include public comments, the citizens of Wisconsin need more representation from non hunting point of views.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I believe that there is a place for wolves in Wisconsin as long as there is a numbered population goal. Almost every township where I live have passed a resolution on a wolf population of 350.	The management units. Why would there be a unit in southern Wisconsin? Also, the units within the unit are ridiculous, 1a & 1b.	1	I believe that the people that reside where the wolf population is highest should have more say on this issue. After all we are the ones most affected. From attacks on our pets and cattle to driving miles in the national forest without seeing a deer track. I know people who own land around the national forest that haven't seen a deer during the last two gun seasons. Why would would anyone from southern wisconsin want to deer hunt up north any more.
Gloria Navan	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like talk of a buffer zone around tribal reservations. I like that a more positive spin is put on ecological role of wolves and more positive views of wolves realizing they are important and should not be decimated as a species or regated to zoos.	I do not like discussion of eliminating them by hunters who wish only to kill and don't care how they do it or how dishonest or unfair it is. I don't like no discussion of non- lethal management. I don't like that there seems to be little scientific study of this and the effect on the species when the wolves are relentlessly hunted and destroyed with no regard for their young. I don't like it that Wisconsin seems ok lining up with other states who are becoming known as "wolf killers."	3	
Lynne Irvine	Most of it	No	Overall, the thorough and focused attention to pulling all these facts together is fantastic, then presenting plans to help the wildlife of Wisconsin. Particularly, I support completely eliminating the illegal hunting of bear in public lands, including state and national parks. It endangers not only bear populations, but wolf pack survival. Bear and wolf are not frequent predators of each other, in fact, the predator is man injecting his hounds into the natural mix. Hunters bait for bear, which draws wolves and pups into conflict with hounds. Hunters are reimbursed $2000 for a killed hound. Obviously, these human hunters are willing to sacrifice "man's best friend" for sport. And, they have no regard for these public shrines to preserve what little nature we have left. Stop any kind of hunting for wolves, especially this artificial and gruesome fight to the death for three species that could live in perfect harmony without...us, mankind.	This is a great step in the right direction. But, humans need to realize how we have squeezed an apex predator that roamed the entire United States into a few areas, and they still adapt and survive. They are not after livestock, but prefer wildlife. Give them the space to manage themselves, and manage your own farms and lands with mother nature in mind. These are not just Wisconsin's wolves; these are American wolves belonging to everyone in every state. And I will support that with words and funds for Wisconsin and other state to uphold these laws. A few hundred wolves is not enough to allow them to keep our ecosystems healthy. We all know about the reintroduction to Wyoming and what great things it brought to the rivers and meadows and mountains and all the wildlife. Please read the article about Arctic wolves from 2015 National Geographic, it is a study in a huge wolf population with almost no human interaction. Wolves are family oriented and even mate for life in most cases. They are more like us than we realize, and very close to our own dogs that sit on our laps at night.	7	Wolves are as American as apple pie. I want my grandchildren to know them and enjoy them. I have sat with wolves in a rehab center, after being chased by helicopters in a mass Alaskan hunt including pups, ones who were tortured by college students in a dorm and kept in a cage, and ones who were beaten just because they are a wolf. These wolves were huge and proud and tender. Only man can save them. Only man can ultimately destroy them. God gave us intelligence to protect and look over the animal kingdom. We have not done a good job with wolves. We need all apex predators in all environments, including sharks in the ocean, for the same reasons! Let's be smart, kind and protect wolves while we still can. They are no threat to man, at all. Just give 'em some space!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	not much	it needs to have a population goal of 350 or less. There shouldn't be any extra safety zones around reservations	1	
Becky Oftedahl	Most of it	Yes	I like: *that the plan and decision making is science based *that prioritize management practices will be used in response to existing conditions as observed in the field and scientific data to help find an effective balance between competing objectives *that various management practices will be used for different management zones *the change in management zones and subzones *that the subzones can be managed differently than the main zones *that if hunters cannot fill their tag in the zone they are designated, and the zone closes, that they cannot go to another zone *that there is no reimbursement for dogs killed while hunting wolves *that the plan will pursue administrative rulings to prevent the intentional destruction of dens * that it will pursue more and new kinds of conflict management for farms * that there will be more and new kinds of education outreach for the public and hunters * that the tribal nations knowledge and history and rights are taken into consideration *that a science based wolf summit will be pursued *that no one can possess a wolf or wolf/dog hybrid unless licensed	That even though it is managed, dogs and trapping are still allowedI I feel there should be no reimbursement for bear hunting dogs killed by wolves. These hunters have decided to risk their dogs to hunt wild predators and so we should not have to pay for a decision they have made. Those are the consequences and that's too bad. You know what the outcome might You can choose not too.	10	In the plan it mentions that there is a rich history of using dogs for hunting. We have a rich history in a lot of things that we don't do anymore because they are not good for us or the earth They were terrorizing and using animals in ancient times and the middle ages. We would hope we have evolved beyond that by now. Terrorizing wild animals, with dogs, who are part of our ecology is a blood thirsty, sadistic sport that should be discontinued. Other states are slowly fazing out this type of hunting and we should be too. I am not sure if wolf hunting is allowed in this state when females are pregnant but if so and if dogs are allowed that is just wrong. And it is unfair to the dogs also. I feel the same about trapping. Even though there are supposed to be humane traps now it is still inhumane. These animals still suffer. My husband is a hunter and I am not antihunting but I feel it should be done in a humane and fair way. The animals should have a chance. Lastly there should be no politics involved in management decisions. Our Wisconsin congress has messed things up royally in the past with interfering with management decisions and should not be allowed. They know nothing and for sure don't look at the science.
Alice Thompson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciate the effort to not put a specific number to the Wisconsin wolf population.	I do not support using dogs to hunt wolves. Using a canine to kill another canine is really horrific. I do not support the numbers of wolves killed that have violated treaty rights of the Ojibwe in the ceded territory. I cannot read a 178 page document in the time since I was aware of this issue. I have hopes that it is better than our current approach. But I am guarded as I don't have the full details. More public information earlier would have been very helpful to me. I care deeply about the wolves place in our ecosystem and honestly hate wolf hunting. I support wolves.	5	The plan did not get much attention- I only heard about it yesterday and don't have time to figure out exactly what I do and do not like. I have seen some positive comments, so I am hopeful. But I want the WDNR to honor the Wisconsin tribes rights to NOT kill wolves that their "quota" be left to live. I really am not in favor of wolf hunting unless there is a specific wolf that is too close to humans.
MM	Most of it	Yes	mass amounts of information, Maps and explainations are good.	So much information.	8	We need to have a plan to manage which should include a season.
	All of it	Yes	I support/like the following: The goal of a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse wolf population that maintains connectivity with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. Consultation with Tribes and adjustment of zones around tribal land that help protect treaty-protected documented wolf-packs. Being responsive to the cultural significance of wolves to the indigenous people whose lands we inhabit. Commitment to science based research to guide biological and ecological viability of healthy ecosystems along with sensitivity to Tribal Nation's cultural relationship with the wolf. Reducing the time required to report wolf kills. I prefer this to be more stringent -- within 4 hours. And making the destruction of occupied wolf dens illegal The research included in the draft plan document. THANK YOU! Increasing public education regarding wolves.	I would like to see modifications to this plan in the following ways: To support the goal of self-sustaining genetically diverse wolf population, the DNR should put in place an emergency action plan to halt hunting and trapping if population crashes or crashes in breeding success rates could result in biologically non-viable wolf populations. Any number of natural or human caused events might trigger a crash, e.g. extensive forest fire, extreme flood events, disease or an extraordinary over-take during hunting season. Scientifically predetermined metrics would trigger an immediate pause on hunting and trapping. Increase the number and perimeter of Zones around Tribal Lands and limit the number of wolves harvested to one wolf per zone. If legislative changes are not made that allow the DNR to make decisions in alignment with goals of the wolf management plan, the plan will not function effectively and could result in an unmitigated massacre of wolves in Wisconsin. The DNR should have the right to impose population goals to protect the viability of the species in Wisconsin if the Legislature does not take action allowing the DNR to make these decisions. The use of dogs for hunting wolves should be eliminated and no training of dogs to hunt wolves should be allowed in Wisconsin. There must be a provision to update the plan at minimum every 5 years and to have Emergency Action Plan metrics in place that can trigger an immediate halt to hunting and trapping if natural or human-caused events occur that threaten the long-term viability of a healthy wolf population in Wisconsin. The state should recognize the use of Guardian Animals as a non-lethal option to reduce wolf –livestock conflicts and payment should be provided to implement this and other non-lethal options to reduce conflicts. The DNR should remove payments to owners for depredation on dogs being trained to hunt wolves.	7	The plan will not work without support of the legislature. Do not get us into the situation whereas an approved plan that does not have guardrails in place to protect the wolf!
Bobbi R	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the strong science that went into this. The graphs and charts make it easy to understand.	Anything that has to do with 'harvesting' wolves. I am a hunter but nobody eats a wolf. They just kill for the sake of killing.	7	Wolves that create hardship for ranchers and farmers are the only ones that should be killed.
Robert Fohey	Most of it	Yes	I wish it would be more specific on harvest goals	It's taking way too long to get this implemented and it doesn't go far enough.	2	

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Michael ZBrandt	All of it	Yes	Elimination of numeric population goals.	I have no strong objection to any element.	9	Please record these comments as an enthusiastic endorsement of the proposed Wolf Management Plan. I reside in a rural township and am highly aware of the contending interests which need to be addressed by any wildlife initiative. I believe the draft plan does just that, carefully weighing the costs and benefits of a viable wolf population from the perspectives of not only those who admire wolves from a distance, but those who make their homes and living in wolf territory. I wish to stress the importance of excluding from the plan any numeric population goals. Future goals should be subject to the most current research and scientific data, rather than precedent. Given existing Federal protection for the species, full implementation of any DNR plan can only occur sometime in an uncertain future. Establishment of specific goals must apply to the wolf – and human – population size and regional distribution which exists in that future time.
James	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	wolf seasons	no wolf season.	6	do not drop program, ethical wolf conservation needed
Alex Mehedinti	Most of it	No	I appreciate the more in-depth analysis into the ecological value provided by wolves as a species, and subsequently believe that the removal of the "350" target number, as well as the establishment of buffer zones, are important steps in the right direction.	Ultimately the proposed management plan fails to address a number of significant issues surrounding wolf management: first and foremost, the continued reliance on lethal management methods belies an inflexible attitude which is inconsistent with the plan's stated goals (mainly in this case the twin goals of reducing conflict while still maintaining a healthy population of wolves in the state), insofar as several recent studies have found that consistent implementation of proactive non-lethal management practices is significantly more likely to achieve the desired outcome. Secondly, the existing draft does not explicitly prohibit the practices of hounding and trapping, which is simply unacceptable from an ethical standpoint and furthermore runs counter to the general public sentiment regarding these practices. Thirdly and finally, the plan as it is currently written ignores the value of wolves as individual animals in favour of focusing exclusively on their ecological and instrumental value as a species - this is an omission that cannot be left unaddressed, as there is robust evidence regarding wolf sentience, sapience and autonomy which raises significant questions regarding the ethics of lethal management practices. Furthermore, the value that the general public attributes to wolves may be tied to the value of each individual wolf as much as to wolves as a species, a fact which is not reflected in the current draft.	4	In my opinion, scientific evidence as well as basic morality both demand that the practice of managing wolf populations via public hunts must be discontinued. In fact, use of lethal methods in general is unjustifiable unless it is done in the unlikely scenario of an immediate risk to life, especially given that - again - non-lethal alternatives are demonstrably more effective without contravening any widely-held moral principles.
	Most of it	Yes	I like the fact that the dnr is considering a wolf hunting season	Not putting a number on the population goal isn't acceptable. The dnr sold the public on the roughly 350 wolf population goal. It has far surpassed that now. The other part of the plan thats unacceptable is the buffer zones around the reservations. I understand not hunting wolves on the res but the buffer zone is laughable. The dnr is saying you can hunt wolves but not where the wolves are a problem. If i have a tag it's not right that the tribes and dnr can tell me i can't hunt them on my own land.	1	The dnr needs to drastically reduce the wolf population state wide or the hunters will just do it for them. Remember, you work for us
Joan Beldin	Just the parts I am interested in	No	1. The omission of setting a numerical target population 2. I like the emphasis on the use of non-lethal deterrents to decrease conflicts. 3. The addition of buffer zones around tribal lands 4. The inclusion of the ecological benefits of wolves, including CWD, the elks landscape of fear, benefits to biodiversity, etc.	1. There should be no wolf hunting in the national forests and in prime wolf habitat. These are lands where wolves belong and are needed as keystone species in the ecosystem. Hunting of these wolves destroys the pack social structure which is vital to their ablity to hunt, raise pups and protect their territory. 2. The use of dogs to hunt wolves should be banned. This is not only unethical, but it is equally a danger to the dogs. there should be no reimbursement of hound hunters at any time for any reason. 3. Do not rely only on the occupancy model when estimating the wolf population. This model of estimating wolf populations is not accurate enough and can lead to an overestimate of wolf numbers. This could lead to over hunting of wolves and could imperil the stability of wolf recovery. 4. I oppose the recreational hunting of wolves. It should not be used as a means to control wolf conflicts. If left alone, wolves will self-regulate their population. In addition, scientific research has shown that indiscriminate wolf killing disrupts the pack stability and can leave either an inadequate number of wolves needed to successfully hunt their natural prey or will leave younger wolves who have not yet learned adequate hunting skills. This results in increased rather than decreased depredation. 5. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.	6	It's important that out of state voices are heard and considered since a significant number of wolves live on and are killed on Wisconsin's public lands. Public lands belong to all citizens. How these lands are used and managed is of concern for all, not just the minority of hunters. I repeat my request that no recreational hunting be allowed on these lands.
Rod Sharka	Most of it	Yes	The thoroughness of background that is presented.	Delineation of hunting methods. I am very much opposed to hunting wolves with dog packs. I am of the opinion that this hunting method is inhumane and should not be allowed.	9	I compliment the DNR staff for a very thorough and thoughtful wolf management plan.

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Josef Anderson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Nonlethal management	Wolf hunting seasons	5	Please let wolves live and listen to the majority
Marla	Just the parts I am interested in	No	That wolves control, more effectively than humans, diseases that weaken fauna.	It is good that numerical status of the wolves is removed	4	Many Wisconsin residents may not know the ecological value of the wolf. Although they are favorable towards the species in general. The voices of hunters and those who solve problems with deadly force are too often the most heard in determining solutions. Through indiscriminate hunting wolf families are greatly disturbed and lose the teachings of their elders. The pack hunts wildlife effectively and can be kept away from livestock with guards and deterrents applied. However, raising and extending livestock into wolf territory is very tempting to them. Wolves could use management through vaccination to prevent rabies and distemper contracted through domestic animals. Otherwise, they are sentient beings and deserve a plan of co-existence.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I did not read the plan but there are stats & points that could be debated forever. The bottom line though is there are too many wolves in WI. They need to harvest them. Each state must have the right to regulate. The animal rights activists are not in touch with reality. I am sure if they had to confront one face to face, they would think differently. I know, I have. Too many wolves is not acceptable, period.
	All of it	Yes	Not much to slanted to political interests of non hunters	No population goal is criminal. No harvest plan for if and when they are delisted is a mistake. Actual affect on the northern deer herd should be addressed. Not aggressive enough plan to cut wolf population way back in the north.	1	We absolutely must take more wolves out in the north. Deer sightings in Rusk county are horrible, wolf sign up deer sign down. Getting to the point that its not worth owning the land and buying a license.
Naomi Heiman	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Relist wolves. They should not be hunted at all. They are essential to healthy and balanced ecosystems.	Relist wolves. They should not be hunted at all. They are essential to healthy and balanced ecosystems.		Relist wolves. They should not be hunted at all. They are essential to healthy and balanced ecosystems.
Jeff Crumbaugh	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Nearly all of Section 1. I am glad that you included a section on trophic cascades.	Even though I am impressed that you included the section on trophic cascades, there are some flaws that need to be addressed. The in text references of Brice et. al. 2022 and Kauffman et. al. 2013 are not present in your References at the end of the report, so I could not go and read these. The Fleming (2019) reference is weak and should not be included. It is an opinion piece, and does not represent any empirical research conducted by Fleming. Moreover, he is from Australia and studies dingos, not wolves. He works for the Vertebrate Pest Research Unit in Australia whose aim it is to prioritize industry interests, not wildlife systems. This also weakens his criticism of the influence of wolves on trophic cascades.	7	Consider increased academic rigor when writing and referencing background information. Also, in the section on trophic cascades, the author incompletely characterizes the influence of anthropogenic influences on trophic cascades. Apex predators can have a profound influence on trophic cascades, even in small numbers, but in anthropogenically influenced environments this is stated to be less clear. Perhaps, but clarify anthropogenically influenced enviroments - I interpret this to be cities, towns, villages. This is not clarified and if it was, then it would not be an issue. Forest land and wolf habitat in Wisconsin is not a "National Park" like Yellowstone, but it has minimal anthropogenic influences (forest roads).
Dan Thompson	Most of it	Yes		You can't manage wolves in northern Wisconsin based on what liberals in southern Wisconsin would like you to do. You must have wolf harvests in the north and you must have population goals. The plan is fantasy.	2	The DNR was once a respected agency. Between deer and wolf management is has become an embarrassment. You are losing the respect and support of outdoorsmen(and women).
T Tilotta	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Having tribal input to the management of Wisconsin endangered species Gray Wolf in Wi.	The gray wolf is an important keystone species for a healthy ecosystem. The WI wolf plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. No sport wolf hunting seasons ever. Wolves rely on packs and a self regulating social order in order to survive. Indiscriminate sport killing of any single wolf can irreparably harm the packs and the overall survivability of the endangered gray wolf species in the long term. No trapping of wolves. Do not allow inhumane and dangerous trapping of any kind in Wisconsin.	5	Ban sport wolf hunting and trapping. Keep the packs intact. Endangered species and hunting of any kind do not belong together. Thank you for allowing public comment.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Janine Proctor	Just the parts I am interested in	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	4	The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves.
	Most of it	No	Having a plan to manage wolves.	Having a plan that is not legally required as the Federal Plan supersedes the State Plan. Not having to kill or destroy wolves.	1	
Donald Medenwaldt	All of it	Yes	emphasis on co-existence, science and technology based decision making and include social science. Reliability on stakeholders input based on the above items.	Lack of reliability on number of wolves this has been a contentious issue since the original plan and we have not done our job on this job to satisfy enough stateholders.	0	Numbers need to be a part of the plan with a parameter being established and we should have a save haven for the species when it comes to establishing time of hunt. We need to have flexibility when it comes to reimburse ment for losses by farmers especially dollar amounts & source.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the responses from Wisconsin Tribal leaders were solicited and that they were included verbatim, that buffer zones were implemented around tribal lands, the outline of non-lethal options and their use and history as well as proposed avenues for funding, that there is a recommendation to implement regulations to protect wolf dens, that the time for submitting a "harvest" is recommended to be reduced to 8 hours, I'm unsure about the "wolf dog training season" as it seems there is already the ability to train hounds on bear, if it is less than that season is currently I would be more in favor. I was thrilled the specific number (350) for a population was thrown out. Overall, I appreciated the how involved and detailed the plan was with many aspects of how to handle people in relationship to wolves was approached, history, biology of wolves as well as their prey, diseases, causes of mortality, social surveys, etc. a lot of information was included!	There were some statements and recommendations that I am curious about or upset me. I am against contracting private trappers to collar wolves, this should be handled by highly trained department staff as it can be lethal or at least stressful to the wolves involved. The statement at end of the paragraph on pg. 21: "Nevertheless, numerous wolf populations exposed to harvest and other sources of human-caused mortality have been studied over the last several decades and collectively have suggested that wolf populations are remarkably resilient to human-caused mortality, including regulated harvest. Experience with regulated wolf harvest in Wisconsin has largely supported this finding." To make this statement without citing actual peer reviewed studies seems irresponsible to me. Since the double-quota hunt of 2/21 the long-terms effects to the population with regard to mortality of secondary pack members after losses due to the breeding season hunt cannot be accurately assessed, especially when now using a model where only known numbers are plugged in instead of the on-the-ground howling surveys or trap camera evidence. I would've also liked to see it stated in the plan that zero is a valid option as a "harvest quota." I question the validity of the '22 statewide social survey. Were the recipients chosen from a pool of the general public? I find it highly unlikely that 49-58% of the public have seen a wolf in the wild and 45-60% have seen wolf tracks. I was unclear if wolves are allowed to be used in captive penning hunting training businesses. I would also like to have policy changed so that if a livestock owner receives compensation for depredation they should not be forced to allow public hunting on their land. That will discourage many from seeking help. I would also like to see an end for reimbursement for hunting dogs, especially in national forests and in known wolf caution areas. Instead, use that money to fund non-lethal prevention methods for livestock owners. Unlike farmers, hounders have a choice where and whether or not they let their dogs loose, they should be 100% responsible for their choices. I would like to see a breakdown of how much money is used implementing a potential and actual wolf "harvest" season compared to using those funds to implement non-lethal methods, educate the public and compensate livestock owners. When discussing the ideal of having educational outreach to schools by conservation groups on pg. 139, the Wisconsin Trappers Association should not be included. They are a consumptive organization and are biased against protection, therefore I feel they should not be given the status of this position by the department and be able use it to manipulate the public against wolves. The list of stakeholder groups permitted to comment on this plan shows that consumptive groups are favored and outnumber protection groups. A more balanced view could be achieved by having the same number of representatives in each of the four categories outlined on pg. 137. Overall, the plan seemed to be missing references to many peer-reviewed studies that have been conducted, especially more recently.	8	It is an improvement on the previous plan and I applaud the direction toward a more balanced, inclusive view of how to manage people as they relate to wolves. I hope the plan can evolve to remove any recreational public hunting or trapping, increase proactive measures to protect wolves from poaching and cruelty and be impeccable in transparency and responsibility to the general public.
Shawn Winters	All of it	No	not as much hate propaganda against wolves	would like to see a total ban on recreational wolf hunting	4	
Tom Heinrich	Most of it	Yes	teaching the public about wolves, the study that included numbers of pets/dogs killed by wolves and how that related to hunting, overall the numbers that show conflicts with wolves/people...	While I appreciate the study and the need to educate the public and the effort of the DNR to set up wolf management, I still struggle with hunting wolves...I would think that the question of baiting/feeding deer needs to be addressed...personal observations in Bayfield/Douglas Counties show wolf concentration/tracks with deer feeding...also, habitats/roads and clear cut would increase conflicts/concentration of wolves with human activity/easier hunting...similar to studies done around Lake Nipigon/Wabakimi regions of Ontario: wolves/caribou...	10	thanks for the efforts...I travel often/2-3 days a week, in areas where wolves live/snowshoes/skis/foot traffic...I enjoy being part of a landscape with wolves...I realize wolf/dog encounters are possible...it is part of being in Wisconsin/wolf habitat...thanks for your time...
Barb Kellermann	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Let population fluctuate,end arbitrary population goals. Educate public about wolves,their biology, as intelligent ,benefits. Work with Tribal and conservation groups. Allow to stay in suitable habitats to deter conflicts. Promote non-lethal livestock depredation measures,buffer zones. I agree with Great Lakes Wildlife Alliance that shouldn't even be hunting wolves.	No lethal traps,baiting,sport hunting,use of dogs or motor vehicles,not in breeding season.	5	Keep the public apprised.
Tim McD	All of it	No	Improved planning process; including the ability to capture input from non-WI stakeholders.	-Lack of non lethal mgmt methods -Lack of cultural understanding e.g. tribal view of individual creature vs pack -Lack of cultural balance in population mgmt i.e. who benefits, over what timeframe and how that contemplates long-term impacts -Lethality of hunting/mgmt methods -Economic impact of poorly considered environmental and tourism centric models, i.e., views of WI as an environmentally diverse, and supportive destination to visit	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Terence Galka	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Buffer zones around native tribes. Shorter season, if there has to be a hunting season.I like non-lethal removal of wolves.	Lethal removal of wolves. Concept of trapping. Lack of scientific data to support the data. Opinions are not the same as scientific data.	3	
Patricia Jursik	Most of it	Yes	Specifics in terms of numbers to harvest and protect	like most of the report	8	Find a way to protect the tribe's quota. The DNR must not let other hunters "Poach" on the unharvested wolves that the tribes are protecting.
AL LOBNER	All of it	Yes		My major dislike is the open ended suggestion to the population goal. I believe there should be a numerical goal and I feel it should remain at 350 wolves. There was a negligible amount of depredations at that number and the farther we went past that number the more damage continued to increase.	1	I don't feel there needs to be a buffer around the reservations. It will be increasingly more difficult to control the damage wolves inflict and keep them under control.
Wellington Wert	All of it	Yes	The overall comprehensive inclusion of all stake holders.	I still have reservations about not giving a stronger voice to those actually living in area's where wolves are present.	4	I realize that wolves are potentially a very devisive subject. And many of the studies seem to be inconclusive or at odds with each other to some degre
ernie meyer	Most of it	No	some good points on resolving conflict	needs more work on avoiding conflict	7	I believe the numbers are a bit low for sustainability.
	Most of it	Yes	Sections 1 & 2 were interesting	I do not like the overall direction this draft is taking	1	1) there must be a population goal for effective management 2) I believe the original goal of 350 should be maintained as it provides the best socio-economic balance 3) a 350 animal goal would also eliminate the need to expand management areas or add buffer zones 4) it does not appear that local and county governments has any voice in the plan... they should! 5) hunting with dogs should continue to be allowed
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I didn't review the 167 page plan...anything that long seems more complicated then it needs to be. Up until the past few years I have never felt unsafe hunting public land in Clark, Chippewa and Jackson counties. I spend most if not all Fall weekends in one of these counties hunting whitetails. I'm seeing more wolves...not singles, but a few packed together. I've never thought of carrying a firearm while bow hunting, but after the past few years of small packs not being shy and getting curiously close I and seriously considering purchasing. (I've never wanted a handgun in my household with small children, now grandchildren). Also, I may be one of few that have felt the hair on their neck stand as a mountain lion circled my tree (saw less than 20 yards away). I've heard the high pitch screeches too. I don't run nor climb trees as quick as I did 40 years ago. I believe I'm preaching to the choir. The heard is getting braver or maybe just hungry!! Singed Defenseless in the Woods!!
Marya Bradley	All of it	Yes	I am relieved to find that this draft plan for Wolf management in Wisconsin is no longer guided by an arbitrary and unscientifically based numerical goal for the wolf population. I am also encouraged by the plan's greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves and a somewhat larger inclusion and recognition of the tribal knowledge and understanding of the importance of wolves in the larger context of the living matrix of species and the environment. I am glad to see that the plan includes a social survey that acknowledges a more positive and "mutualist" understanding of the the critical ecological role of wolves as well as the broader public opposition to the killing of wolves for motives other than absolute necessity and to methods or means of killing that are ethically and ecologically unsupported. Finally, I think the plan's adoption of proposed "buffer zones" around tribal reservations is an improvement over the lack of any such zone and represents a step towards greater respect for tribal concerns and principles.	At the broadest level, I am greatly disturbed by the plan's failure to shift away from a perspective that views wolves as a species we are entitled to dominate or "manage" in some way that we perceive to be "useful" and our right both to assert and determine. This perspective informs the very language of the plan and its unacknowledged commitment to gratify and perpetuate a culture of human domination over the species so that the hunting, trapping and hounding of wolves remain central to the plan's objectives despite the scientific evidence that such activities conflict with the stated goals of "ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfull its ecological role" and to "address and reduce wolf-related conflict". This unacknowledged and perhaps unconscious bias leads to an incoherence in the plan: it cannot embrace out-dated practices that are ecologically unsound and ineffectual if not counter-productive and unsupported by the broader public and, at the same time claim to be a truly representative, inclusive and scientifically driven plan. More specifically, I am concerned by the lack of adequate scientific information about the highly evolved social character and structure of wolves and their packs, their sensitivity and intelligence and the wisdom the species surely demonstrates in its extraordinary capacity to survive and adapt and endure and interact with the ecosystems in which it has flourished over millenia. This inadequacy in the plan leads to a failure to take adequately into account the deleterious effects of the out-dated views and resulting lethal methods of "managing" wolves that the plan yet advances and continues to support. I also found the commentary framing of the survey of public views about wolves contaminated throughout by the constant insinuation that those who hold, what the plan describes as a "mutualist" perspective in relation to wolves, as being essentially ignorant and sentimental and apt to have only a "romanticized" vision of wolves and nature. This sort of contempt fails to respect the very real basis as well as need for a mutualist understanding and approach to any species but this species in particular given the ecological necessity of wolves and, even if one fails to appreciate the intrinsic value of wolves and clings to their purely instrumental value, their importance in relation to curbing the spread of CWD and Lyme disease. In addition, though I am glad the draft gave direct voice to the tribes who rightfully have the greatest claim to knowledge about the necessary mutual survival of wolves and humans, I believe that the inclusion in the draft	6	I want to support the effort of the plan to shift towards a plan based truly on science and the reality of a changed and changing public understanding of the importance and intrinsic value of wolves. I urge the DNR to make a deeper commitment to respecting science, tribal wisdom and the broader public as it works to realize its stated aim of supporting a healthy and self-sustaining wolf population in Wisconsin. I applaud the intention to commit to educating the public about wolves and their integral role in the balance of the ecosystems in which they are native and to promote a mutualist approach to supporting the presence of wolves in Wisconsin. I thank you for the opportunity to comment on this draft plan.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				failed to demonstrate an adequate respect for the wisdom and understanding embedded and embodied in the statements given by the tribes and the policies that derive from that wisdom and understanding. It would be of far greater benefit to the draft plan to learn from those statements and the tribal wisdom they express how best to adapt the "management" of wolves to that more sustainable and respectful an understanding--a more "mutualist" understanding. Lastly, as all that I have so far written suggests, I believe the plan should not include providing hunting "opportunities" of any kind in relation to wolves as there is no scientific support for any form of hunting as being conducive to the plan's central aim of supporting a healthy and self-sustaining wolf population in Wisconsin. The only time lethal methods of conflict resolution should be permitted, is in individual cases that are life-threatening and all other non-lethal methods have failed. The DNR has the power to restrict implementation of the out-dated but still standing Act 169, by setting a quota of "0" wolves. The whole matter of predation compensation also should be made contingent upon the proven use of non-lethal methods to mitigate conflict. In the case of hounding, it is abundantly clear that no compensation should be granted as this is a matter of irrational and unethical willful endangerment of dogs and permitting such endangerment is a failure to protect dogs and protect wildlife from unnecessary harm and death. These comments all indicate that the draft has yet to make the fundamental shift away from working at cross purposes with science, ethics and the broad popular sentiment in its unstated but clear bias towards perpetuating an instrumentalist view of wolves and one that supports the domination of wolves and the culture of hunting, trapping and hounding of wolves. I urge the DNR to shift away from this allegiance and perspective and to fully and efficiently commit to plan actually based on science and thereby necessarily a far more "mutualist" understanding of and respect for wolves and one truly more aligned with and respectful of the tribal wisdom and practices in relation to wolves.		
Jeremy	Most of it	Yes	The fact that they are addressing this issue.	Any reference to lethal management.	5	
Vikki Carbonari	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Having a hunting and trapping season.	No set management #'s. Appears to be little science behind the plan and much more emotion.	1	The Department needs to take Politics out and the emotions of the people who suffer losses from wolfs in. The compensation rate is disgustingly pitiful. Perhaps if you people suffered wolf depredations to your pets, you would have a different attitude.
	Most of it	Yes		No population goal	1	There are too many wolves in Wisconsin. If animal activists truly want them why doesn't wisconsin trap and move the excessive population to southern states.
	Most of it	Yes	Compensating for wolf depredation of livestock, hunting dogs and pets	Going to a management system without a single numeric guideline for management; the thought that managing to avoid depredation scenarios is enough control over the population; a lack of concern for deer depredation and the impact of wolves on deer hunters and property owners who have invested in forestland for deer hunting; disregarding the 350 population goal that helped sell the entire wolf program to Wisconsin farmers, ranchers and hunters; targeting future harvest seasons toward depredation areas instead of the overall wolf population; etc. etc.	1	This does not really qualify as a management plan because you are supporting a self-sustaining wolf population with little regard for its impacts on deer hunters, farmers, ranchers, pet owners and property owners who hunt deer on their forested lands. This is not the controlled yet sustainable wolf population model that most of us signed up for, and with federal court interference in everything involving wolves today, we need to do a better job of lethal control when we get the opportunity. This plan needs to be modified to include a stricter numeric measurement of wolf numbers with a maximum population target of around 400 to 500 animals. That's what I believe will work longterm for both sustainability and future public support of wolves in Wisconsin, considering the modern society in which we live. When this population expands into farm country in central Wisconsin, there better be a maximum number or we'll be over 2000 animals in a hurry.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Alex Madorsky - Associate Director of Government Relations, The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin	All of it	Yes	Please see document below at Question 7.	Please see document below at Question 7.	8	February 27, 2023 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Specialist Randy.Johnson@Wisconsin.Gov Also submitted via DNR Public Comment Website Dear Mr. Jonson and DNR Wolf Plan Team: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2022 Wolf Management Plan. For over 60 years in Wisconsin, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has collaborated with landowners, businesses, and communities to protect more that 233,000 acres of lands, waters, ecosystems, and species, including threatened species like the Gray Wolf. TNC is also the world's largest conservation nonprofit operating in all 50 states and 79 countries around the globe, and here in Wisconsin we work closely with other environmental groups, sporting groups, agricultural groups, and Tribal nations to implement natural resources stewardship to the benefit of all. As an initial matter, TNC would like to extend our deep gratitude to you, your team, and all your colleagues at DNR for the tremendous amount of thought and effort put into the 2022 Plan. Your efforts are especially appreciated given the fluctuating protection status of wolves in federal court decisions. It is laudable that such a worthwhile plan was put forward during a time of great judicial and regulatory uncertainty. DNR deserves kudos for focusing on this work amidst often contentious debates. The Plan's proposal to move beyond a numerical quota for wolf hunting and to instead take a more holistic approach to the issue is most welcome. Numerical quotas are an extremely blunt instrument to address the very complex set of issues involved in any future wolf hunt. Adaptive management is a much sounder approach already utilized for critically important Wisconsin species like deer and wolf. Drastically reducing the number of Gray Wolves in our state through hunting without regard to regional distinctions based on the newest available data would be a grave mistake. Without adaptive management approaches, there is also no guarantee that a high-quote hunt would actually result in the decreased depredation events which many cite as the need for a wolf hunt in Wisconsin. Occupancy modeling, volunteer surveys, and an emphasis on combating illegal wolf kills are crucial tools in future management of the wolf population. TNC partners with many Tribal nations throughout Wisconsin on land Stewardship. Many Tribal leaders have movingly spoken about the spiritual significance of the wolf to their people throughout the Plan process. Some Tribes regard the wolf as a brother and a family member, and this means a wolf hunt is viewed directly as an attack on their family. DNR's extensive efforts to consult with Tribes while formulating the Plan are deeply appreciated, as are proposals to create buffer zones between Tribal lands and hunters. As DNR continues work on the Plan and on the Gray Wolf, it is TNC's hope DNR will consider some commonsense changes to the draft Plan. These changes include, but are not limited to: specific metrics for assessing wolf health and sustainability in each proposed hunting zone, shortening training periods for hunting dogs when a particular zone is open, and practical timelines for hunting and trapping seasons, Plan implementation, and guidance on how the Plan will be funded. TNC takes a data-oriented, purposeful approach to public policy on wolf hunting as on all other issues which impact wildlife. We remain concerned that there is simply insufficient data to demonstrate that there can be a "safe" hunt of this iconic apex predator, and if the 2022 Plan recommended a specific quota, it is likely TNC would have instead recommended a zero quota for a new wolf hunt at this time. This position is arrived not arrived at hastily or lightly, but instead after lengthy consultation with large animal biologists, other scientists, conservation allies, and our nearly 25,000 members in the State of Wisconsin. For this reason, we believe U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey White's decision re-listing the Gray Wolf as an Endangered Species is correct. The revival of Wisconsin's Gray Wolf population, as others have noted, is a true conservation success story, one that should never be reversed. TNC again thanks and applauds the Department of Natural Resources for its creation of the 2022 Plan and for the continuing outreach to stakeholders and the public at large to ensure any future wolf hunt provides as much protection for the species as possible. If you have any questions about TNC's views on the Wolf Plan, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or cell at any time. Alexander R. Madorsky, Associate Director of Government Relations [redacted]
Linda Gaalaas	Most of it	Yes	The statements related to the importance of wolves to the ecology of the forest, as well as the value of wolves to tribal existence and history. The significance of data collection and science in determining hunting quotas and monitoring breeding. Wolves only kill deer that are injured/ ill and not for sport, but feeding as predator animals. Over harvesting, such as the 2021 hunt was	I feel dogs should not be allowed to be part of any hunt, nor traps or lures that assist the hunter to locate wolves.	8	Thank you for the phone comment period. Many comments from 100+ people with varying opinions was worthwhile to hear. I'm sorry I was unable to comment by phone, but so appreciate your time and patience with so many people providing their input. I value science and at a collection in determining the current number of wolves in our State, and your examination of how to monitor and establish wolves in our environment. I

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			devastating for the wolf population and breeding structure. Education for the public is necessary, and a scientific understanding of wolves' habitat and breeding structure is essential to maintaining a healthy wolf population.			
	All of it	Yes	working to keep the public informed	Hunting wolfs with dogs	8	Hunting with dogs has no sportmanship
Virginia Jach Richards and Bob Richards	Most of it	Yes	That it's science based, the need for coexistence and balance. As a landowner we use these practices ourselves.	I believe it is time to end all hound hunting as our neighbor states have. They do not fit with the peace and tranquility of our northwoods.	10	I want to thank everyone who was involved with this plan, it covers so much and involved a lot of labor.
John Carbonari	All of it	Yes	none of it	No set population goal. Too much tribal influence. Not enough regular person influence.	1	Its 15 years overdue. It is by no means a reflection of what people that actually have to live with wolfs and suffer their effects want. The department does the wolfs no favors with their protectionist methods.
Mrs. H. Virginia Gerstmeyer	Most of it	No	introduction of wolves	allowing hunting of wolves, especially w/dogs	8	
	Most of it	Yes	Not much of it	Most of it not having a population goal buffer zones around reservations	1	This management plan is a slap in the face to the people that live in northern wi
	All of it	Yes		no population goals--what is the purpose of having wolves in wisconsin--we got rid of them once--lets get rid of them again	1	get rid of all wolves--they are only good for killing elk, deer and domestic animals--put the bounty back on them and they will be gone soon--before they kill some humans--if they haven't already
Fred Paulson	Most of it	Yes	None	All of it.	1	Wolves have a place in Wisconsin but only with a single numeric population goal. These numbers can be changed with respect to harvest success.You cannot reach your population goal without a number and this number will not be maintained with all the politics involved in game management today. If you have a harvest goal why is it a big deal to be so concerned about harvest registration time? This is over reacting by the anti hunting public. Keep the number of tags issued closer to your goal. Tribal buffer zones are ridiculous. Why should landowners who pay major real estate taxes each and every year be told they cannot hunt or trap their own property if it's subject to these buffer zones?This is going to involve almost all of northern Wisconsin. Surprised they don't want the entire ceded territory. Focusing wolf harvest in livestock conflict areas only isn't going to solve anything. No matter how many you remove they will be back each and every year. Revising wolf management zones to reflect distribution and habitat creates too many problems with ever increasing human population growth in northern Wisconsin. In conclusion nothing is going to work unless wolves are returned to state authority. There will always be conflict in northern Wisconsin as human occupancy continues to increase. There are way too many special interest groups involved in this issue that are trying to dictate what goes on in northern Wisconsin, just listen to all three plus hours of the DNR call in earlier this month. Do northern Wisconsin residents want all of these anti hunting groups from Madison/ Milwaukee, Florida, California, Colorado and elsewhere tell us how to run wildlife management? I can only hope that the DNR will start to increase its interest in the people who support them, and not all of these special interest groups. Cut the politics and start using common sense. Thank you for your time.
Travis Dahlberg	Most of it	Yes	Not much of any of it	The plan to "control" the population which isn't really going to help control the population. You need to have a actual season to harvest wolves every year	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Rating: 4-5 Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. 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Tanya Kern	All of it	No	I like that you are paying close attention to what the public wants in regards to wolf management and I love that you have included statements from all of the Native American tribes about their relationships to wolves. These statements reflect that all of the tribes regard individual wolves as their family members.	I am worried about the use of lethal control. The majority of the public does not endorse killings of wolves. There are more studies available that were not included in the report that show livestock depredation events may be more common after lethal control. Also it has been reported that any liberalizing of lethal control can contribute to increase in illegal killing of wolves. I would like to see the plan require the use of abatement strategies. Since many local tribes consider each individual wolf to be a family member, it is insensitive to consider lethal control in all but the most extreme circumstances.	7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	Hopefully a Wolf Season in near future	No limits on population is not good. Creating buffer zones around reservation land. I own land in buffer zone according to map. I should have every right if giving a wolf Harvest permit to fill it on my own land. The population is way to high right now. I spend 365 days a year in the outdoors. I'm a guide and outfitter for several different animals in our State. There has to be sum Management of wolves. The 350 number is what I feel the number should be. Rural Wisconsin is taken the a hit for the over population of wolves in our state	1	There has to be a population reduction of wolves in our state. I spend a lot of time hunting across northern WI in several counties. The population the DNR says there is in our state right now is way short of what it actually is We need to sign something that takes wolf managment away from the federal and make it state managed, like sum western states. People in Oregon or California shouldn't have a say in Wisconsin wolf plan, Especially the people like me that live in wolf country and have to put up with loosing pets. I've personally lost 3 hunting dogs on 3 different incidents. There needs to be a population goal of 350 in the state. The last season lasted 3 days????? That should tell something right there that population is out of control. Rural Wisconsin needs a voice here.
	All of it	Yes	Having a management plan to reduce population. Even if its a lie, like the first management plan when it all began. Going from wanting a 350 goal to well over 1000. All you have done is manipulate people with all your propaganda. You have and had a agenda for the beginning. A based on lies.	You keep referring to the population opinion of the wolf, witch most is in the southern part of the state. Population densities that have no knowledge or interaction with wolves except of what you tell them or what they see on TV. A opinion that is most definitely slanted.	4	I find it gross that the southern side of the state has such a favorable opinion, when then never have to deal with the problem. I have zero faith in our DNR.
Monica Gardner	Most of it	Yes	Thank you for the wealth of information. It allows me to make informed responses to this survey. I learned a lot and I hope others will as well. Comprehensive information should always be available on your website- it is a logical place for people to access it.	I am COMPLETELY opposed to ANY use of hounds in hunting wolves. This plan should be about managing the population in order to keep it HEALTHY, not minimize it and not for the purpose of gratification of hunters/trappers and trophy seekers. It should be reviewed/improved every 2-3 years, or at least, every 5.	3	The emphasis should be on what's best for the wolves, and not what makes hunters happy. They have an ecological purpose, and they should be able to fulfill that. Lethal means aren't usually necessary when it comes to livestock/wolf issues. Please explore and encourage other options. Most of all, DOGS should not be used to hunt wolves. It's dangerous for the dogs, unfair to the wolves, and just plain unethical.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	* Honoring the stance that First Nation peoples take. We give a lot of lip service to this without actually doing anything. * Reducing conflicts without killing any living being.	* Allowing hunting/trapping of wolves.	7	It's a big ask to have us read the whole plan before taking a survey. In the future, could you provide a shorter summary of a report? Or a better survey, which links to the specific points you would like us to rank? I believe the vast majority of Wisconsinites prefer to NOT allow hunting/trapping wolves, but we'll never know as a result of this survey, since most people will be turned off by the large commitment required before taking the survey. A survey with a simpler, balanced explanation up-front would encourage a greater response.
Constance Bessa-Rittler	All of it	Yes	Wolf management system is necessary. In order to do that there must be a season and tags.	1)The "sub-zone" proposal, What is the reason for doing this? This is not specified in the treaties so why are we doing this? This appears to be an extension of tribal reach beyond what they already enjoy in the ceded territory. If wolves are not hunted on tribal lands then wouldnt it follow that wolves would gravitate toward those lands where they know they are not hunted? Thus fulfilling the tribe's preservation of their sacred animal? Why allow their religious preference to be extended into ceded land? 2)Further, who is going to enforce the "sub-zones"? The tribes or the DNA/local municipalities? And will there need to be some statutory clarification?This seems to be a confusing nightmare. 3)Lack of disclosure regardng funding for wolf management. State vs donations, gifts, etc column should be broken out for full transparency. What portion from license/tags, what from tribes, what from taxpayers what from conservation organizatios, and so on. 4)Lack of disclosure on break down of how tags are to be dispersed 5)What is to prevent other tribes from demanding "sub-zones" as wolf populations increase, which they appear to be doing at about 5% per year. Or, even more, from more speciies to be added, i.e., bear, elk, etc.? These things never seem to "unravel" usually the opposite happens, they accelerate. 6)from the spreadsheet on the last page it appears there is some discrepancy between payments for dogs vs. cattle. Why are dogs worth so much more than cattle?	4	
Wm. Haenel	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	not much		1	what are the wolfs going to eat when the deer are gone?
Gary and Theresa Stanke	Most of it	Yes	We like the fact that there is finally talk of a plan so a harvest season can take place.	too vague and there are no specific numbers. The 350 or less goal that was originally established is not there. Harvest goals or numbers.	1	First of all lets get some common sense involved here. We manage all the species of wildlife and game in the state except for the wolf. They need to be managed like everything else, especially since the have no predators preying on them. Next is to keep politics out of the whole procedure. It has no place in game management. Enough said.
	Most of it	Yes	Easier registration	The extended buffer zones around the reservations. The lack of a population goal. I feel the plan needs an established goal and harvest to reach that goal.	3	I feel there are too many wolves and a set population goal is needed and a harvest quota to reach that goal. Without this I feel the back and forth will be a continued battle as we go forward
John OBrien	Most of it	Yes	Recognizing the need for smaller management zones. However, I don't think the plan goes far enough in this area.	No specific number goals. While I don't agree with a statewide goal, I believe there needs specific Wolf Management Zone number goals.	2	Zone 1 is too large. I believe that Zone 1 and all other Wolf management zones should be similar to the pre 2014 Deer Management Zones. This will allow better wolf management that takes into account the ecosystem of specific areas.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	see below	see below	0	I know this will not be useful to you but I need to say it. I find the whole concept of "managing" wolves arrogant and inhumane. Wolves are intelligent, social beings who have just as much right to inhabit Wisconsin as we do. Maybe more: they were here first. The idea of "harvesting" wolves, whatever utilitarian purpose it may serve, is abhorrent. Wolves are not carrots or cabbages. When we allow wildlife populations to find their own sustainable levels, everyone benefits (i.e. overabundance of deer destroying the woodlands and carrying diseases). Let nature do the managing. If people can't fence in their livestock to protect them, that's not my problem as a Wisconsin taxpayer. And if people want to shoot and kill things for pleasure (since no one eats the wolves they "harvest"), may they find more socially useful ways of spending their time.
	Most of it	Yes	entire plan seams to be well done and thorough		7	good luck with the plan, it will be in court before anything can be implemented, and the courts will side with the wolf proponents.
Carol Lynn Anderson	Most of it	No	There is a greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves which is vital to our ecosystems You included a survey of changing and positive societal views of wolves today With the increase of science and understanding of how all beings are living here on the planet in a unified system- the public has increased its positive views of wolves, The acknowledgement of increased opposition to the motives and methods of and for killing wolves I especially appreciate the proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations which did not previously exist.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing Your current draft does not explore or express the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones It does not address the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution not to mention its affects on human beings who participate in these killings and the long term effects on family and society of these killers.A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Your promotion of "sustainable" recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. It also begs the question.. What type of culture and what type of humanity considers killing as an optimal solution for anything? As space for all of the animals- human and otherwise lessens- we the so called " intellectually advanced" species, MUST for our own survival.. use our creativity, timely science and our very hearts to come up with alternatives that allow for the life of all. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Hounding or hound training, which is akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal. Its practice is self evidently extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. Wolf Protections should be the PRIORITY and look to non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, can be restricted through the department by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, especially restricting timing and methods. AND prosecuting violators. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Killing as management of wolf populations fails to provide a long term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. This cannot be dismissed and must be preeminently considered. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that killing wolves as a "management" effort less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-killing deterrents. The implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-killing conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners should be the primary method utilized for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Of Vital significance is that this plan runs contrary to public values towards wolves and does not mention these majority values in the plan.; despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): Please note: Opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). These demonstrate majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy, rather than being ignored and dismissed. Decisions and actions that omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g.,	1	PLEASE... Redo and take into account the following scientific literature regarding wolves: Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. D., Treves, A., Walsh, J. C., Paquet, P. C., & Darimont, C. T. (2018). Hallmarks of science missing from North American wildlife management. Science Advances, 4(3). http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/3/eaao0167.abstract Ausband, D. E., Mitchell, M. S., Stansbury, C. R., Stenglein, J. L., & Waits, L. P. (2017). 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A., Hall, W., Iliopoulos, Y., Jimenez, M. D., Jozwiak, E. A., Liberg, O., Mack, C. M., Meier, T. J., Niemeyer, C. C., Pedersen, H. C., Sand, H., Schultz, R. N., Smith, D. W., Wabakken, P., & Wydeven, A. P. (2008). The effects of breeder loss on wolves. The Journal of Wildlife Management, 72(1), 89–98. https://doi.org/10.2193/2006-305 Borg, B. L., Arthur, S. M., Bromen, N. A., Cassidy, K. A., McIntyre, R., Smith, D. W., & Prugh, L. R. (2016). Implications of Harvest on the Boundaries of Protected Areas for Large Carnivore Viewing Opportunities. PLoS One, 11(4), 1–19. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0153808

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing,as robustly supported by science). The agency's objectives are conflicting- e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) not acknowledged, and misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. This culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a disturbing lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of killing measures, especially recreational killing, which is in opposition to your current promotion of such actions in the plan. The current plan's omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves displays a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public erspectives on wolves. 'SOM', wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023		
shirley Cooksley	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What I don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behaviour, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defence of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killing. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is	0	While other countries and other states in America value the biodiversity of our planet it seems to me that Wisconsin is determined to destroy iconic key species like the wolves . My family and I have visited Yellowstone and were fortunate enough to see wolves. I have since boycotted the USA because of your determination to destroy ecosystems and wildlife. Shame on you!

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				significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Plan appears to very encompassing, thought out, and non-biased. Keeping the public well informed helps keep the trust between the agency and the general public.	I greatly appreciated seeing the elk mortality break down. I would've liked to have seen an estimate or something similar on the deer-wolf mortality break down. I understand the lower elk population helps provide more accurate and easier to study data, yet if an estimate was applied to deer in wolf range vs non wolf range, I believe this would further help public knowledge and also show the economic impact when it came to deer hunting and wolves. I believe deer management plans in wolf range areas may need to be adjusted vs non wolf ranges and the data could help show the differences. Antler-point restrictions like Michigan has may help cultivate a better deer heard in wolf ranges. It may create a better relationship between wolves and hunters, improving the wolf perception amongst the public.	7	
Ji Montgomery	All of it	No	Non lethal methods	Using snaring and dogs	10	Packs are 73% more likely to dissolve if the pack leader dies of human- related causes. DESTABILIZED PACKS LEAD TO INCREASED LIVESTOCK DEPREDATION. DEPITE THERE ONCE BEING AN ESTIMATE 2 MILLION WOLVES IN NORTH AMERICA ONLY 6,000 WOLVES ARE ESTIMATED EXIST IN THE CONTINUOUS US TODAY. AS ECO- SYSTEM GUARDIANS WOLVES ACT AS A KEYSTONE SPECIES, KEEPING ECOSYSTEM IN CHECK AND FACILITIATING BIODIVERSITY. CLIMATE CHANGE HAS SHIFTED SCINCE OF SPECIES RECOVERY AND ESA RECOVERY GOALS SET IN 1978 ARE WOEFULLY INADEQUATE.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		More wolf tags should be given out.	2	All cases of wolf attack self defense should be approved without review.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	nonethings really caught my eye	giving the indians rights over private lands owners ship ,and the DNR is not keeping the wolf population at 350 standard their more wolfs out there then was the DNR saids	1	we have to keep the wolf populate under control
	All of it	Yes	I like that it attempts to take into consideration all public concerns.	The lack of a target/set quota. Either keep the previously established quota or increase it to no more than 500. There is no logical reason for changes to the current zones other than to appease tribal and opposition attitudes. The proposed zones do not take into account private landowner rights.	2	I know a lot of work went into it; however, it misses the mark. More weight/representation should be given to the people most impacted. I hunt and have seen wolves on numerous occasions and it is a beautiful animal to see; however, the current population numbers are way too high and create conflict and an imbalance of predator to prey as long as there are also hunters and private land with livestock. Hunters are also predators - a very regulated predator and that creates conflict.
	All of it	Yes	Hunting and trapping are allowed to control population levels.	Sub-zones around reservation lands.	9	The plan is good overall. I hope wildlife management science will be the driving factor and not politics.
	Most of it	Yes	I support regulated hunting of wolves when the population can sustain it.	Overall, I support the proposed draft.	10	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			2	
Rich	All of it	Yes	Not having the artificial population cap is positive.	Dogs should not be allowed to hunt wolves. This should be explicit in the plan.	6	The plan is a big improvement, but more can be done. Wolves are a great natural resource for Wisconsin and can effectively manage their own population. Hunters, poachers and out of state monies have poisoned this issue. We can only truly recognize that previous administrations have severely hindered the DNR's ability to protect our wildlife. This includes adequate funding for the department.
Tom Podlesny	Most of it	Yes	Eliminating the numeric method(350) of planning Wolf Mgnt. Wolf populations like deer,bear, turkey will vary now and in the future.	Use of hounds to hunt wolves as well as hunting wolves in February.	9	Eliminate compensation for hounds killed by wolves. Hound hunting is poorly controlled for all animals and hounds hunt coyotes,bobcats, bears and will hunt wolves leading to hounds dying when they enter pack territory. Sad but let's not condone it by paying hound hunters killed by wolves. Eliminate hound hunting practice in July as wolf pups and packs cannot co-exist in the same territory. Common sense, one has to go.
Robert Sorenson	Most of it	Yes	Considering input from diverse groups, demographics, and geographical areas.	You cannot possibly keep all parties satisfied: You face a constant battle between those who oppose any form of lethal control versus those who feel that lethal means are essential. Low deer herd numbers in the north result in many frustrated deer hunters. I feel that lethal management methods are essential to control problem wolf concerns. Yet I feel that opposition from those against any form of wolf harvest will prevent us from reaching that objective.	7	Good science. Good ethics. But it sounds like a pipe dream wish list. I see greatest your greatest challenge obtaining an adequate budget and staffing level that enables you to meet all of these objectives in a timely manner and provide a wolf harvest in the near future.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes		The wolf management 1B subzones are too small	9	Wolves should be managed based on science. Politicians should be kept out of the decisions. Trapping wolves is cruel and unnecessary. Wolves are not dangerous to people (except in bizarre situations). People should be educated about wolves so the don't fear. Hunting wolves is not a "right" and is not necessary. We have a problem with too many deer in Wisconsin. We need more research on tick borne diseases, deer and wolves, Tick borne diseases are a terrible problem that is not being addressed in Wisconsin. Dog owners should not be compensated for wolf kills, the owners put their dogs in that situation. This plan is a step in the right direction. Keep the politicians out of wolf management.
Eric Hauke	Most of it	Yes	The state needs to aggressively manage the wolves to a reasonable population level. We do need to have a set population goal and manage to the number.		5	With the lack of management in the past few years and prior, the wolf in Wisconsin has destroyed the deer population and revenue associated with deer hunting in the northern third of the state. The wolf population needs to be managed and realistic population goals need to be held. We need a consistent realistic management framework.
Susan McMurray	Most of it	Yes	1. it removes numeric population goals; 2. it creates low quota zones around tribal lands, based on Tribes' input; 3. it focuses on ecological benefits of wolves; 4.it reflects a shift of public opinion in favor of wolves; 5. it focuses on science and research.	1. it addresses wolf/livestock conflicts with solutions based on improving farm practices and non-lethal options; 2. it ought to address hound training practices currently and if/when the wolf is delisted to restrict hound training being allowed only during wolf hunting; 3. it needs to make permanent the wolf management committee carefully established to include various stakeholders.	9	I appreciate the DNR staff who spent countless hours working with the committee, stakeholders, and the public to craft what I think is the best possible plan given the constraints of 2011 Act 169. This plan reflects core values reflected in an approach which protects, values, and sustains the wolf population.
	Most of it	No		Allows for killing wolves	1	
Peter Fee	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	There is an emphasis on the wolves' role in ecology, and I appreciated facts such as fawns are primarily targeted by predators other than wolves.	"The breeding pair not only lead the pack but also take the lead on foraging for food, defense of the territory, and care and rearing of pups (Paquet and Carbyn 2003)". This statement could be followed by more information. I have read from Richard Thiel that breeding pairs teach the pack how to hunt. If a wolf pack is successful with wild prey and never kills livestock, they should be protected. Killing the breeding pair may cause the pack to depredate on livestock.	8	I have read from Richard Thiel that breeding pairs teach the pack how to hunt. If a wolf pack is successful with wild prey and never kills livestock, they should be protected. Killing the breeding pair may cause the pack to depredate on livestock.
	All of it	Yes	reintroducing a hunting and trapping season	I think the population goals are too high	5	
Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society	All of it	Yes	Removing numeric goals from the plan is appropriate given current wolf distributions and population numbers. This would create consistency with population objectives also used for deer, bear, wild turkey, and ruffed grouse management. We are pleased to see the Department move away from a population goal of 350 wolves, which is no longer consistent with estimates of potential carrying capacity or public attitudes toward wolves. ● Redrawing wolf zones across Wisconsin and the creation of buffer zones around tribal reservations will improve management effectiveness and help maintain viable wolf packs on Tribal Reservations and Lands. ● The plan appropriately includes a rigorous focus on wolf population monitoring, including using occupancy modeling to estimate wolf numbers. ● The plan stresses use of a science-based management approach for wolf conservation in an adaptive management framework. ● The plan continues to include mandatory harvest registration and require in-person verification. ● The plan strongly supports continued education and outreach efforts.		8	Core wolf areas in western Lincoln County were added to Zone 3 in transitional wolf range, but should be included to Zone 1, where there is greater emphasis on ecological fulfillment. ● More specific metrics of how wolf populations will be managed to achieve goals for each zone should be in the plan, including average pack size, wolf density, pack turn-over and persistence, dispersal among zones, disease spread, and livestock and pet depredations. Metrics should be quantifiable and be monitored to measure success. ● The plan needs to include a process to carefully balance numbers of permits issued for legal harvest to assure quotas can be met in a reasonable time period. The plan should acknowledge trade-offs between satisfaction for a small number of hunters and trappers over a long season versus providing opportunity for many hunters and trappers over a shorter season. Long seasons risk disruption of snow track surveys needed to adequately survey the wolf population and could disrupt wolf breeding activity. Completing seasons by early December would limit disruption of surveys needed to assess the wolf population. ● The plan should limit the training of dogs on wolves only during periods when wolf hunting or trapping is open in a specific zone. ● The plan should include a timeline for implementation.
Carolyn S	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Not using numerical limits. Adding buffer areas around Native American reservations	Ignores public opinion about wolves and their importance and that majority of residents are opposed to hunting wolves. Does not acknowledge scientific studies about wolf behavior, management, ecological impact, etc.	3	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		There is no population target	2	
EB	Most of it	Yes	all protection of wolves and minimal and enforced hunting limits. the break out of zones. I really like the non lethal abatement strategies wking w ind farmers.	My worry is making sure that the plan is carried through and vigorously monitored	7	Truly I believe we need our wolf population and the focus on educating people to cohabit with the wolf is essential.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
M Browne	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Wolves should not be hunted in Wisconsin . I feel that the DNR is ignoring the prevailing opinion of the majority of Wisconsin residents in favor of the pro hunting minority.	1	It appears as though livestock owners and hunters have a louder voice than anyone else in this “discussion.” If the dnr really wants the majority opinion on this subject from Wisconsin-residents it needs to ensure that it is in a well publicized,state wide ,easily accessed format. By the time these surveys appear, the average resident has had little opportunity to voice an opinion about whether hunting of wolves should be allowed at all.. I feel that these questions are crafted to exclude an open survey of what percentage of total residents are in favor of any kind of wolf hunting.
	Most of it	Yes	The attempt to get all views of Wisconsin stakeholders.	No population goal, not even a density by wolf habitat range (good, marginal, poor). If it is to be managed like the deer season, and stake holders view of needing to increase, decrease or maintain this will be a yearly pissing match. I understand the tribes getting their fair share, but if they are not going to use their tags and the area needs to see a decrease it will be hard to do, either the tag number will need to be increased or the decrease in population will never happen. This is a set up to turn the landscape back to an ecosystem without humans hunting, the DNR is about growing the wolf population in my opinion. There needs to be a wolf population level, the agency has failed to find common ground between all parties and has failed the citizens of Wisconsin.	3	Use your field staff that have worked with citizens instead of your staff that hide in Madison behind a desk.
	All of it	Yes	Not much really. I doubt you can control the number of wolves. In my observation, numbers are controlled by the amount of deer left for them to prey on. In our area of Price County there are a few deer that have moved into towns for safety, but once you get a quarter mile out of town there are very few deer except for some more densely populated areas around lakes. "Sightseeing opportunities" for tourists are a joke. Unless you spend a lot of time in the woods hunting or trapping, none of these "city dwellers" are going to see wolves. On the flip side of that, we as hunters are seeing primarily wolves. I see 10 wolves for every deer I see. I do not understand what they are eating anymore although the packs do cover a lot of ground in their hunting. You folks at the DNR should get out from behind your desks and spend some time in the woods.	Unfortunately, you have reintroduced these wolves and the likelihood of you ever getting them "managed" is slim to none. Most of the people that want wolves in the state don't live where the wolves do so they don't have to deal with them. The real loss is the quality of deer hunting in northern Wisconsin. You've ruined it pretty much forever.	1	Thankfully there are still a few states where you can g
	Most of it	Yes		back to 1991 the total population was supposed to to held at 350 never done. Still don't have anywhere near a true number. never involved hunting groups in on the make up of this plan we make up 560,000 people. Appears to be a pet project of a minority of people. I would like to know how this is being funded.	1	I am a land owner in Vilas county. i spend quite a bit of time in the woods. When I visibly see and hear wolves more than i see deer which was not the case since owning this property since 1988 . Deer herds in this area have been devastated since the wolf has been planted here. The deer that are here are extremely skittish. Increased fawn mortality. Danger of walking and bird hunting with my dogs. The wolf is a constant threat just being in the woods with my dogs and the encounters I have had.
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	Quit using "science, ", and eliminate tribal involvement.	2	A quota, is a quota. The dnr and its" scientists " have no clue whats going on. Population is supposed to be no more than 350 for years. You have no clue
Pam Sprecher	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	the buffer zones around tribes not trapping, or less trapping hunting for recreation being curtailed or stopped	I did not see scientific evidence, I only saw "scientific" opinion survey showing that hunters and non hunters are on the opposite side of the issues	5	I am a non hunter and prefer more non lethal solutions.
Jan Lottig	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like a no numbers cap on the amount of wolves in Wisconsin	I strongly strongly dislike the recreational hunting for control. Science seems to show that it doesn't work. Neither michigan nor Minnesota use that.	4	I strongly support anything that helps to find ways to let wolves thrive and still humanely keep them from hurting the domestic animals.
Penny Bunnell	All of it	Yes	Trying to give a better view of wolved	Any hunting of wolves, only under extreme circumstances should lethal options be used.	5	Wolves need to be better understood by the general public, no more “little red riding hood” rumors. The public needs to be aware that wolves are not taking all of the deer!
Edward Hummel	Most of it	Yes		I think wolf hunting should be off the table. The wolves contribute to a healthy deer population in Northern Wisconsin. I feel I don't have to kill a deer every year to gain satisfaction from hunting. An over population of deer may bring in more revenue from hunting but that has to be balanced but too many deer causing accidents on the road, destroying forest regeneration and decimating crops and endangered species/	2	Please see the "dislike" above
	Most of it	Yes			1	Don't know why you are wasting time taking comments, you are going to do whatever the hound hunters tell you to do. The last wolf season you had was an embarrassing joke because of the hound hunters.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
John	Most of it	Yes	Control, education, monitoring them.	Are the zones created for them too small?	9	You our are all in a tough spot balancing the needs and wants of various groups. Regardless of the decisions that are ultimately made please remember to remain flexible and continually evaluate if what we are doing is working. Good luck. FWIW, I am an avid whitetail hunter but also enjoy seeing wolves on occasion and understand there needs to be a balance.
Martin Kwiatkowski	All of it	Yes	Management through scientific info. With hunting and trapping as a tool and education.	I support compensation for livestock but not so much for pets and hunting dogs.	7	
	All of it	Yes				I would like to see mention of known public opinion on the different wolf management practices purposed. I would like to see the percentages of state residents who were for and against specific practices. In a state where the majority of people asked are not in favor of lethal mngmt. strategies, the management plan needs to reflect the priorities of the majority view. Those views make up the mandate. There are issues to coexistence with wolves, and the public is looking for more ecologically and humanely sound solutions than hunting/trapping can provide. Hounding is in direct conflict with the majority view.
Rich Hoch	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Making sure the wolf population continues to stay healthy and grows. They are the only natural predators in Wisconsin!	That they are hunted at all! Especially with dogs! The killing of pregnant females was absolutely horrible!	2	Please stop the hunting of wolves altogether, there's only about 900, with a deer herd of about 1.5 million. They are doing their ecological role!
Shirley Langford-Stauffacher	All of it	Yes	The draft plan takes into consideration all aspects of the possible impact of regulation of wolf populations. Some protections for the wolves but would like to see much more like no hunt season period.	Plan does not detail if a quota is set and a hunt is allowed how the DNR will successfully enforce that quota number. The last hunt season the quota was far exceeded within a few days . The public outcry was heard statewide. Also I did not understand the plan statement regarding how the coyote population would be affected since coyotes are hunted year round in Wisconsin. How would a wolf management plan affect their numbers? Does the DNR even know their numbers since you don't need a license to shoot coyote. Unfortunately a lot of hunters shoot them without thought to how they fit in to the eco-system. No limit on numbers there. And fox you can hunt for 5 months so I don't get any relative connection to a wolf management plan other than if you reduce the wolf population there would be more deer, elk, coyote, fox, etc. for hunters/trappers to take. A kill is a kill by wolf or person. Is one better or worse than the other?	4	I believe the decision has already been made to allow the hunting and trapping of wolves and that decision is pushed by in-state and out of state pro hunting and trapping groups with a lot of weight and money behind them to get what they want. And what they want is a wholesale slaughter permit and not just for wolves. The general public majority is against this hunt. Leave them be. Any perceived overpopulation problem will usually resolve itself in time. No need to always interfere with nature.
	Most of it	Yes	I like the planned adjustments and the scientific study. I think there is great value in understanding our environment including these apex predators and i think that our management should change the more information that we know about them.	I dislike the opportunity for wolf hunting that is mentioned in the management plan. It seems entirely plausible to me that, based on a natural ecosystem without human interference, wolves could manage their own populations. There are things in nature that will control their population once they reach carrying capacity so they do not need our interference.	7	I understand the worry about wolf and human accidents, but i do think human worry about wolves could be prevented or soothed by education and science. Wolves are a beautiful species that we have worked so hard to bring back and it would just be awful to see their population destroyed because humans could not stay out of it. We have already interfered in their world by laying downs roads and building cities and hunting deer, we do not need to damage it further by hunting wolves.
	Most of it	Yes	I am glad you are including indigenous tribes in the plan and respecting their desire to not have wolf harvesting on their reservations.	There are still plans to allow hunting dogs to go after wolves and paying for replacing predation losses. Both practices should be stopped.	7	I appreciate the work put into this, and I want to ensure the wolf populations can rebound throughout the time frame envisioned.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	You need support from hunting organizations not animal rights activists hunters support the dnr with licenses sales	There are way more than a 1000 wolves we need a hunting season every year there should be no boundaries around the reservations	1	
Kathy Zimmerman	Just the parts I am interested in	No	1) Recognizing the ecological importance of wolves in biosphere; 2) Increasing the number of wolves in biosphere	1) The impact of killing wolves and how it affects the wolf pack, their social family group, the sustaince of the pack when an alpha male, alpha female, aunts, uncles, siblings are killed - endangrring the future of the pack;	5	Why is there a need for a management plan at all? You pick a number to cull, but do not take into account external factors - man, other animals, road kill - which contributes to numbers decline. Need to encourage conservation rather than annihialation. Rarely is a wolf killed for food.
	All of it	Yes				Wolves are killing all the fawns. Soon no one will bother buying deer tags for the northern half of the state.
	Most of it	Yes	None there was only supposed to be 350 wolves		0	Dog hunting should be allowed
Michael Dahlman	Most of it	Yes	The plan appropriately eliminates a targeted numeric population goal and acknowledges tribal interests by including low quotas in zones with treaty protections. This plan shows much greater recognition of the ecological benefits of wolves for Wisconsin's landscape. It is evident that public opinion supporting the presence of wolves has been rightly factored into this plan. Perhaps most	Wisconsin hunters should model the highest standards of ethics. The use of dogs to course wolves violates the tenets of fair chase hunting; its use should be strictly regulated and limited if not altogether eradicated. To avoid the gross overharvesting that occurred at the conclusion of the last hunt, reporting periods should be minimized to twelve hours to prevent a similar problem. In cases of depredation, proactive non-lethal methods should be promoted, recommended, and, if necessary, subsidized before lethal methods of conflict resolution are implemented after loss occurs.	9	Wolves were, are, and will likely remain a divisive and politically charged issue. This plan demonstrates concerted effort to overcome rancorous culture wars that have frustrated efforts to create a balanced and appropriate plan for all interested stakeholders. Where other states have chosen to pursue aggressive policies to all but eradicate wolves from the landscape, this plan demonstrates real and progressive efforts to respect and acknowledge the disparate perspectives of all Wisconsinites and their varied acceptance and appreciation of wolves.

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			importantly, this plan enables continued commitment to cutting edge science and continued research. This approach is much more nuanced and readily adjustable based on conditions on the ground to benefit both people and wolves.			
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That there is at least some thought to the future of other animals that we actually care about in this state.	I am very sad to see that so many folks actually do not want to lower the wolf total. I have yet to meet someone that is in favor of more than a 100-200 wolves total in the state. I talk to many in western, central, and northeast Wisconsin on a regular basis.	2	Wolves need to be STRICTLY managed and only be allowed in very small areas of the north in very large areas of public land. I am extremely thankful that I do not have to deal with wolves near my farm so far. Unfortunately, I will not use any public lands in the county I live in because of wolves. There is no reason to try. So I leave the area. Bringing wolves back was one of the biggest mistakes we have made in my life of nearly 50 years. As a pro-DNR guy that has many friends working for the state including the DNR, I know that the all feel the same. It is too bad that real biologists and hunters cannot make the decisions. Instead politicians, tribes, and a bunch of people that never put any real money into conservation are making the decisions. RIDICULOUS!! END THIS NOW. If we cannot kill all wolves, then no more than 100 total. PERIOD!!!
Lindsey Ugaste	Most of it	No	Increase in wolf numbers beyond the previously limited 350, more positive ecological impact on wolves and the increase in social acknowledgements of the benefits of wolves.	Omitting and plan designed around the lack of scientific evidence made more recently to encourage and improve upon the necessity of wolves, especially to not be hunted as a form of limiting population. The abundant use of lethal measures against wolf populations that would look to be increased and allowed more freedom should not be encouraged and as such the lack of non lethal measures in the plan make it seem unlikely the plan is designed for wolf survival and longevity in the area.	3	
Rhonda Kay Witte	Most of it	Yes	Limiting the number of wolves to be harvested.		8	I do not like the harvesting of bonded families or wolf pups in the den.
	All of it	Yes	I like the buffers around the tribal reservations and that the plan doesn't specify a numeric population goal.	I am not in favor of wolf hunting and trapping.	9	
Caryn Treiber	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Acknowledgment of the ecological benefit of wolves	Allowing hound training during the hunt	9	We need wolves to manage the deer population which is threatening agriculture and forestry due to overpopulation.
Cynthia Allen	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves will not have old goal of 350. Liked buffer zones around reservations. Ecological roles of wolves is acknowledged. More recognition of opposition of reasons and methods to kill wolves.	No info on newest science. What happens when wolves are killed (effect on ecology, other wolves, offspring, mates). No info on non-lethal control of wolves. Use of dogs to hunt/maim/kill wolves. Public values about wolves being aimed towards them being a lethal problem hindering environment. No consideration at all for wolves and their population.	3	This plan can be approached in a positive manner rather than negative.
Robin Cornell	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed.	The plan doesn't reflect the best available science, including wolf ethology, sentience, sociability, agency & well-being. Also, it doesn't reflect the effectiveness of non-lethal intervention, especially compared to lethal intervention. It also doesn't mention the effect of killing on the wolves' social structure and their behavior. The plan still puts too much emphasis on recreational hunting as a management tool. The plan should sharply curtail lethal management of wolves. Research finds that allowing the liberal killing of wolves increases illegal killings as well. There should be no hound hunting at all. There is a lot of conflict between hound hunters and residents who just want to enjoy their property. Many residents think the hounders get away with too much and don't respect them. Hound hunting is cruel to wolves and the dogs. There should be no reimbursement to hunters for hounds killed by wolves, ever. They choose to put their dogs at risk. Wisconsin is the only state that has this misguided policy. Many Wisconsinites oppose hunting with hounds and trapping. This is not reflected in the plan. 62% think hunting wolves is unnecessary, and 57% think it's offensive to native Americans. There is a lack of regard for individual wolves. The concern should not be just with a healthy population. Each individual's life matters to him or her. Use of SOM wolf estimation methodology. The WI method would over-estimate wolf abundance. It shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement.	7	More consideration for the views of the vast numbers of Wisconsinites who don't hunt or trap. People care about individual animals, not just healthy populations.

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Larry Oftedahl	Most of it	Yes	Unit specific wolf management. Science based decision making. Reducing wolf and human conflicts. Continued monitoring and public education.	Continue paying for hunting dogs killed by wolves. They should know and accept the risks, it's part of hunting in a natural environment. Also, one way to reduce human and wolf conflicts is by eliminating bear hunting with dogs. It's no longer a "rich" tradition but an old hunting method that has become morally unacceptable. I hope we have evolved and improved our wildlife values, and how we care for wildlife to the point where hunting anything with dogs is reprehensible and outdated. It is far from "fair chase". It's a bitter and sad end to a bear, or any other game animal when it is terrorized by dogs before being killed. I for one think much more highly of the game I hunt and would never want to inflict such terror and pain on that animal.	9	I am very impressed with the time and effort made to put together a well researched and thoughtful plan. Congratulations to all. I just hope this plan moves along well and does not get cut to pieces by political hacks and special interests that do not represent the vast majority of us.
Ben Thompson	Most of it	Yes	The draft was well put together. I liked the information from previous survey and how it was broken out between those who lived in wolf range those who lived outside of it.	No, It was well rounded and addressed the wolf management from many angles. It captured a lot of information.	6	Managed hunts must be one of the tools for managing wolves. I think we have plenty of wolves and do not see a reason to allow a higher population than Wisconsin currently has. There was reason wolves were killed off. That is because they like to eat the same food as humans both wild and domestic. Having the wolves help manage the old weak wild animals make sense. But when they affect the availability of game animals for humans to harvest. That is where I have an issue. That is balancing point of wolf management.
Todd Strassburger	All of it	Yes	The detrimation of deer and elk from wolves		10	
Elizabeth Temple	Most of it	Yes	Appreciating the role of wolves (or any carnivore) in balanced ecosystems. Taking out a population goal as a specific number. Paying attention to the wishes of WI Tribes. You did consider the views of the Public from the surveys. I liked the sections that dealt with Wolf Population Health and Captive Wolf Management. I hope the current science continues to guide you and better means of measuring and determining populations and packs is pursued.	A management plan really does not have to be so lengthy. The history is essential and needs to be maintained as a separate document but does not need to be in a plan. Section 4 is the most important and needs to be expanded. I don't like the idea that wolves need to be managed or hunted/trapped at all. Coming off the ESL should not be an automatic to allow hunting/trapping. This goes for any species. I was puzzled by the term "verified wolf depredation" as it referred to Wolf/Livestock Conflict. Who determines it? You used the term "tip of the iceberg" regarding costs to livestock producers. Why don't you know? Don't they submit reports to the DNR? The graph, p. 74, interestingly and puzzling, saw the highest number, 48 in the yr 2021 as representing farms with losses. This happened right after the WI gray wolf was removed from the ESL?!! Was this the justification to start hunting them? The premise needs to be that property owners/farmers must do what is necessary and absorb all costs to protect their flocks/herds from predation from everything short of killing anything. Chicken/egg farmers have to build stronger pens/buildings to protect their property from nature that will always "want a chicken dinner" from the air or field! Why should cattle/sheep farms be any different? If one chooses to have this kind of business, one has to absorb the costs of losses and not depend on government agencies and the taxpayer to compensate them. "...extra hrs spent on herd surveillance, repairing fences, attempting to locate missing calves and coordinating depredation investigations" IS THE COST OF DOING THIS KIND OF BUSINESS! Our publicly-owned vanishing precious natural resources should not be used and abused by individuals seeking profit. This goes for everything from water, soil, air, animals, forests, etc. Page 77-78 Abatement Options needs to be significantly expanded. LIkewise, hunting/training dogs injured or lost during the hunting of any animal, wolf or not, is the cost of the individual pursuing that activity and cannot be reimbursed by the governmental agency/taxpayer. 1991 perspectives, page 84, has evolved to the 2022 perspective to avoid lethal control of wolves. Please emphasize this since wolves are seen to go on and off the ESL!!! We have to change the $2500/hunting dog/pet and vet reimbursement! It is just wrong! As a taxpayer, I do not want my money going to justify hunting wolves! Does the DNR reimburse for any other wildlife/hunting domestic animal encounter?	8	A great start and I appreciate the work and research that this required. Thank you for including input from the public and tribes. I hope this is codified to make it less susceptible to major deleterious changes.
Nancy Stier	Most of it	No	There was an attempt to evaluate the population of wolves in different areas of the state.	Human fear should not be a factor in decreasing the wolf population. Wolves are not likely to harm humans but woyld rather avoid them	6	Killing wolves should not be treated like killing wildlife that consumed for food. Dead wolves are just treated like trash.
Aley Schiessl-Moore	All of it	Yes	-Not using the old number of 350 wolves -Better recognition of the ecological importance of wolves -proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations -the use of fox lights. I work for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee; members of our team have traveled to Belize to study jaguars and use fox lights to discourage jaguars from entering human or livestock areas and they are HIGHLY effective. These should be encouraged.	-It is missing scientific evidence of the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions and the way widespread killing of wolves impacts their physiology, behavior, social dynamics, and more. For example, the killing of wolves only encourages pack splintering, worsening the threat on livestock instead of making it better -Recreational killing runs contrary to scientific evidence. Furthermore, policies that allow the liberal killing of wolves leads to an increase in illegal killings. Lethal management does not lead to long-term solutions, and non-lethal means leads to better conflict mitigation. -Omissions of scientific literature, the dismissal of concerns for wolves is biased and unscientific.	4	studies that may be valuable: https://www.science.org/doi/full/10.1126/sciadv.aao0167 https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0153808 Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A. (2018a). Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. PLoS ONE, 13(1), 1–20. https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0189729 Safina, C. (2015). Beyond words: What animals think and feel. Macmillan. Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Chappell, R. J., & Treves, A. (2020a). Liberalizing the killing of endangered wolves was associated with more disappearances of collared individuals in Wisconsin, USA. Scientific Reports, 1–14. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-70837-x

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Shane Thiel	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The fact, that there is finally a management plan drafted...this should have been done years ago!	I dislike the fact that there is no population goal set!	2	In all honesty it sucks..how is anyone to know if the plan is working or not with no set population goal? The wolf population in this state is way higher than any of the guesses you guys have came up with..and your population estimate...is just that a guess! We need to have a set population goal! And we need to limit the control that federal judges have on the wildlife in our state! We as a state should have final say on our hunting rights, not a federal judge in California or D.C.
Charles Songler	Most of it	Yes	Hunting season to control population	Numbers are too high. Much much higher than promised by DNR when introducing wolves.	3	Why are numbers so high for Bayfield county. Most of the deer are chased off public property onto private land. This is dangerous for hunting and causes conflict with hunters and private land owners. More hunting of wolves should be aloud in Bayfield county and more wolves should be shipped to southern Wisconsin.
	All of it	Yes	That there is finally a plan after such a long time!	That there isn't a specific goal number for maximum wolf population!	4	There was a maximum wolf population number!!!
	All of it	Yes	None, we need to know the number of wolves there actually is to determine a good harvest controll, i do not believe anyone know how many there actually is, everywhere you go when there is snow on the ground you will see evidence of them, ther is no possible way anyone lnows how many there is.		1	I believe the deer hunters, bird hunters, bear hunters, would all have a better idea of how many there is and the dnr should seek the knowledge of the people who spend the time in the woods.i know as a hunter ive seen the deer heard diminish at a very alaming rate, when you go from seeing 24 to 28 deer everynight bow hunting to seeing 4 to 5 everynigh in a couple years and the only difference is the amount of wolf sign your seeing. Please get a accurate count on the wolves, there is more than anyone realizes.
Lori McCoy	Most of it	No	That you took the time to learn Native People's concerns/religion.	The tendency to kill wolves rather than relocate		The first sentence of your mission statement mentions protection, but scale of practice seems to favor cruelty and eliminating instead
	All of it	Yes	I like that you are recognizing the ecological significance of wolves, that you understand that the majority of Wisconsinites also recognize & appreciate the wolf & its positive impact on the eco system. I like that you are understanding the significance of the wolf by proposing buffer zones around tribal reservations.	There does not seem to be any reflection or use of scientific data or science in any of your proposed draft plan. I don't think it is possible to have a viable plan for the wolf without utilizing science. The wolf is a keystone species vital to nature, wildlife, climate how can you begin to understand them & protect them, the land, climate, eco system without any understand or implementing of the science?	2	This plan does not address non lethal wolf management. They are many viable non lethal methods in dealing with wolves & wildlife in general there is no sound reason to kill wolves. In fact killing them is not management but murder. That is not what we Wisconsinites want for our wildlife or wolves. There should be no hunting, with or without hounds... Hounds, dogs should never be set on any of our public lands hunting for their prey, that is not the intent of these lands. This barbaric tactic should never be used on our public lands. If you truly want a viable plan for the health & growth of all then you must understand the value of a healthy wolf population to the environment & implement the necessary tools to achieve this. Hunting, lethal methods, killing wolves is not a viable or acceptable draft wolf management plan.
Charlynn Fuller	All of it	No	I appreciate the evidence of benefits of apex predators. They're essential for a healthy ecosystem everywhere. Apex predators make for healthy prey herds. Also, personally, I appreciate the conversation with local tribes as well as a local survey. I'm glad residents have spoken.	I'm very concerned with the numbers the plan is quoting. The plan quotes an estimated 972 wolves over 23,313 square miles, but how can that be when in Yellowstone National Park supports 123 wolves (9 packs) over 3,468 square miles(found on yellowstoneparks.com). If you do the math (divide 23,313 square miles by 3,468–you get 6.7. Then multiply that by 123. This gives you 824 total wolves estimated to be in WI not 972). Since the plan uses its numbers of estimated wolves to determine how many are allowed to be killed, I question your numbers. They don't add up. You need better studies. Wolves take nominal numbers of livestock as numbers show. Indiscriminate slaughter of wolves will lead to more livestock deaths, because without the proper leadership in their packs, they won't learn. In all honesty, predators as a whole stabilize their own numbers. They have ebbs and flows in correlation with their prey and weather as well as disease.	2	You need to get actual numbers of the wolves. You shouldn't do an estimate and use the estimate to base your culling numbers off of. You could be wiping out your wolves without realizing it.
Mike Carlson	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				To complicated and long its not that difficult some management is ok to maintain healthy animals it takes a balance of hunting conservation trapping and some sightseeing this will keep everything in balance and some financial help as well .
Angie Arden	All of it	No	It is progressive and optimistic that the tribal voice will be considered and understood, reflected in this plan.	The consideration of a wolf hunt is a contradiction to the data and current science statistics, findings.	2	The current draft wolf management plan does not include non-lethal methods of conservation management and conflict resolution strategies. However, compensation for livestock is a reasonable, viable solution along with non-lethal methods. Review data and percentages.
	Most of it	Yes	Couldn't find any	Not having any numbers	1	What kind of a company would draw up a supposed plan for anything without the use of numbers! Pathetic. A laughing stock! Its now obvious that the DNR along with Evers is in bed with the bunny huggers
	Most of it	Yes			0	
Rosanne Repinski	All of it	Yes	read comments below	ditto above	1	I really feel farmers and those affected by wolf killing on property should be able to kill that wolf. I live in central WI and have SEEN more wolfs in the past 7 years than I did the rest of my life when I traveled northern WI and Michigan and witnessed 2. I know the uncanny feeling when walking outside my house and you know you are being watched by a wolf. We need control and keep the numbers in the 300 range.

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Karen McFadzen	All of it	Yes	Many aspects. Especially the science based management approach, wolf population monitoring, redrawing wolf zones across Wisconsin and creation of buffer zones around tribal reservations, mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification requirements, removing numeric goals, continued education and outreach.	1- Eliminate the use of dogs when hunting wolves or bears. Eliminate training of dogs to hunt wolf or bear. 2- Do not compensate for loss of hunting dogs - only livestock loss. this promotes the "disposable dog" mentality. Using dogs promotes cruel injury/death to both the hunter and hunted species. 3. Eliminate all trapping - due to cruel and indiscriminate nature of trapping. 4. Carefully consider the composition of the Wolf Advisory Committee to ensure it is representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state, particularly tribal concerns, and adequately represent the science needed to properly manage wolves in Wisconsin.	7	Thank you for the comprehensive, thorough, and thoughtful work put into developing and producing the Draft Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. I learned a lot while reviewing this plan and the Wisconsin Green Fire analysis dated Jan 2023. I have rural property in Oneida Cty and appreciate the fact that wolf are in the area. Public education is vital to help people understand the value of wolf and how to exist concurrently. The tribes input can provide valuable perspective. Please consider the additional Wis. Green Fire changes and additions outlined in their January 2023 Analysis. The WDNR should resist efforts to reduce or limit its power to establish harvest quotas and determine the timing,method, and form of wolf harvest. Wolf population monitoring and specific metrics for wolf population health and sustainability should be established and used across the state, and the Plan should include a clear plan for implementation, funding, and collaborative efforts across Wisconsin and the Great Lakes region to maintain a healthy wolf population. Thank You for extending the public comment period and for the opportunity to voice our opinions. (hopefully everyone does so in a civil manner).
Emily Volckmann	Most of it	No	The elements that I like are those that speak of the importance of wolves as a keystone species. It was confirmed that when wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park they balanced the ecosystem and it became a healthier habitat. I also like that the plan includes means of tracking packs to monitor populations changes.	Wolves have to battle with being hit by cars and finding room on the landscape that humans have not occupied. There should be no lethal management as part of a wolf "conservation" plan. Although there are protected packs in tribal areas, wolves do not understand those boundaries. Those packs will likely be affected by the wolf hunting permissions.	5	I believe wolves should be federally protected because the species has barely begun to recover from our past slaughtering.
James OBrien	Most of it	Yes	Objective to include Wolves and their role in a healthy ecological system.	I am a hunter, BUT allowing dogs to be used in wolf harvesting is flat out ridiculous.	7	Tough issue, but I tell the Wolf haters that the Wisconsin Woods would be a less special without them. Most don't disagree. Thanks
	Most of it	Yes	The fact you are considering to regulate wolves. Admitting (indirectly) that insurance companies want wolves around.	We felt the need to regulate the <300 elk in northern Wisconsin but when you finally admit there are over 1000 wolves, it literally takes an act of Congress to regulate them. Why so vague on the population you want? You don't have that much of a problem with bear.... Or any other animal really.	6	It probably goes without saying Wolves up Deer down Revenue down Tax payer hush money for pet and livestock death up
Trina Malone	Just the parts I am interested in	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	All of it	Yes	Creation of zone 1A as relates to livestock predation. Maintaining year round wolf population monitoring, and continued emphasis on radio-collared wolves, though I belive GPS collars would be a much better and modern technology to utilize.	1)Highly dislike creation of subzones 1B and 2B as relates to creating special zones for tribes 2) Lack of population goals as exists for other manageable game species 3) Zones are too large to quickly respond to harvest goals. Lone wolves or wolves dispersing from their home range and not counted in population estimate.		1)Tribes are not active participants in wolf management and special zones surrounding the reservations would extend tribal rights beyond their federally designated boundaries and penalize non-tribal people on non-tribal lands. This would take away constitutional guarantees and rights held by private, non-tribal citizens and will result in expensive/time consuming lawsuits in which the state will lose in court. 2) I do not have high confidence in a management plan that does not have a specific numbered goal, especially for those populations that live in the parts of the state directly impacted by wolf numbers. 3) I would have like to seen as much input from county and township governments as seen from other key input groups. 4) I would like more emphasis given as the wolf as a harvestable game species. It seems the DNR has not been overly enthusiastic as it should be on this point compared to the effort to manage other species by hunting. 5) Lastly, I believe the social carrying capacity of 350 wolves laid out in the 1999 wolf plan be the numeric population goal.
Richard Karow	Most of it	Yes	Allowingzone specific hunting for wolves	Not having number specific goals for population's of wolves	4	

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Daniel Lawrence	All of it	Yes	More control on number harvested.	Don't like that wolfs can be hunted with dogs and hunters driving wolfs.	7	I had drawn a wolf permit for the first time in the previous wolf hunting season. I took off work for going up north, on public land, to set a couple of traps and to try still hunting while calling. Had everything set up to go and the quota was met for the southern zone before i could even get into the woods. Something does not seem right when such a large number of wolfs are harvested with use of dogs and large hunter drives. Thanks for listening. Daniel
Sue Schneidler	Most of it	Yes	The plan does a good job by --eliminating the arbitrary wolf population number --showing the tremendous support that wolves have from Wisconsin citizens and how that favorable support has significantly increased -- including good scientific research, which recognizes that wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem --increasing acknowledgment and inclusion of Native American values and goals for wolves and creating buffer zones around tribal lands --shortening reporting requirements --and making hunting licenses zone specific	The report does NOT but SHOULD --include a plan to work with the legislature to overturn Wisconsin Public Act 169, which mandates a hunting and trapping season for wolves when they are not protected, and actually consider an end to recreational hunting of wolves in Wisconsin. --stop hounds from hunting wolves (such a cruel and barbaric practice that we are the only state to allow it!) --eliminate hound training --remove reimbursements for hounds killed or injured by wolves --stop using recreational hunting/trapping as a conflict resolution tool, which has no scientific basis Wolves operate as a group to take down large prey. When members of the pack are killed, it causes the wolves left to shift to easier domestic prey. The DNR should prioritize responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts. In addition, the Occupancy Model, which relies on territory size, should not be the only way wolves should be counted. The model makes assumptions without facts and can be manipulated. The plan also needs to include a guide on how the final wolf plan will be regularly updated and reviewed by biologists and environmental professionals and specialists, not just hunting organizations, who were overrepresented on the committee even though they represent the minority opinion of the people in Wisconsin.	7	The law requiring a wolf hunt was created by hunters, some from even outside of Wisconsin, pressuring legislators during the Walker administration when a real estate agent was the head of the DNR. It was an especially low point for wildlife and the environment in Wisconsin. The requirements for the wolf hunt were set by the bear hunting groups in Wisconsin. That's why we have dogs hunting wolves. There was no scientific basis or public input for any of it. Dog fighting is illegal. We have so many dog lovers in Wisconsin that most people here are horrified by the idea. So why is it still allowed by the WI DNR? This law, PA 169, actually triggered the last slaughter of wolves in Wisconsin when 218 wolves were killed in 72 hours because an out-of-state group sued to force the immediate reinstatement of a wolf hunt. Control of the wildlife and natural resources in Wisconsin should in the hands of the Wisconsin DNR, not some outside group. There should not be a law that says something like killing a wolf must be done simply because someone wants a trophy pelt or bragging rights. The decisions that the DNR makes should be based on science and expert opinions for that particular species. Wisconsin Public Act 169 must be overturned.
Julie Harder	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1. The removal of a numeric population goal. It's important to be able to adapt the population numbers, based on circumstances and scientific updates. 2. The low quota zones around Tribal lands. 3. The focus on how wolves are beneficial to the ecosystem of the state. 4. It takes into account the opinions of the general public as well as specific stakeholders. 5. The commitment to using science to inform decisions.	1. The current draft allows hounds to chase wolves (for training) until the last hunting zone closes. This could be very stressful on wolf populations, especially during the late winter breeding season. A better plan would be: When each zone's hunting closes, the hound training within its borders should also close. 2. The draft does not plan for the next update--it should be amended to specify when the next review and update will occur. 3. There should be ongoing science committees to oversee wolf management, as well as ongoing stakeholder input.	9	In February 2021, the wolf kill exceeded the state quota by 83%. Further, this occurred during the breeding season. Any new plan should both guard against such an overkill and also ensure that hunting does not take place during vulnerable periods, such as the breeding season.
	Most of it	Yes	Supposedly based on science, real data & facts.	That Fred Prehen "over stayed his welcome" to skew this toward minimizing/eliminating Wolf Populations. Put a Republican twist on things.	5	Triple or quadruple the license costs/fees for anyone who is not a state resident to hunt/trap wolves during any hunt time. Fines for hunting wolves "out of season" triple them. All this is to "control" the population of "macho men/Rambo" types who come into this state to be a pain to any of us who own land and whom these outsiders think they can run over the top of during a hunt. Hunting wolves on reservations should be strictly and only controlled by the tribes - no one else. Population goals for the wolves in general should be almost doubled from today's in my opinion. Side Note: What about better control of coyote populations as well as cougar/Mt. Lion? Given a choice would much rather prefer to deal with wolves directly than coyotes or cougars.
John S. Thiel	All of it	Yes	Population Goal: I strongly agree with not setting a numerical goal. Wolves have essentially recovered in the upper Great Lakes and this no longer has meaning. During recolonization the establishment of numerical goals was useful. Wolf Management Zones: I totally agree with the creation of subzones 1A and 4A in addressing depredation hotspots. Also the buffer zones surrounding reservation boundaries. Wolf Occupancy Model: I support this with continued refinement and improvement. With smaller wolf territories in the central forest region the model needs to be refined. I also support the development of parallel means of determining wolf population with emerging technologies such as genetics. Wolf Conflict Management: I strongly support research and testing of new abatement methodologies and targeted lethal removal. Wolf Harvest Management: I strongly agree with reducing the reporting window to 8 hours. This would hopefully eliminate over harvest. I also support zone specific harvest tags. Wolf Advisory Committee: I strongly agree with establishing this committee and with a wolf science committee panel. Wolf Research and Education: I support a DNR science team on par with what	Wolf Management Zones: I am not in favor of removing Lincoln County from Zone 2 to 3. This is historically, and continues to be, core wolf habitat and should remain in Zone 2. Wolf Occupancy Modeling: More GPS monitoring is needed in the Central Forest. This and other monitoring methods would help refine the POM model in the area. Wolf Harvesting Management: I am opposed to the manipulation of permit issuance. This will interfere with breeding activities, track counts, coyote hunting, and eco tourism. I am also against hound hunting due to the biological and social similarities of this animals. Not good for either. I would like to see studies on injuries and deaths of dogs due to encounters with this hunting technique (not just wolves but bear hunting as well). Wolf Related Tourism: This does exist but to what extent? You would have to develop some kind of metric to demonstrate a financial benefit. It would certainly help communities in wolf occupied areas to have this information which might lead to better attitudes and values. Wolf Advisory Committee: Educational and Research groups should not be combined with wolf advocacy groups. The former are often at odds with advocacy groups as they are primarily focused promoting science based information whereas advocacy groups base a lot of their information on emotion often resulting in misinformation (not necessarily intentional).	9	This is very well done. An impossible job trying to provide for all groups concerned as well as the needs of the resource. Aside from some of my dislikes, I could definitely live with this with the understanding that this should always be a working document subject to revisions. Thank you for your hard work and for allowing my comments.

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			it once was prior to all of the political cutbacks. I also strongly support the collaboration and cooperation with NGOs.			
	Most of it	Yes	The fact we do need a management plan. They do serve a purpose in keeping the herd healthy.	It appears there is more interest in the wolf than in the fact that hunting tradition and hunter numbers in the north woods have declined greatly in the last 10 years. That greatly impacts the lively hood of countless people in the Northwoods.	2	The anti-hunters in the southern third of the state have an opinion on something they know nothing about. They have never had any contact with one, so have no idea what that is like. Like all creatures exposed to more human contact, they are losing their fear of us. I have experienced this on a couple occasions myself. Maybe the answer would be to introduce a pack to Madison or Milwaukee and see what the reaction would. They have been complaining about coyotes attacking pets on walks through parks for years. This woud be a notch up for them.
Don Kaldunski	Most of it	Yes	Stating all the studies that have been done and pointing out their findings and commenting on their strengths and potential shortcomings. Data and graphs.	It was all good.	10	Thank you for putting together such a comprehensive, factual, scientific proposal and making it available for the public to read.
Jennifer Burish	Most of it	Yes	Please stop the cruel torture and killing of wolves! You can tranquilize and spay/neuter to control the population.	When you kill them your destroying their family, there is other ways to control population and the safety of them and others.		Please have a heart and do what's humane and best for the wolves and their family packs. Thank you
	All of it	Yes	The emphasis on maintaining a healthy and sustainable wolf population, while recognizing the need to control the wolf numbers, especially in areas of human conflict.	1.) I strongly feel that the plan must include a science-based numeric population goal. 2.) The tribal "buffer zones" are a bad idea and may lead to other unintended consequences. Many areas adjacent to reservation lands are already dealing with serious tribal night "hunting" issues involving tribal members who can legally road hunt on reservation lands, insisting on illegally shining on state and privately owned off-reservation properties. Allowing tribes to protect "their" wolves off-reservation will set a terrible precedent. This restriction as proposed is a huge encroachment on private land owner rights. 3.) The tribal claim that protecting wolves is a viable method of controlling CWD in the deer herd is completely disingenuous, since tribal members continue to utilize bait extensively to facilitate night deer "hunting" on the reservation, although a baiting ban has been in effect for years in Vilas County. If they were honestly concerned with controlling CWD, they would agree to stop baiting. 4.) The proposed hound hunting restrictions are not acceptable and would likely result in further restrictions upon bear hunters as well. Many outside groups (PETA, et al) are working hard to eliminate all forms of hound hunting and see the wolf plan as an opportunity to accomplish that goal.	3	
Bill Munch	Most of it	Yes	Really none	There needs to be a goal number of 350 Wolves. The buffer areas around reservations are way too big.	1	The deer herds of the north have been decimated by predators and overharvest of does for over 20 years. We need to cut down the wolf numbers to let the herds rebound. Also, the people who reside in wolf areas should have more of a say in wolf management than those in the southern part of the state.
Leigh Coenen	All of it	Yes	Liked the way the areas are broken down by zones.	I dislike not having the numbers of wolves in each zones. Example: I have a hunting shack in Southern Bayfield County where there are too many wolves.	4	The process is moving too slowly.
Dr Rin Porter	All of it	No	The parts where the Wisconsin tribes explained their views of the wolf, and the parts where scientific research on wolves was presented.	The assumption (in Objective C) that people have the right to kill wolves, and specifically the term "harvest", which implies that the wolves will be eaten, which of course they will not. To harvest something is to obtain it for use or consumption. Wolves are killed simply because some men believe that it is right to kill animals for no reason. Hunting and trapping wolves (or any other animal that will not be eaten) is unethical and immoral, in my opinion.	5	The plan presents voluminous research in its first half that shows that killing wolves damages pack structure and behavior, and that killing wolves does NOT increase the numbers of deer or elk. Even though citizens of Wisconsin believe things that are not true, the DNR should not enable wolves to be killed just because of those erroneous beliefs. The DNR should advocate for ELIMINATION of wolf hunting and trapping, bear hunting and trapping, fox and coyote hunting and trapping, etc. These activities are barbaric and wrong in any society.
Ken Goldsmith	Most of it	No	1. The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. 2. The elimination of a numerical target population 3. The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. 4. Emphasizing the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	1. The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. 2. The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. 3. At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. 4. There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. 5. Hound training must be stopped. 6. The plan needs a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds killed by wolves. 7. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Overall, the plan is fairly good. However, too much emphasis is placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence. The Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites and Americans.
	Most of it	Yes	basicly none	bounderies for indian reservation	1	start by listening! to the people who have to deal with them.by the time we get a hunting season how many more wolfs will we have.it seems t so much put some in the cities.wheni let my dogs out i have to carry a gun o me that the dnr is holding hsnds with pro wolf people most never will have to deal with them.if they love the wolves so mu put some in the citych
	Most of it	Yes	Information on keeping the wolf population sustainable and healthy keeping in mind all the many groups that factor in to any decisions.	Too much scientific detail for the lay person. Hard to find the simple points of how will the wolf management work in order to not have over kill of the wolf population.	7	Important that education (which is defined in the report) continues so general population understand the importance of wolves to ecology and nor be guided by irrational fear often promoted by media.

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chris baird	All of it	No	less focus on a specific number of wolves.	needs to prohibit hunting of wolves	2	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				The main purpose for my contacting through this survey is that I wrote an extensive letter to the email provided, only to find that the the email is apparently not a usable email address as it is continuously “rejected by the server” Very frustrating that the DNR does not want us landowners to be heard.
Dave Kolbenschlag	All of it	No	Removal of 350 wolf goal. Why have a goal? The ecological impact of wolves. Buffer zones. Social survey. Greater awareness of the public about these beautiful creatures.	Lack of best available science. Much needs to brought up concerning non-lethal interventions. More public information and education about wolves needs to be done. The use of dogs must be totally outlawed. Injury to both dogs and wolves occurs. This is a very cruel way to hunt. Hunters need to learn to use their own initiative in hunting. Hunting season should be severely limited and every wolf killed or wounded must be proven. The quota for wolves should be ZERO! In my opinion wolf killing should be outlawed completely, If a need for culling appears then it should be done by state and scientific professionals only, not by egotistical public hunters..	5	I have supported wolves all my 75 years of adult life. I believe if somehow education of the public about these basically harmless souls can be done it should be. Wolves do not carry away babies to eat, nor children or adults. Leave them alone they will leave you alone! Unfortunately videos, movies etc still film the Big Bad Wolf!
Nancy Brooker	Most of it	No	The buffer zones and the acknowledgement that wolves, like all species, have an important role to play.	Although an improvement, the plan does not go far enough to protect wolves or to help mitigate human-wolf collisions. Hounding is abhorrent. Hounding and other deliberately cruel methods should be illegal. Lethal wolf management is not the most effective means of minimizing livestock-wolf issues. Using SOM is basing policies on assumptions.	6	
	Most of it	Yes	Sustaining or even increasing the present wolf population. The wolf is necessary for the rest of the wildlife population.	In general, I don't think the deer hunting population should be the indicators of how the wolf population is managed. If people choose to have domestic outside pastured animals, then they should have the reliable dog protectors that have proven to be effective.	3	People who worry about wolf interaction regarding children and domestic animals need to be proactive. The same needs to be done for both even when living outside of wolf country.
Dianne Caspersen	All of it	Yes	I liked the clear an d precise graphing overviews. The document was extensive to read, but as a science educator, the information was highly interesting and clearly presented. All aspects were covered from historical to indigenous features. I was especially interested in the environmental balance data and the management plan on page 101 with stated objectives.	The length of the document does not lend itself to be read by the average citizen. Perhaps a shortened user friendly synopsis of data could be provided for use. However, the information presented is all necessary for the purpose here.	10	This is a beautifully written ,thorough document. I am highly interested in future education plans, beginning at the elementary level for schools to incorporate for awareness of the wolf population issue. If you ever need help with this I would gladly volunteer my time. I was a Conservation teacher of the year and have won many national teaching awards. I am currently retired and have moved from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin two years ago. Living on the Menominee River I have experienced much of the local wildlife. Thank you for your efforts with this informative and educational document. Dianne Caspersen- [redacted]
Robert Pacocha	Most of it	Yes	Being able to manage the Wolves through regulated hunting and trapping on a yearly basis.	Having the total number of wolves in Wisconsin exceed 350 statewide.	5	I truly believe the overall number of wolves in Wisconsin is grossly underestimated.
Bill moody	All of it	Yes	Taking input from public	Apart from input, residents are at the mercy of bureaucrats.	1	A “NO” vote from a northern resident should count more than a vote from a non-impacted southern city resident
Jane	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Looks to the future to preserve the Wolf for future GENERATIONS and respect the Indigenous People Nations.	Killing of the Wolves Wolves have to eat Elk is a good lunch for them.	5	Save as many Wolves as possible to many MEN just want to SHOOT to KILL such a beautiful BEAST. They can be a tourist Attraction in the WILD.
	Most of it	Yes	The chance to harvest a wolf if they are delisted is the best part. Tge wolves pretty much take care of themselves. Most apex predators do unless there's unregulated hunting.	I think the plan/DNR is making a big mistake in trying to eliminate a numerirical goal. I don't believe the courts or Federal gov. would go along with this if the state gets sued again. Your goal should still be 350 minimum. If they are drlusted and we have a season, we could harvest 200 a year and never get close to the 350 minimum. They reproduce too well and have plenty of target prey to stay sustainable. I believe tge population is much closer to 2000 than 1200. The only people (a social issue) will believe your population analysis is to have a numerical answer. Enough, need more, harvest less, won't cut it.	5	The people who live in wolf country should have more say in the plan than people who don't live with them everyday. The wolf committee put together to draft the plan had far too many individuals that would rather see more wolves than a balanced population the people who live with them would like to see. 350 minimum population should be the end goal.
	All of it	Yes	The word management. You are admitting there is a problem with the resource that knows no boundary, no containment, no distingquishment to its prey.	The fact you will not admit you sold the reintroduction plan on a population number of 380 or so and blew the doors off that. Not bringing it down to manageable packs that are past the plea of just let us have a few wolves were indian ceromonial practise and a few on the land scape for nostalgic reasons. If this was a fish blowing the population mark past its plan number it would be bigger harvest number and daily bag limit to bring it down.	1	No room for the wolf in a modern civilization, keep them in the parks where you have the responsibility for all its actions. Now the animal crosses private property lines and you say not are problem, they crossed containment line and are protected by gov. regulation. BULL. Their's a reason they where hunted and had a bounty by the settler's. They are a killing machine, eating little of their prey and moving on. It's a gang, if they where human the district attorney would be trying to take them down.
	All of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of ‘0’ wolves, restricting timing and methods.	0	

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Anthony Rust	Most of it	Yes	I think the inclusion of affected groups and open public input is key to the success of this management challenge.	I didn't see a specific population goal. In my experience having fuzzy goals create a moving target. This leads to more conflict within the invested parties and the program loses focus. If the focus is broad and not clearly defined the path to achieve the goal is unclear and the group(s) cannot maintain focus. Every management plan is a journey. The plans change and focus is redirected based on the best knowledge at the time. The goals of this plan are so open ended I don't see how you will know if progress is being made? Does this plan have the support of someone with project management expertise? You will never make everyone happy when it comes to managing wolves. I think we all know that. I doubt you will have much success making anyone happy. But your best outcome is to show progress meeting the science based goals while accommodating some of the emotional issues. Without a defined plan and set goals/outcomes I don't see how you can demonstrate measurable progress and proof of the success of your plan. I wish you the best.	5	I think it outlines the needs of the resource and invested parties. It is just too open-ended to be very successful.
	All of it	Yes	It's sure seems all encompassing.	Not enough attention to the wolves decimating the whitetail postulation.	3	Simply look at the graphs of wolf population and depredation. The sharp rises in both need to be swiftly leveled out. Nothing in this plan suggest that happening.
Hannah	Most of it	No	I appreciate that wolves in Wisconsin will not be managed by reference to the old goal of 350 wolves. In addition, I think the ecological role of wolves is critical to informing decision making in management plans, so I was glad to see there was more focus on that in this plan. Another important aspect I liked was that there is a new adoption of buffer zones around tribal reservations when that had not been present in the past. Finally, I think it's critical to understand the social role that goes into management plans in regards to understanding that many people are having increasingly positive views of wolves, so it's important to take that into account when creating these plans.	I don't like that the current draft doesn't reflect the best available science. Science is continually evolving, so when new literature and research comes to light, it's extremely important to allow this new information to inform decison making and include it in these plans. By omitting ths science and emphasizing recreational killing as a main management straegy, we are failing wolves. This strategy rejects the most recent scientific evidence. Studies indiciate that lethal management simply isn't effective, and I believe it should be avoided unless it's an extreme case, like circumstances of immediate defense of life (which is a very rare circmstance as it is). Non-lethal management of wolves such as fladry, patrolling in horseback, guard dogs, etc. should be the first response to livestock loss (especially considering how rare it is for depredation to occur due to wolves--less than 1%). Finally, the plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.	4	I appreciate that there were some decent changes, but I think more positive measures can be taken to better protect wolves and ensure they thrive as a species in Wisconsin.
bob grundl	All of it	Yes	it is nice to see comment on the impact of wolves on the elk population, this is only the second time I have seen this in all the discussion of wolf population numbers. I believe too much emphasis is put on growing wolf numbers, which are way above management goals and sustainability numbers over elk numbers which are not where they should or could be. I would venture to say deer and elk ecotourism is much greater than wolf ecotourism especially since the odds of seeing a wolf are quite small. elk numbers have always seemed to be an afterthought or not even mentioned in most articles I have read previously. the dnr needs to communicate better to the public, especially those living in urban areas that 300-500 wolves is above management goals and a very sustainable population. with well over 1000 wolves in wi a hunt with a harvest total of 200-300 animals is not goting to hurt the population.	i know it is difficult to get an accurate count of wildlife. my personal feeling from being in the woods is the deer count is inflated(due to economic pressure?) and the wolf count is undercounted(due to public and court pressure?) i also understand it is difficult to work with the wi legislature, most of whom don't know what they are talking about and the dnr is still recovering from the effects of scott walker. to me the plan seems to have a bias towards a higher number of wolves in the state, i think the dnr should be more neutral. wolves are here to stay and need to be managed and regulated like all other wildlife. i think the dnr made a mistake years ago saying the mgt goal was 350 wolves and then suddenly in the last year or so saying this was only a minimum number. even if this is a minimum 500 or even 600 wolves is a very sustainable number (just have lower harvest limits for a hunt, just like the low number of elk tags) I don't think the dnr does a good job of conveying to the public that this is a very sustainable number of wolves and the dnr shouldn't favor the wolf over the elk which I believe they do. wolf numbers are growing faster than elk numbers. when asking the public about the benefit of having wolves, do you also ask about the benefits of having deer and elk?? i think only a small weight should be given to the benefits derived from wolves from people out of state or living in urban areas, many who never are out in the woods. the dnr doesn't need to foster public support for wolves, they should stay neutral, wolves aren't the most important part of our wildlife and don't contribute the most economic impact(not that that is the most important factor) I do believe from my time in the woods (a hunter for over 40 years and I used to have land in adams county that I recently sold) that deer numbers are way down and wolves play a big part in that. this past deer season I didn't see a single deer on my property over 6 days. in adams county you used to be able to see 20 plus deer a day. also we were part of a quality deer management group and the group overall say less deer, again some seeing zero deer and many see wolves on their trail cameras. the plan talked about protecting wolf dens, hopefully you mean only on public lands and aren't trying to tell land owners what they can and can't have on their property. again i think any plan should take into consideration the input from those most directly affected, those in the wolve zones. again wolves are here to stay but i don't think we should continue protecting them at the expense of whitetail deer and espsecially elk who's numbers could and should be much greater.	5	continue to use science to manage all of wisconsin's wildlife. push back more on our uneducated legislature. in talking with the public educate them on the wolf and all wildlife but stress we do have a viable and self sustaining wolf population, well above initial dnr mgt goals. This isn't the 1800's, all wildlife must be managed, if people don't want to manage wildlife (including hunting) they can get rid of their house and car and phone etc and go back to living off the land. Just don't put the wolf above other wildlife like deer and elk.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
William Schoeneck	Most of it	Yes			0	why do you use the term the state of wisconsin when wolfs and bears are mainly in northern wisconsin? If it's so good for wisconsin and the people of wisconsin then they S/B in the whole state like deer, squirrels, birds, raccoons, and other wild life learning to exist with all humans. It's another example of the people who have to live with the issues are DICTATED to by those that have no idea what problems they have created. I love wolfs and bears along as there not by me!!!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				Please continue to use scientific methods and tribal input to protect Wisconsin's wolves. Also, let's do what we can to discourage use of the term "harvest". Wolves are not crops. Thank you for the important work you do to manage and protect our wolf population.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Perspectives of Forest County Potawatomi, LCO, and Menominee tribes stating that the wolf is like a brother, the lives of wolves and people are intertwined, and our goal is to live well together. State maps of wolf pack distribution over time. Fascinating! Tables about causes of wolf mortality. Plan goal to balance the tradeoffs between the key objectives. Discussion of wolf carrying capacity.	None.	9	
	Most of it	Yes	Wolves are essential to the environment and sacred to the native American tribes. Educate ourselves.			
JOHN DOUCHA	Most of it	Yes	targeting permits in problem areas . not only livestock but new and growing elk area	getting away with the number estimation and keeping the goal at 300 or about	3	I do like that wolf are back in the state but they need to be regulated with a controlled hunts . good way for the department to rise money for other projects that are needed
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	There is a lot of research into it	You are looking to deep into the whole deal you need to look at the basics of there population control and the amount of wolf kills vs anything in the state and how it has gone up over time to obviously show there is more wolves	4	I think you should have a hunt but do a very limited tag and mb make it a specialty hunt to make some money on it
Edward J. Frank	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The Flexibility it provides to realize the many values of having wolves,while addressing the concerns about damage to livestock and hunting dogs.	It doesn't deal aggressively enough with getting rid of or at least modifying WI Law(2011 Act 169) which caused the ill-advised Feb.2021 Hunt !	7	I whole heartedly support the detailed review & Recommendations of The WI Green Fire, Wildlife Working Group(Co-Chair, Adrian Wydeven), regarding this current draft! They improve it !
Karen Wyatt		No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits		

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				mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None	There are to many wolves in the state already	0	You expect people to buy hunting license for white tail deer and the want more wolves, I have been in these areas where these wolf packs are and the white tail population is decimated , increasing the wolf population is a bad idea
J.Ros	All of it	No	I like that you try to gather as much info as you can about the "subjected" animal	I dislike the idea that humans can control Mother Nature	5	People seem to forget that humans are the invasive species.
	Most of it	Yes	None	Not setting a number	1	The last plan was not followed so why would we think there will be any management in the future. People who do not live in the areas where the wolves are having a say on what others have to put up with. Let the county residents decide on population goal.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Max G Lagally	All of it	Yes	I am pleased to see that there is no longer a goal for the number of wolves that "should" reside in the state. I am pleased to see a rather comprehensive social survey. If heeded, that should help point the DNR in the right directions. I am pleased that the views of the native tribes are taken into greater consideration in this iteration of the management plan. I like, at the start of Section 4, the realization that numerical goals are misleading and that there are better ways of "management". I like the idea of "facilitating wolf-related benefits while minimizing wolf-related conflicts". I like the word "stewardship". I do not like the word "management"	The plan should establish a hunting quota for Wisconsin wolves that is zero in all zones Hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. There should be no killing; better methods of conflict resolution exist DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves and all associated issues with dogs should be stopped (training, compensation, etc.). Baiting should be stopped The occupancy model to determine wolf populations is in my opinion highly unreliable and should not be used solely to determine population. There should be a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and to eliminate payments for hunting hounds killed by wolves.	7	Comments on Wisconsin wolf management plan Max Lagally 2/25/23 Although I am commenting on the wolf management plan, not all the comments I am making are specifically relevant to the draft, in particular because the DNR is constrained by state law in what it can act on. Nevertheless, I believe it is worthwhile to express these views, as they are likely shared by a large majority of the citizens of the state and could be a blueprint of what the department could aspire to in the future. I have read the draft wolf management plan in its entirety. About Me: I have lived in Madison since 1963. I am a scientist, with a PhD in physics. I understand measurement science and statistics. We own land in Iowa County and a second home outside Sauk City. We are investing to restore the land to conservation status. Although I don't hunt and will never own a gun (a consequence of childhood trauma) I allow a small group of friends to hunt deer on the Iowa County property. Here are my comments: In these times it should be obvious that humans are not masters of the universe, that we cannot live without all other life and that we are simply a part of the whole. The words "natural resources" imply that everything is at the service of humans. That cannot be true. Therefore, efforts should be initiated to rename the Department to something like Department of Environmental Conservation or similar. The word "harvest" should not be used as a substitute for "kill". Please look up the etymology of the word "harvest" Nowhere does it historically refer to animals. We don't refer to school killings as harvesting children. We should not refer to wolf harvest or deer harvest or coyote harvest. Call it what it is: killing. A hallmark of capitalistic society is that it is basically beholden to and run by minorities, which are most generally motivated by greed or power. Pretty much does not matter what it is: hunters, drug prices, gun lobby, oil industry, education, prisons. These minority groups are highly motivated to get what they want, and the large majority of the public can't keep up. As a consequence we have a society governed by the desires of minority interests. Which does not make it right. As far as the DNR is concerned, its clients are not just the homo genus but all plant and animal life in the state, from orchids to bumblebees to butterflies to coyotes to wolves. And invasives like garlic mustard, buckthorn, lawn grass, etc. Luckily 95% of the human species is also on the side of support of conservation (with the exception maybe of lawn grass, one of the worst invasive monocultures), so if the DNR simply begins to manage its practices to be more in line with the views and desires of the general public, it would go far toward improving the balance of human vs the rest of nature, at least in the State of Wisconsin. I know that is perhaps simplistic thinking given the constraints imposed by the politicians driven by the greed minority. But then at least the DNR should spend much more effort on education, awareness, publicity, and conflict prevention. It should not take a miserably failed wolf hunt to arouse the public to litigate and finally to get the DNR to act. I also listened in on the listening session on Tuesday, February 7. So now I will make comments specific to the draft wolf management plan. Compliments, first of all, on the overall effort. This is a thorough draft, very informational. From a historical view, it is quite an advance. By that I mean based on the thinking of 20 years or more ago, it is an advance. It still uses the old norms and standards and starts with those and defends them or modifies them. But we live in different times, in greater recognition of the environment, climate change, the interrelationship of all life, bioscience, genetics, and so on. From that perspective it is a disappointment. We need a bolder plan; one that begins with a new set of ground rules, as suggested above. I am pleased to see that there is no longer a goal for the number of wolves that "should" reside in the state. I am pleased to see a rather comprehensive social survey. If heeded, that should help point the DNR in the right directions. I am pleased that the views of the native tribes are taken into greater consideration in this iteration of the management plan. I like, at the start of Section 4, the realization that numerical goals are misleading and that there are better ways of "management". I like the idea of "facilitating wolf-related benefits while minimizing wolf-related conflicts". I like the word "stewardship". I do not like the word "management" As for the number of wolves currently residing in Wisconsin: first, I agree with the view of the native tribes that the wolf should be thought of as a brother, rather than a "resource" to be "harvested". If one takes that as the starting point, there is no need for determining the number of wolves residing in the state; there is no need to have a hunt or ever to trap them; there is no need for discussion about carrying capacity: all sorts of scientific evidence points to the fact that wolves will regulate their number – much better than humans do. The "management" then reduces to conflict resolution and education or increasing awareness of wolf behavior and coexistence strategies. The DNR would be a much kinder and gentler organization; and not so beholden to minority interests. But as that is not going to happen in my lifetime, let me

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
						comment on wolf count and statistics. People don't understand statistics. The media doesn't understand statistics; and those few who do have to dumb things down for the public. You should never quote a number. Google "how many wolves are in Wisconsin?" and it comes right up with 972. No matter what else you say, that's what people hear and remember. So don't quote a number. The range quoted indicates you believe that the distribution is Gaussian – symmetric or nearly so. You have not defended that and it is almost surely not true because of the factors you have neglected. Adrian Treves has provided a nice analysis. There are many factors that are neglected in the simulation that, if considered, would lead to a lower wolf number, and no countervailing factors that would lead to a higher wolf number. Hence your distribution is not Gaussian but skewed and a most-likely number is meaningless. In my business we call this "garbage in, garbage out". Without a proper analysis of the inputs the output is meaningless. You should go back to physical counting, so you at least have a reasonable estimate of the minimum. Still not perfect but at least reasonably defensible. If one considers the tribal perspective of wolf as brother, there is no need to hunt them. Given that this view is unrealistic in the current environment (with the wolves safe only because of protections), at least hunting with dogs, use of bait, and trapping should not be permitted. Compensation for injured or killed hunting dogs is simply an outrage. A complete ethical and moral outrage. I understand it is state law, promulgated by totally unethical and immoral politicians. Nevertheless, all efforts should be made by DNR to fight against this law and to put up as many barriers as possible and to make it as difficult as possible to collect, for example by making paperwork so onerous that hunters give up. There are many ways that could be accomplished. Management plan: the draft says nice words up front but basically it seems just a cover for management = quotas= hunting Propose a webinar series to educate the public – over and over again, with a particular set of sessions for legislators to explain the benefits of wolves. Elk vs wolves: before humans interrupted the balance, the wolves and elk worked it out. You seem to indicate that where they interact the situation is stable. Why bother managing? Totally against lethal abatement methods. Not necessary Wolf damage compensation program. On the basis of fundamental ethics, fairness, and balance, the whole idea of compensation is untenable. It is as always people centric. After all, humans encroached on the wolf territory. Some risks and losses should be expected. Russians invade Ukraine, expect some losses. This problem should be primarily handled via education and prevention measures. At minimum, the plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Wolf hunt is not needed. It is murder of our brothers and should be illegal. DNR should simply not condone it. Catering to this small vociferous minority who seem to know no ethical bounds is not in the broader interests of the DNR. Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves.
Scott Rupnow	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that you made a plan. Not making a plan over the past 15 years was a guaranteed way to fail at managing the wolf population in Wisconsin.	I feel that it is a mistake that a state-wide population target was not set for wolf management. I believe that this will make it harder to manage wolves moving forward. I believe that a science based target could be set by the well trained and educated professionals in the DNR and that this would make it clearer on how we should manage wolves in this state.	4	
	All of it	Yes	That it is only a draft and can still be changed	No set goal number. 350 should be the number.	0	This is not a wolf management plan. This is a wolf expansion plan both in numbers and area. This plan does nothing for Wisconsin and should be scrapped. Adopting this "plan" will only fuel the distrust of the DNR that unfortunately continues to grow.
Dan and Judy Aughey	All of it	Yes	I appreciate that the DNR conducted a social survey for public opinion and listening to our concerns. 75% of Wisconsinites are in favor of wolves. It's positive that this is acknowledged by the DNR and positive changes are being made. For instance, removing the 350 for population goal. I was very happy to that the DNR sees that wolves play a very important role to the ecology.	After the wolf "hunt" that was forced on to our state from outside sources such as Hunters Nation in Feb. 2021, we all saw what an abomination that turned out to be. You are aware of exactly what I mean. We cannot, ever allow that to happen in our state again! I say no wolf "hunt" like that is ever allowed to happen again. It has been proven that the wolf population controls itself. If resources are hard there will be no mating. Man does not need to interfere with nature that God has given us. Wolves are an asset to our environment to control deer, CWD...the weak and the sick. Ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves and any other canids. Ending hounding for hunting except for bird dogs, period.	5	please listen to the majority of the people in WI. who want wolves on our landscape. Stop the killing of our wolves from outside sources only to bring income to WI. DNR, protect and preserve our natural resources including our most valuable, our wolves. It is not mans duty to control. It's to look to after all species and protect, not destroy.
	Most of it	Yes	Much of the data seems relevant to the plan outline.	Too much input from non-range ownership and residence.	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Mark Schuh	All of it	Yes	I don't like any of it.	I believe there are many more wolves in Wisconsin than what the DNR estimates. I have owned land in Forest County since 1992, the deer herd has been decimated by wolves and hard winters. Wolf numbers need to be reduced and controlled by annual hunts. There needs to be a accurate count of wolf numbers as present system is a guess. Wisconsin law calls for an annual hunt and this needs to happen. We no longer allow children to walk our trails without an adult as we have many wolves on trail cameras. This is not only a deer issue but now more importantly a safety issue for people. Wolves are no longer afraid of people. If urban people want unlimited numbers of wolves they should be trapped and moved to Madison and Milwaukee.	1	Very disappointed in how wolves are currently managed in WI. Sadly politicians and urban dwellers manage the program, its time for biologists and common sense to lead the wolf management in WI. Spend some money to get this right.
R H	All of it	Yes		Leaves to much open for killing wolves	1	Wolves are part of the ecosystem and we need to learn how to live around them. In Yellowstone the wolves kept the elk herd healthy and kept the from overgrazing the grass.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		prefer much lower population goal	2	I am a fairly typical livestock farmer. I would have another $500 in my retirement fund if it weren*t for wolves.
Mike Raether	All of it	Yes	Management/population/harvest quota	Nothing about deer population vs. wolf population is mentioned, studies are based on elk population.	4	Whitetail hunting is a staple in Wisconsin, the whitetail population in northern Wisconsin is way down from what it was 10 or 20 years ago. I am okay with wolves in Wisconsin BUT we need to keep tabs on the wolf population and balance it so the deer population in northern Wisconsin can rebound. When you go out bow hunting for deer and see more wolves than deer it is very disheartening.
	All of it	Yes	The plan provides exhaustive reference to the history of the wolf and its habitat, etc. A nice way to fill the document with fodder, if you want a plan to look in-depth, scientifically based and professional - while deflecting from the true motive, which is to slow walk any real data on quotas, or harvesting of wolfs. I admire the way the plan asks us to trust the science, while denying what we have witnesses with our own eyes over the 20 years; the fundamental change of whitetail hunting in the Northwoods due to wolf predation.	The PLAN, refuses to give any firm projection of quotas for harvest, or, the ration of tags to animals projected to be used in the future. In reality, it reads more like a Wikipedia than a scientific plan. I admire the twisted elements inherent in the wolf strategy - such as automatically allotting 50 percent of all quota harvest to natives tribes, which effectively taking out harvest of the table as a real "scientific" tool for management. How can you manage a statewide resource, with less than 3 percent of the population? How is that based in science? The plan, is a long bureaucratic "word salad" on paper. When will a hunt to harvest start, under what terms, and how many tags? If you can not answer than in 5 pages, its just a lie.	1	The "plan" is not a plan at all. Instead, it goes into unnecessary detail about history of the wolf, etc. It professes, almost too loudly, to be based in "science" while then suggesting there are a myriad of different interests that must be taken into account. The reader is left to believe the DNR is really focused on a plan, "grappling" with the science, struggling to appease....in the end, it is well edited word garbage that says nothing about an actual harvesting process that makes sense long term in a state over run with wolves.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves — a number that when hit provides a rationale to kill wolves by the hundreds so that the state can keep them below an artificial ceiling. That “cap” was always arbitrary and it again and again set the stage for wolf killing. The management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas.	The population estimates leave far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. The Wisconsin DNR is too quick to promote lethal responses to the rare conflicts that result between wolves and people.	5	We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on “lethal management” and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to “non-consumptive users.” The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and “training.” We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state’s wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves’ physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict	4	

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				the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Christina L Gerber	All of it	Yes	I liked the idea of more committees for studies but beg you to make them balanced with people who want to preserve these animals as well as your hunters and farmers.	What I dislike from the draft plan is the fact that is still appears that the main concern is for hunters and recreational abilities rather than environmental cares if this state. When do we start to give back to the environment and the creatures that live here rather than how many recreational vehicles we can run all over these lands and guns we can fire. I don't recall reading anything on poaching of these animals. What happens to the animals that don't follow whatever laws and rules we set up for that??	4	Please put more thought into preserving the land and waters for future generations
Dean Weingarten	All of it	No	Areas of the plan which explained the costs of maintaining a wolf population in the state. Explicit explanation of the conflict between traditional views and "mutualism".	The plan starts with assumptions about the nature of maintaining a wolf population. Those assumptions drive the plan, and are highly debated. The assumptions support the "mutualist" view of reality. The plan refers to the "wolf's ecological role", and notes wolves have an immense impact on an area's ecology. This is entirely a subjective valuation. The plan accepts this "benefit" as an assumption, when it is far from clear the presence of wolves benefits the ecology generally. There are many disadvantages to the presence of large numbers of wolves in an ecological system. It is claimed by Theil that fur traders were indifferent to wolves, because they were not valuable. An easy search on the internet shows in 1749, wolf pelts were quite valuable, at 40 sols, or 2/3 of a beaver pelt. Theil seems to have been quite influential at the DNR. The lack of an upper limit to the wolf population in Wisconsin is a serious problem. The benefits of maintaining a wolf population are emphasized, even though the benefits are exceedingly small for the vast majority of people. The benefits are mostly psychological and would be satisfied with a small wolf population. Missing from the sources is the inciteful critique of wolf management written by Valerius Geist, the well known professor emeritus of the University of Calgary. "The Myth of the Harmless Wolf" is available on the Internet, if you care to look for it. It can be found with a search for works by Valerius Geist, PhD. Geist carefully explains how the myth of the harmless wolf was created, and the problems it creates. Geist supports the idea of maintaining a wolf population, but points out the many difficulties of maintaining a wolf population in a mixed agricultural area.	2	The largest, unspoken beneficiaries of maintaining a wolf population in Wisconsin are the people who create the wolf management plan. They have an enormous conflict of interest, because, through salaries and grants, they receive most of the limited benefits of having wolves in the state. It appears the DNR has suffered from "advocacy capture" where advocates for a particular species are, by their nature, drawn to work in the DNR. They then, through research and papers, transfer their personal advocacy for a species to policy within the DNR. This is a form of "regulatory capture", a well known process where administrative agencies have their resources diverted from providing for the public good to providing for select interest groups. In this case, the interest group which gets the most resources are the advocates in the DNR themselves. The large difference between the mythology of wolves created in the media, and the reality of wolves on the ground, is obvious in the large difference in those who want more wolves. Those who have to live with wolves do not want more of them. Those who do not want wolves are happy to transfer the costs of their fantasies to those who have to deal with the reality of wolves.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Wolves have a place in Wisconsin	The part that I don't like is that the DNR is not able to manage the wolves. Every state should manage their wolf packs (populations). Too much outside voice managing the wolves and Washington thinks that they our DNR isn't smart enough to manage such a species of animal. Wow, I always thought that the WI DNR did a great job at keeping our wildlife populations managed nicely.	5	You can plan all you want but I do not feel that you will come up with a plan that you can actually get to work. The feds won't listen to facts. I don't even believe that our own DNR has a true feel for how many wolves are actually in Wisconsin.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The emphasis on looking to science to understand how ecosystems operate & maintain health for all species, including benefits to humans (which can't always be measured easily). Also appreciated the part about media inflating the discussion, often causing more harm & spreading misinformation.	The fact that any wolf management needs to occur. We share this world with a diversity of species. Who are we to "manage" them, and set quotas on how many can be killed. These animals have complex relationships both within their pack dynamics as well as their role as predators. Attempting to maintain some ideal number that keeps everyone "happy," from ranchers, to hunters, to politicians, biologists and conservationists is not a great use of time or resources. There should be no wolf hunting, no wolf trapping, no management. They should exist because we exist. Ranchers have ranch land, farmers have farm land, wolves should have areas where they can exist, too.	5	While I do not agree with any hunting of wolves, since we all know that won't go away, at least consider bans or harsh limits or stronger rules for trapping. Trapping of any wildlife is outdated (it was outdated even during the fur trade) and should not exist. There is danger to domestic dogs as well as people, & with no need of subsistence for many of these individuals who trap, it's an inhumane way of killing. We should do better.
Joel Burow	Most of it	Yes	That you are following the science, not giving in to killing for the sake of meeting outdated and meaningless numeric population goals, and that you are doing everything you can to protect this beautiful species. The hunt that occurred in 2021 or 2022 should NEVER be allowed to happen again.	It needs to be stronger to protect the wolves in instances where people complain that they are a nuisance. There needs to be more emphasis on requiring people to change their behaviors to help the situation, so both people and the wolves can live harmoniously. Killing the wolves to "solve" people's complaints never should be the first step.	9	Thank you for following the science, and for doing everything you can to protect this beautiful species and its habitat, for generations to come.
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well being ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dog fighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●	4	

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				methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. D., Treves, A., Walsh, J. C., Paquet, P. C., & Darimont, C. T. (2018). Hallmarks of science missing from North American wildlife management. Science Advances, 4(3). http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/3/eaao0167.abstract Ausband, D. E., Mitchell, M. S., Stansbury, C. R., Stenglein, J. L., & Waits, L. P. (2017). 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				David, P. (2009). Ma'iingan and the Ojibwe. In A. P. Wydeven, T. R. Van Deelen, & E. Heske (Eds.), Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States (pp. 267–277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). A seventy-year history of trends in Yellowstone's northern elk herd. The Journal of wildlife management, 71(2), 594-602. Edelblutte, É., Krithivasan, R., & Hayek, M. N. (2022). Animal agency in wildlife conservation and management. Conservation Biology, May 2021, 1–15. https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13853 Eklund, A., López-Bao, J. V., Tourani, M., Chapron, G., & Frank, J. (2017) Limited evidence on the effectiveness of interventions to reduce livestock predation by large carnivores. Scientific Reports, 7(1), 2097. Endangered Species Coalition. (2020). Wolf Conservation Planning Guide. https://www.endangered.org/wolf-conservation-planning/agencies/ Fuller, T. K., Mech, L. D., & Cochrane, J. F. (2003). Wolf population dynamics. In D. Mech & L. Boitani (Eds.), Wolves: Behavior, Ecology and Conservation (pp. 161–191). The University of Chicago Press. Gehring, T. M., VerCauteren, K. C., Provost, M. L., & Cellar, A. C. (2010). Utility of livestock-protection dogs for deterring wildlife from cattle farms. Wildlife Research, 37(8), 715–721. George, K. A., Slagle, K. M., Wilson, R. S., Moeller, S. J., & Bruskotter, J. T. (2016). Changes in attitudes toward animals in the United States from 1978 to 2014. Biological Conservation, 201, 237–242. https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2016.07.013 Gilbert, J. H., David, P., Price, M. W., & Oren, J. (2022). Ojibwe Perspectives Toward Proper Wolf Stewardship and Wisconsin's February 2021 Wolf Hunting Season. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, 10(April), 1–6. https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.782840 Haber, G. C. (1996). Biological, Conservation, and Ethical Implications of Exploiting and Controlling Wolves. Conservation Biology, 10(4), 1068–1081. https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1523-1739.1996.10041068.x 6 Griffin, K. A., Hebblewhite, M., Robinson, H. S., Zager, P., Barber-Meyer, S. M., Christianson, D., Creel, S., Harris, N. C., Hurley, M. A., Jackson, D. H., Johnson, B. K., Myers, W. L., Raithel, J. D., Schlegel, M., Smith, B. L., White, C., & White, P. J. (2011). Neonatal mortality of elk driven by climate, predator phenology and predator community composition. Journal of Animal Ecology, 80(6), 1246–1257. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2656.2011.01856.x Hogberg, J., Treves, A., Shaw, B., & Naughton-Treves, L. (2015). Changes in attitudes toward wolves before and after an inaugural public hunting and trapping season: early evidence from Wisconsin's wolf range. Environmental Conservation, 43(1), 45–55. https://doi.org/10.1017/s037689291500017x Hoy, S. R., Vucetich, J. A., & Peterson, R. O. (2022). The Role of Wolves in Regulating a Chronic Non-communicable Disease, Osteoarthritis, in Prey Populations. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, 10(April), 1–9. https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.819137 Kershenbaum, A., Root-gutteridge, H., Habib, B., Koler-matznick, J., Mitchell, B., Palacios, V., & Waller, S. (2016). Disentangling canid howls across multiple species and subspecies : Structure in a complex communication channel. Behavioural Processes, 124, 149–157. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2016.01.006 Koval, M. H., & Mertig, A. G. (2004). Attitudes of the Michigan public and wildlife agency personnel toward lethal wildlife management. Wildlife Society Bulletin, 32(1), 232–243. Kuijper, D. P. J., Sahlén, E., Elmhagen, B., Chamaillé-Jammes, S., Sand, H., Lone, K., & Cromsigt, J. P. G. M. (2016). Paws without claws? Ecological effects of large carnivores in anthropogenic landscapes. Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, 283(1841), 20161625. https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.1625 Louchouarn, N., Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Parsons, D. R., & Treves, A. (2021). Evaluating how lethal management affects poaching of Mexican wolves. Royal Society Open Science, 8(200330). https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.200330 Low, P., Panksepp, J., Reiss, D., Edelman, D., Van Swinderen, B., Low, P., and Koch, C. (2012) Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness in Non-Human Animals. University of Cambridge, Churchill College. Lynn, W. S. (2006). Between science and ethics: What science and the scientific method can and cannot contribute to conservation and sustainability. In D. M. Lavigne & S. Fink (Eds.), Gaining ground: In pursuit of ecological sustainability (pp. 191–205). International Fund for Animal Welfare. 7		
Michelle Wilson	All of it	No	None of it	all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	0	Wolves do not need "management" by people. People need to co-exist and use other methods to deter predation (to the extent it actually occurs) such as fencing and stop compensation for alleged livestock deaths from wolves. Please use more up to date science

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Kim	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			8	
	Most of it	Yes	I agree there should be some wolves in Wisconsin. The original goal of 300 some wolves is fine but the current population is way to high .	We need a harvest season to get to the original goal of 300 some wolves	2	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Shoot them all	Shoot them all	0	You can't even live with your number of keeping only 650 so since you can't control it Shoot them all
	All of it	Yes			5	I would like to see wolves relocated to parts of the state that don't have any. What better way to help the population of wolves grow along with more people being able to enjoy them.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			0	Shoot them to many wolfs are killing the deer an an other animals they can
Daniel Novacek	All of it	Yes	Very detailed	Too long ...get to the basics. How many people are going to invest the time to read 175 pages?	2	
	Most of it	Yes	Taking into consideration the cultural aspects of the wolf in relation to the tribal beliefs	Any aspect of hunting the wolves for the sake of culling.	6	I oppose killing wolves unless they are a clear threat to livestock or have become so habituated to people that they are dangerous and a safety concern. I strongly oppose re-imbursing hunters for dogs that are killed by wolves.
Debra DeVries	Most of it	Yes			1	Wolves scare me; last summer at our cottage on Pardee Lake a black wolf was watching me until I called my husband & he came out of cottage.
Janet M. Wall	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a number for the population goal. This is important to ensure that the numbers of wolves are adaptable and are based on changes in the ecology and are also based on the best science we have at this time. The plan creates low quota zones for tribal lands where they have requested it. these lands are protected by treaties with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is justly focused on all the many benefits of wolves in the ecology. The plan reflects public opinions in the survey that was released along with the plan. the survey found that public opinions and sentiment have grown remarkably more favorable. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research and sets forth that keystone species such as wolves are such a very important part of a healthy ecosystem.	The DNR should be involved in better regulating hound training on wolves if it has to be. I would like to see hounding permanently banned. I feel it has no place in fair hunting. Have a guidance plan in place for next review or update. This would eliminate the use of a plan that is used for decades and could become obsolete. There should be permanent stakeholder and science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin. This is just simply critical. Place a much higher PRIORITY on the teaching and training to and for farmers/ranchers of NON LETHAL options to reduce wolf depredation on livestock and on wolf/livestock conflicts. Many in other states have found this to be successful. The accounting of these successes are enlightening, educational, and forward-thinking toward the goals of conflict resolution.	9	I want to thank the Wisconsin DNR for formulating this wolf management plant that promotes and utilizes public input, science, and the Tribal involvement and engagement. These are core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain our precious natural resources, especially that of the gray wolves in our state of Wisconsin. Again, thank you and keep up the good work!
mark christopherson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I found it to be very useless to me. It should be simple	most of it why do we care about the elk	0	Have a wolf hunt like a couple year's ago. There were four killed within a mile radius of my house in two days
Diana C. Smith	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Based on science, not fears. Detailed data. Incorporation of tribal concerns. Incorporation of non-lethal controls. Time/seasonal restrictions on dog training for a wolf hunt. Public input. Appreciate the acknowledgment that wolves can and should be a resource to be enjoyed by all and are critical to an ecological balance.	The amount of funding for non-lethal controls is not listed, but I believe it was limited to approximately $60,000 a year or two ago. This $ amount is grossly insufficient to make any headway and should be significantly increased. Also, the concept that all of the citizens of the state have as great as or greater stake in the state's resources than a much smaller group of hunters is not acknowledged.	8	It was extremely upsetting to see the gross overharvest in the 2021 wolf hunting season. I appreciate the acknowledgement that strides will be taken to prevent that in the future.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Tom Meka	All of it	Yes	The amount of data, maps, survey's. Very detailed, scientific & informative.	Many of us hunters, specifically we who hunt in wolf populated areas/zones, doubt the accuracy/validity of the number of deer killed by wolves (18-20) per year per wolf. If would be good to see that refreshed/updated study to determine accuracy. Also would be good to see in the report, the total # of deer taken by wolves per year per zone based on the estimated wolf/deer population in each zone. Most of us understand (maybe not accept or like the competition) predation will impact deer populations but seeing the impact by zone might help us accept the impact. Break it down, deer per square mile in Forest vs. deer per square mile in Ag areas, wolf kills per year per area based on wolf population estimates in that area.	9	On the "Public Education" part of the plan, get that data front and center concerning the # of wolf/human encounters/deaths/attacks in North America & get specific concerning Wisconsin wolf attacks/deaths..., NONE. Its going to take decades to change public perception concerning the big bad wolf.
Erin Schneider	Most of it	Yes	I like the historical perspective of both the ecology and culture surrounding wolves in Wisconsin. I like elements of the plan that considers ecosystem management, public education. On p. 113. In general, I am in favor of objectives A, B (with the exception of compensating people for wolf/pet/hunting dog encounters) and DEF. I am mixed about objective C. I especially like the monitoring elements and citizen science participation that gets people outside in the winter. I am also mixed about objective B. I like the goal of reducing wolf-human conflicts, through outreach plans outlined and on page 131: Strategy: B4b: Continue applying for and securing federal grants to fund compensation and nonlethal abatement. Though I am not in favor of some of the strategies under this objective (see 5). I like elements of Objective C, eco-tourism strategies. I am in favor of implementation plan for Objective F, especially in having WI be part of :Product F2e: Apply for CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) authority.	On page 113 I dislike objective C that states allowing for a sustainable regulated hunting season of wolves. Related to this on page 129, I DISLIKE Strategy B2: Administer a wolf damage compensation program. In general I dislike the administrative rules (though understand that this is legislative the fact that taxpayer dollars have to reimburse Hunting dog and pet owners as well as vet bills for the risks they take, especially if said owners don't implement fencing or are negligent (let their dogs go for miles and track via gps). As a hunter myself, I am baffled by the lack of accountability this rule allows for. On page 125, I am also unclear, not in favor of: Product A4e: Continue to not allow wolf rehabilitation. As noted in Wis. Admin. Code s. NR 19.80(1)(8), the department does not authorize the rehabilitation of wolves or wolf-dog hybrids in Wisconsin. Overall, I am not in favor of Objective C :Strategy C1: Provide a well-regulated wolf harvest season consistent with public preferences and management plan objectives. However, I am in favor of regulation and education if the state's consensus is hunting.	8	As a Sauk county farmer, hunter, and conservationist, I am in favor of most of the plan. I appreciate the graphics and maps to complement the narrative. I appreciate the focus on science based solutions, though I think outreach and education efforts could be expanded to include art and storytelling as you need to change peoples hearts as well as minds on this topic. I am not in favor of hunting wolves (why? if you're not eating the animal?) or compensation to individuals who lose their hunting dogs or livestock to wolves. In my opinion, that is a risk you take and is what insurance is for. I am in favor of reducing human/wolf conflicts, and I support non-lethal ways to do so. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Craig John Witte	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The plan lacks specifics ie goal #s, harvest #s etc. Use the Sturgeon plan a guide ie science based goals/ harvests etc	4	I hope you can put the political pressures and your own biases aside. Thank you

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Michele Just	All of it	No	. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Thank you for the changes on the plan. Here is what continues to need to be addressed: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on : ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).	1	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	None	All	0	Shoot every wolf seen, if tree huggers want wolves, trap them and release them in Madison and Milwaukee
Debbie Wall	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				I fear that any "management" plan is an attempt to manipulate numbers of prey animals for human hunters and is also done at the behest of ranchers. Since we've put a man on the moon, the human population has more than doubled while that of the wild animal nations has more than halved. The survivors, including wolves, deserve protection and have the right to live and raise their families in peace. Ranchers must do their research and work to become predator friendly. The general public needs to be educated as to the true nature of wolves and we must adopt peaceful coexistence and compassionate conservation strategies. Thank-you.
Kathleen Cooper	Most of it	Yes	Educating the public as to the importance of having a healthy wolf population	Even the consideration of a wolf hunt is repugnant to me. I think wolves provide balance in our ecosystem. Wolf hunting with dogs in particular is highly unethical.	3	Leave them alone
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
Susan Barakat	All of it	Yes	It was good to see that the draft was, in many ways, being an advocate for the wolf. I believe this is the responsibility of the DNR, especially with the persecution that these animals face. Thank you for including the tribe's statements. The report seems balanced & I learned much. I agree that the protection of wolf dens needs to be paramount. Thank you for debunking misinformation- ie that wolves are a threat to the deer population. Educating the public on how they can possibly help with controlling CWD seems to be an excellent plan. I agree with Product A6a for many reasons- the more roadless areas the better for the health of the forests and the wolves. Promotion of ecotourism. Support the ownership of larger tract of land by public & private owners to address the need to give wolves "their space"- support science based management. Apply for CITES. Use educational outreach. Thanks.	I stand with the Natives, that "managing' wolves is objectionable & problematic, especially with their constantly changing status federally. Having a hunting season where every means possible of killing them doesn't seem reasonable, nor "fair" I object to using dogs to hunt them. That seems particularly barbaric, but, then, so do traps. The use of hunting dogs may have a tradition in this state, but now that our lands are so fragmented, this model seems past it's time. We own 400+ acres and have to deal with dogs trespassing. The buffer zones around the reservations should be "No harvest" zones. Zones 3 & 4- all zones - should firstly be management A- ecologically for the wolfs. Everything else is secondary, your surveys show Wisconsinites want the wolves here. While the report suggests that laws to protect wolves should be enforced, the current way the DNR is managed doesn't seem to allow for this. What can be done to stop the poaching? You mention that elk populations aren't growing as fast as anticipated, and yet you let hunters take them- animals that are basically tame beasts. Again, dogs should not be allowed to hunt wolves.	8	Plan is impressive, well rounded.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	Wolves are pests like coyotes and should be treated as such
Russ Bachman	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the tremendous amount of research that wet into creating the draft.	If i read it correctly, it looks like a proposed season would allow a concurrent hunting and trapping season. In my opinion this would not be fair as documented by the overwhelming success rates of using dogs versus trapping.	10	I sincerely believe sportsmen/women should be the primary population control agent with target numbers supported by science vice politics. I also believe trapping should be allowed a time advantage over other harvest methods, i.e. earlier season.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Eliminate all wolves	Having wolves	1	No wolves
gary hendricks	Most of it	Yes	the court case stopped for now the inhumane killing in WI	tried to ok inhumane hunting tactics	3	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Should have no wolves	Have wolves	1	Eliminate them again
	Most of it	Yes			3	When there was wolf hunting poaching was low, No hunting and the wolves are shot like coyotes . Please get hunting at reasonable levels to keep wolf population down to the orginal 385 wolf level which now is over 1000
Dan Barth	Most of it	Yes	As a keystone predator species I LIKE the linkage of the wolf to its role in keeping prey species strong, healthy and moving. This emphasis on improving habitat is important, should be researched and public education increased. In particular, having long suspected the beneficial role a healthy wolf population would have on CWD, possibly even eliminating it should be studied and publicized. The Colorado research on mountain lions is worth duplicating here with wolves if possible. I also like requiring hunters to register within 8 hours of recovery. Hopefully that will lessen the likelihood of of overkill.	I am in favor of allowing wolves to repopulate most of Wisconsin, and do not like low quotas from Hwy 8 south. The Wolf Advisory Committee's 4 At Large groups have the potential to be unbalanced in favor of members in opposition to a healthy wolf population. Ag and Hunter groups will argue for smaller regional quotas and larger hunting quotas. The unaffiliated group could easily bring in more people opposed to the wolf. I'd like to see that group designated for people who view wolves positively.	7	A lot more public education about wolves is needed. Since no humans were killed by wolves in Wisconsin in the 20th Century that needs to be made more prominent in our minds. The fact that our domestic dogs are the dangerous canines also needs more coverage. Wolves, not us are the animals in danger.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Julie Zeidel	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Buffers around tribes	Allowing hound hunting and traps - unsportsmanlike. Focus on non-lethal control instead!	2	We enjoy hearing and seeing wolves in Northern MN near our cabin, and we enjoy all the wildlife we observe when we visit our daughter in Eau Claire.... please use science to determine wolf management!
Robert Bernard	Most of it	Yes	Numbers have to be controlled! As a retired farmer I've seen the damage that they do!		10	
	Most of it	Yes	Killing some wolves	Not killing enough wolves, that eat too many livestock, dogs, and deer	2	350 should be maximum goal, for these monsters that ruthlessly torture their kills
Tom Lager	Most of it	Yes	The completeness of the documentation could not be better from ecological knowledge, the history of management and the interplay of people and wolves. I most like to Section four starting on page 97 - pages 139. I agree with the logic of "An alternative to numeric population goals". I like the rationale for the zones and subzones and how the parameters of the goals flex zone by zone.	None to speak of	9	I want the legislature to stop directing how the DNR professionals do thier jobs.
[redacted]	All of it	Yes	The research was excellent and should continue	The numbers I believe are under reported with limited data under estimating the population a has always flawed the data results	7	The need to protect the elk calf's and deer are vital as well as pets hunting dogs. The morality of these animals are under reported with the current data. It is an embarrassment that Wisconsin DNR had failed to have successful elk populations and eastern states actually have elk hunting not just a pathetic lottery draw. Hunting the wolve has been legally suppressed by liberal judges and everybody suffers as funding for wildlife programs are mostly suppported by hunting dollars and the DNR knows this but remains passive and does not advocate for hunting just money hunters provide. The decline in hunting interest is directly correlated to these facts about Wisconsin . Why do other Midwest states have better fishing and hunting with fewer natural resources us they support hunting and fishing as hunters are great conservationslists as we have to because of too highly regulated harvests.
John W Johnson	Most of it	Yes	Really, none of it. I feel it is manipulated to make the wollf population a non-issue in the state.	That wolves seek the sick, old and weak. This has been documented to be untrue by biologists in the western states. Wolves will kill for thrill. As far as tribes not killing them because of sacred belief's, how did they use there hides to cover themselves to hunt? I feel the tribe uses to be against the non-tribe people, same with spearing walleye and musky.	1	I've hunted deer in this state for 48 years. I've seen bad winters kill large populations of deer. But, within a couple years the herd rebounds. Now with the larger than stated wolf populations the deer herds in the large forest areas do not rebound at all and keep getting smaller. We as hunters have a voice in this also. Deer are required in all areas, especially public lands to hunt. With our current wolf population, the hunting quality has dropped to basically a non huntable deer population on public lands. This is a serious problem and needs to be corrected.
Robert Theim	Most of it	Yes	I thought the information was well presented and fairly inclusive in data from numerous studies from historic relevance of wolves in Wisconsin, to the impact on Wisconsin's elk population, to the breakdown of tolerance differences between those routinely in contact with wolf effects vs those who have no regular interaction. (I could write pages naming specific things I liked about the report, let it suffice that I felt it was fairly well inclusive of various graphs and surveys and studies)	I dislike that the proposed strategies really didn't focus controlling the wolf numbers and reflect what was reflected in the studies.. Instead, they seem to simply fall back on a politically based series of strategies rather than going off the science.	2	It seems that this is an attempt to please the masses of people, who realistically have little interaction with the wolves and really don't understand the ecological impact the wolves are generating. Instead they look as them as simply being a majestic and beautiful animal (which they are) but the management of the ecology needs to take presidency over the political side of allowing the ecology to be disrupted simply based on a "feeling" of how pretty an element of it is. The opening statement "To protect and enhance our natural resources: our air, land and water; our wildlife, fish and forests and the ecosystems that sustain all life. To provide a healthy, sustainable environment and a full range of outdoor opportunities " needs to be adhered to. The way our wolf population is now DOES NOT provide for a healthy sustainable environment. By ignoring the people who routinely interact with wolves and the results of their carnivorous daily activity, in favor of those who sit back and are not exposed to what the reality of allowing the wolves to continue their destructive natural activities, only causes a rift in the attitudes and forces people to take things into their own hands. It truly is a shame when people talk about gut shooting the animals because proper management practices are not employed.
Dan Henderson	All of it	Yes	I thought the whole plan was very thorough and well written.	I dislike that it is accepted that the majority of WI wants more than 350 wolves...the stated population goal listed when WI voted to allow wolf reintroduction. Reintroduction was allowed based upon a 350 population goal. This should NOT be disregarded without the ok of those living in wolf country.	7	I enjoy having wolves and other large predators, despite being a northern WI deer hunter. I also believe in active management of predators thru hunting/trapping. I believe the stakeholders who live among the wolves, should have a greater say in population goals than people, like me, who do not live in wolf country.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Colonel Don Hamilton	Most of it	Yes	First three sections...very thorough. Almost too much information	Fourth section. By creating a perpetual "circle" of managing the management of the Wolf Management Plan, nothing will ever accomplished. Creating a "suite" of strategies objectives, strategies, and products to guide wolf management, WITHOUT a specific BCC is a major fail. We know long term viability is tied to road density and non-ag lands. We know primary and secondary habitat will not increase. Previous plans have BCC. This one should too.	2	A lot of good/great info in sec's 1-3. Conversely, in sec 4, it's disappointing to see how the "science" of managing the wolf has been marginalized/reduced down by politics and the litigious nature of anti-hunters from science-based BCCs and actual harvest quota numbers to a 178 page "plan" that does not establish/publish a current, science based BCC. Look no farther than the the graphic on pg112: 75% of Plan is Adjust, Learn, and Evaluate. The Plan's unlimited amount of wolf management objectives and strategies guarantees only 25% of your management time is allotted to actually "Do"-ing any managing of this resource. This Plan is the culmination of - and clearly reflects - the overmanagement of the managing of the Wolf Management Plan. (If there ever was a "self-licking ice-cream cone," this is it.)
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g.,	4	

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				accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The fact that the state and not a federal judge will be deciding how we will manage the wolf populantion.	For a while now the number of wolves in the state has been a joke in the determining process. The political and special interest groups should not create a problem to determine an Accucrete wolf count. Our DNR has done this with deer for the past 20 years and hunting has gotten worse each year. You cant manage when you dont know what you are managing.	7	Wolves are spreading all over the state and will cause even more damage in agriculture areas if not properly controlled. The original goals when the wolf was introduced was 175 in the state we have 10 to 20 times that number today.
	All of it	No	cultural respect to native Americans	include a "satisfactory" hunt for hunter and trappers this is NOT science based	2	just to satisfy the hunter groups is not science based but politically motivated? and using dogs is not mentioned as to if included or not ...no on hunting and no on dog use
jeff schmelzer	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	Wasn't even going to comment. But, don't believe anything the general public says means anything .Too many wolfs. No deer. to many bears. Hunted Iron and Price county for over 40 years. To many doe tags. Ridiculous now. Wolf count way low. Pretty simple. But just goes on and on. Bla. Bla. Bla. Doesn't matter what People who live and / or hunt up there think. Could go on actually about plan, not worth it.
Gloria	All of it	Yes	Science based, wolves are an important part of the ecosystem. Also, appreciated input from Native Americans.	Dislike use of dogs and bait.	9	Wolf hunting season needs to end/close in early to mid December so breeding season is not included.

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Anne-Marie Hewitt	All of it	No	Wolves will no longer be managed by referral to the old numerical goal of 350. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey (which notes increased positivity towards wolves, as well as knowledge of their ecological roles, and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves). The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list in Other Comments) wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behaviour, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above omissions, combined with the emphasis on (and promotion of) 'sustainable' recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that is in opposition to scientific evidence, despite much of the omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly limit any lethal management of wolves, except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defence of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves (including Wisconsin wolves) has found that policies allowing liberalised killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are essentially legalised dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted, as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike, and is not supported by the majority of hunters, or indeed the general public. The plan should prioritise wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalisation of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. D., Treves, A., Walsh, J. C., Paquet, P. C., & Darimont, C. T. (2018). Hallmarks of science missing from North American wildlife management. 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				and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023).		management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). A seventy-year history of trends in Yellowstone's northern elk herd. The Journal of wildlife management, 71(2), 594-602. Edelblutte, É., Krithivasan, R., & Hayek, M. N. (2022). Animal agency in wildlife conservation and management. 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A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
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Lynn Buske	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	I didn't read it and I know I didn't but my largest concern is respecting the need for the wolves in our ecosystem. I saw that was considered in the description so I appreciate that part. Some wolf species are endangered. Countering the hate with respect is good.	I know there is a need to alleviate issues with the wolf, and I didn't read the draft, but I hope hunting, killing or harmful trapping is not part of that management. I am not clear on wolf population numbers but I am aware of in how wolf hate can skew perspective.	5	Wolves are special. I appreciate the DNRs approach and for including public comment. So important to engage the public thank you!
	Most of it	No	There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves and the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence and should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The plan should also require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The draft does not include these important matters.	3	Same as dislike
Michael J. Vandervest	Most of it	Yes	the amount of science and study is amazing. I agree with the proposed management numbers.	Its a little convoluted. It should be simplified. More info should be included on the process on how the public can help to get the plan implemented	8	the plan is obviously solid. that being said it needs to be fluid. not static. implementation should now be the priority.
Ronnie C Gray	Most of it	Yes	I don't like any of your plan	I don't want you to authorize ANY kill. Wolves are sacred to our family; tribal members. They are considered family.	1	Leave our brothers and sisters alone!!!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Yolanda St Germaine	All of it	Yes	I don't like any of your plan.	We should NOT be killing wolves. I am a tribal member and the wolf to me is sacred. He is considered my brother and I believe what happens to him, will happen to me.	1	Please do not plan to kill my brother or sister!!!
Mary Bittner	Most of it	Yes	Watching over the health of the wolves.	Still harvesting plan using traps, snares, dogs, baiting, snowmobiles also hours for training dogs on wolves This must Stop!	5	Keep wolves on the Federal Endangered Species Act to protect them from the terrible way of harvesting them. Move the whole wolf family to another area maybe to another state who would like and need wolves instead of slathering them in painful deaths.
Jeff Wagner	Most of it	Yes	The idea that people and wolves can coexist. The fact that wolves are sacred to Nativd Americans.	Trapping should be elicited. It's inhumane.	10	Eliminate trapping. It's an inhumane way to die.
L J Neuman	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Cultural significance of wolves to tribes		8	
Joe Peterson	Most of it	Yes	Not much	Not having a goal for the number of wolves for the state is an issue. Also when setting numbers for take if the tribes are not going to use there tags then the wolves should be allowed to be harvested by non tribal members. There is not enough use of real science as the western states are taking good numbers of wolves every year without overall reduction in numbers. Look at studies I believe were done on coyotes and the more you killed the larger the litters were and the fewer taken tended to result in smaller litter size. Also what about the conflict with farm animals and peoples pets/hunting dogs. This is all due to the over abundance of wolves and the fact they have no reason to worry about trying to avoid humans because they do not see us as a threat as they would have hunted.	1	See above. This whole wolf issue has become political and also based on the amount of money that animal activist groups can raise to try to fight the delisting and opening of a season. They make millions of dollars from supporters that know nothing of the real facts about living with wolves. Yet they can fight in court and have all their costs paid for by tax payers. That isn't fair either. Also, I read everywhere that people are killing wolves anyways and the shoot shovel and shout up philosophy which means that wolves are being killed anyways. Why not make them a legal and fulfilling hunting/trapping animal and bring more income into the state from the legal sale of licenses. Also why not change seasons to allow for good trappings/ hunting like in the short season we just had. That seems like a good way to allow for people to enjoy the harvest but also have the best pelt available for the trophy. Also bring back our deer numbers. I wouldn't be surprised to find you are conducting studies on cwd where you allow wolf numbers to be high to control or eradicate the deer herd that isn't being done by hunters. Remember your first attempt at controlling cwd where you wanted hunters to kill everything and there was a giant backlash. Please get away from the politics and manage the resource they way it should be done.
	All of it	Yes	Adaptable and science based. It appears that all citizens desires including tribes are represented. I like the shorter 8 hour kill reporting time. Also, any hunting allowed in only one zone with no moving to another zone to hunt. Important not to have a population cap but to focus on areas that are problematic with farmers .	I believe much more needs to be done regarding nonlethal measures. No farm with chronic depradation should have financial reimbursement without using nonlethal measures first. The state should help with this cost. Most citizens in this state want wolves to exist and to exist in their prime habitat where they belong. These areas should be off limits to hunting especially hounding. It's too invasive to every animal that has a right to exist in their natural habitat. Zones 1, 2 should be off limits especially the Chequaumegon/Nicollet forest. I dislike hounding at all and feel that this needs to be discontinued as a practice. The WBHA shouldn't have final say on what occurs with our wildlife in this state. Bear Bait should be limited and registered to minimize conflict with other wildlife. Night hunting using Lazer technology and snaring should not be allowed. Over 7 resolutions were rejected by the WCC recently including the 3-2 rule. Democracy is not happening with the WCC and it needs to be disbanded. The public is not being heard.	7	I would like to see the new NRB Board involved with the new plan, not the board in which Prehn sat. It's well known that he sat in his seat illegally and as the open record requests came in, that he was working with lobbying groups etc and that's why he stepped down. We need new blood and all folks at the table, including the tribes to officially determine the new wolf plan.
Jeanne Rasmussen	All of it	No	● The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	4	Hounding must stop. It is cruel to bears, the hounding dogs, and the wolves.
Brandon Weinhammer	Just the parts I am interested in	No		I'd like to see the wolf population managed like stated before (350) not the over 1,000 we have now.	5	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				I dont want any wolf's killed

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Data summaries are nice. May not like the data but the data helps one understand. Figure 16. Changes in Wisconsin overwinter gray wolf population 1980-2021 Table 6. Summary of all detected wolf mortalities Figure 14. 2015 overwinter wolf pack distribution. (208 packs, 746 wolves)	Page-59 quote "count grew at an annual rate of 22%" Your document should show and summarize the decline of deer population and deer hunting tourism dollars in these areas. An overlaying map or table showing multiple variables. Wolf population, deer populations, tourism dollars. I dislike that the document buried and hides the cost of wolves. That should be highlighted in the executive summary and the summary tables or charts. Wolves influence more than what is summarized in this document, please tell all the statistics please, please, please.	2	In your executive summary you should highlight the cost of wolves and not hide it on page 86 of a 178 page document. I wish we had spent $3M on other wildlife benefits and projects. Quote "Between 1985 and 2021, the department has paid out over $3 million for reimbursements of confirmed or probable wolf damages."
	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves.	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). 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A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		Matandiko, W., M'soka, J., Murray, D., Rosenblatt, E., & Schuette, P. (2015). Questionable policy for large carnivore hunting. Science, 350(6267), 1473–1475. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aac4768 Creel, S., & Rotella, J. J. (2010). Meta-analysis of relationships between human offtake, total mortality and population dynamics of gray wolves (Canis lupus). PLoS One, 5(9). https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012918 5 David, P. (2009). Ma'iingan and the Ojibwe. In A. P. Wydeven, T. R. Van Deelen, & E. Heske (Eds.), Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States (pp. 267–277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). 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A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	Good update to the plan, not perfect but includes background, analysis and input from a diverse group. I like that the basis is science based. That is how wolves and other wildlife need to be managed in WI.	While much of the plan is science based, I'm disappointed there are political activist groups you've allowed to joint the committee since the 1999 plan. HSUS has no business being part of this committee nor any other wildlife management committee. They are political activists, with a horrible reputation with deceptive practices. What have the native american tribes contributed to the wolf reintroduction in terms of dollars and time/labor, whether in the field or in the office? What benefit do they provide wolves and other wildlife management across the state of Wisconsin for the greater good besides on their own reservation? They are net takers whereas Wisconsin residents including ranchers, farmers, hunters, trappers (hunters and trappers being true conservationists) are net providers. Reintroduction was cautiously supported by the sportsmen and sportswomen, only to get stabbed in the back throughout the process. There has been a lot of trust lost and Goodwill that needs to be earned back from the WI DNR and leadership in WI. If not for hunters and trappers there would not be the wildlife resources we have today. I'm disappointed the plan moves away from an overall quota. An overall quota and quota by zones needs to be part of the plan. We also need to reduce numbers <500 animales. We need hunting and trapping tools to manage numbers and offset management costs through license fees. We need hunting and trapping seasons soon to manage wolves. Once wolves are exposed to hunting conficts with livestock will diminish, as many western states have learned. Wolves are smart animals, they will not be very easy to hunt in future years, and we need trapping to help manage numbers. We have well-regulated trapping methods where target and non-target animals can be released unharmed using foothold and cable-restraint devices. These methods are not harmful to animals.	7	
Arnold Blomberg	Most of it	Yes			3	We need less wolves. Mostly they are cross breeds not gray wolves. The number is not accurate, we have way to many around in my view.
	All of it	Yes	Get the DNAR had a listening session and that people can Comment online	The DNR has not Gone to the 350 wolf Management. And there has not been a scheduled wolf hunt. The 12 mile From the reservations is not acceptable to me That you can't hunt. Too much input from the Indians.	1	There should be a wolf hunt in 2023
Robert Lewerenz	Most of it	Yes	"Product F1c: Convene the department's Wolf Advisory Committee at least annually and regardless of listing status." "Strategy F2: Support science-based wildlife management" "Product F2b: Promote intergovernmental collaboration on wolf management."	it the "science-based wildlife management" does not include numerical quotas, is it just an exercise in futility? Also, concerning "Product F2c: Maintain partnerships with colleges and universities to support collaborative research on Wisconsin's wolf population." I suspect the schrools would have us never kill a wolf.	7	IF "science-based wildlife management" is the criteria used, Wisconsin will manage wolves by hunting and trapping down to a sensible NUMERICAL quota. For this to happen, the federal government would have to get out of the way of science-based wildlife management". Currently city dweller judges protect the wolves because they are pretty, which is disgusting. Although it won't happen, it would also help if the tribes killed their quota, so the packs are managed. Sooner or later, aren't the areas the tribes control going to be over populated with wolves?
Michelle Hyllested	Most of it	Yes	Most important is including the benefits of wolves to our eco system and the use of non lethal methods to reduce conflicts. Giving tribal values and knowledge importance in the plan are essential with the buffer zones around tribal lands. I also applaud the elimination of numerical target population. Wolves self regulate their population. They are a keystone species that create healthy populations of deer and other prey animals.	I detest for so many reasons that Wisconsin is the only state that allows hounds to hunt wolves and coyotes. It is basically legalized canine fighting for sport. A few who having no regard for their dogs safety put them in harms way against wolves and coyotes. Hound hunting should be eliminated. Dogs trained to kill are a danger to people and other dogs. My city has had several dogs killed by hunting hounds roaming loose and attacking other dogs being walked by their owners. Hound training and hunting should be stopped. Second, giving a reward for putting your dog in harms way by payment from the DNR for hounds killed by wolves is a great way to encourage abuse by hound hunters. Overturn PA 169 the majority of Wisconsinites do not want their tax dollars used to encourage abuse of animals or hunting wolves. Giving a small group of hunters so much power over a species and policies for killing them is undemocratic.	7	I live in NW Wisconsin. I do not support a wolf hunt that caters to a few trophy hunters. I do support non lethal means to reduce conflicts with farmers. The killing of wolves is scientifically proven to increase predation on livestock due to weakening a family unit of wolves ability to take down large prey. Wolves have a hard time surviving in the wild as it is. The Wolf is a keystone species and should be treated as such.
	All of it	Yes	None	Set limt at 350	0	
	All of it	Yes	100% of it. It is based on common sense, good science, and tribal input, quit thorough and a very good documentation of the history as well as collected data.	I do not find anything to dislike.	10	Thank you to all the Department staff, field as well as management, it putting this report and plan together.
	Most of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused	3	

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				mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). 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David Shramek	Most of it	Yes	the go around of the real issue.	no set goal. original set at 350, keep it there. and get started	2	get a plan going, wolves are getting to close to my house

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Joseph France	Most of it	Yes	Only the fact that we are trying to have a plan!	Allowing tribal protection of the species. Nowhere do the original treaties allow for tribal people to protect a species! They only call for the right to, hunt, fish and gather. No maximum pack sizes! Increasing the protection area.	1	There are many more wolves than you report, your numbers are not even close! Our forefathers eliminated wolves for a reason, the same reasons exist today. Human population increase has made it even harder to have an uncontrolled species like the wolf, and to make it worse mountain lions!
	All of it	Yes	Science based, taking tribal concerns into account, please push non-lethal methods of managing farm-wolf interactions.	Compensation for hunting dogs killed is ridiculous, and ridiculously high. But then I don't believe dogs should be used to hunt mammals. Trapping is barbaric and should be eliminated. Killing wolves for recreation makes no sense to me, but I seem to be in the minority in Wisconsin.	5	Timing of hunting season is not mentioned? Please don't ever run a February hunt again. We were ridiculed all over the world for that debacle a couple of years ago.
MICHAEL NELSON	Most of it	Yes	The plan is based on science and was assembled by a cross functional panel. It allows for the specific handling of problem wolves without setting a numerical cap on population. It contains a buffer zone around existing reservations.		10	There is no mention of how wolves help contain the spread of CWD. Why isn't this being pursued with more energy?
Greg Banaszynski	All of it	Yes	You are interested in all interested groups input	You didn’t specify a number or narrow range of how many wolves should be in Wisconsin	2	I believe we need to be closer to the previous goal of 350 wolves
	Most of it	Yes	Zone management seems intuitive	The inability afforded to landowners to protect their livestock from depredation. Far too much credence has been given to individuals who live hundreds of miles away from where depredation issues occur.	3	The number of wolves in our state has grown exponentially since I testified in the 90's, when the original plan was to maintain approximately 350 wolves.
Kevin W Stoddard	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Using hunting seasons to control the population.	The inaccuracies of the population estimate. The fact that I did not see anywhere in the document that the goal was to go back to 350 wolves, the total that was agreed upon when the wolves were reintroduced.	5	It's a lot of political conservatism when what we need is a simple plan to get the wolves back to 350 in the entire state. That number is a successful reintroduction and could be maintained. Any higher number just results in more conflicts, with humans and domestic animals.
	All of it	Yes	Continued depredation payment for wolf damage.	Continued expansion of wolf range into the southern 1/3 of WI. Far to many stake holders who have shown in the past, no tolerance for managing the wolf population, with zero harvest objectives. Harvest objectives should be expressed in the total of harvested animals. Not which group in successful or not. The 8 hour in person registration requirement, is not realistic in many locations in wolf country. I might recommend a hybrid of call-in or on-line harvest reporting within 12 hours followed up with in person registration within 36 hours of harvest.	3	Far too much emphasis on expanding wolf population for non consumptive users than protecting the deer and elk herds in WI
Rick viergutz	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Human attitudes toward wolves and the real difference between urbanites and those who live in wolf territory	No real criticism. Very comprehensive. The only way to effectively manage is with the comprehensive study of the real world reality of a healthy population. Trying to please or satisfy the wolf haters and the wolf lovers is a daunting task. Trying to present a reasonable plan to those whose opinion is not based on reason is impossible.	9	
	Most of it	Yes		Maximum 350 limit. Allow sportsman to kill wolves	0	Northern people versus southern city people
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			3	
ronald d henke	Most of it	Yes	research, public input ,tribal info	reduction of deer herd in some areas specifically central forest baiting ban . had one small buck i n shooting range 100 hrs hunting	5	hunted the central forest over 40 yrs worst year in 20yrs
Brian Ryczkowski	All of it	Yes	None of it	You need to have management target goals. Without that this plan is a waste. And no extra buffer around reservations.	0	
Katy	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The delisting of endangered . The fact you want to slaughter them once again.	0	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	None	LEAVE THE WOLVES ALONE! They are a NECESSARY part of Nature. Read "Never Cry Wolf" by Farley Mowat, and learn the truth about wolves.	0	
	Most of it	Yes	listen to your input from the people.	84 percent of it.	1	

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Pau Heath	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That there I'd a proposal to manage population	Seems to lack specific numbers for the state	5	In order to maintain balance preditors need to be hunted similar to any other successful management program. Any preditor that loses its instinct and fear of humans or other animals is bound to have more conflicts. Science would tell you there is a number either state wide or specific to a set area
Mike Cholko	Most of it	No	I like that both wolf haters and wolf enthusiasts are being considered in the drafting the plan. Despite the polarized opinions on wolf existence, the plan is going to focus primarily on science instead of hyperbole.	I dislike the arbitrary quantification of an appropriate number of wolves to hunt. The best approach would be to only hunt specific problem wolves after alternative non-lethal methods have been exhausted.	7	I would like a stipulation to be inserted which outlines that a wolf will not be killed until all non-lethal deterrents have been exhausted. I also think the team needs to explore the economic benefits of having wolves. Wolf watching, guided tours, camera traps will bring in a lot of money and create eco-tourism that has occurred in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming. Besides the ecological benefits, the economic benefits of wolves needs to be addressed.
	Most of it	Yes	The fact that we do understand Wolves need to be managed	Any proposal of wolf management that does not include reducing the population	5	
Travis	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Don't want them here	Don't need them here	0	
	All of it	Yes	truthfully trash it all	all of it	0	Get rid of the wolves. A good wolf is a dead wolf.
Penny Davies	All of it	No	Whilst I believe that the current plan is not there yet, with more to be the team are to be congratulated on all their efforts and improvements put in this far, including: ● The removal of the reference point or 'goal' of '350 wolves'. ● An improved understanding and importance of the ecological role of wolves. ● The inclusion of a public social survey indicating greater and improved public positivity towards wolves, their ecological role and greater hostility/opposition to the rationales often used to support motives for killing wolves. ● Proposals for buffer zones around tribal reservations. These are all very good aspects which I support.	● The draft does not yet reflect the best science, and is missing out on substantial scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution; ● These omissions combined with the emphasis on promotion of sustainable 'recreational killing' and consumptive users as a central strategy of management, means a flawed/biased plan which ignores best and most recent scientific evidence. ● The plan should prohibit lethal management of wolves unless, exceptionally and only, to preserve life. ○ Much substantive research analysing human-caused mortality in North American wolves (including Wisconsin wolves), has identified that policies liberalising the killing of wolves result in a direct increase in illegal killings. ○ The cruel practice of 'hounding' should be prohibited and is not supported by the majority of hunters or wider public. ● For response to conflicts between farmers/livestock and wolves, non lethal solutions ensuring wolf protection must be the default to ensure ethical coexistence with neither livestock nor wolves compromised. This is supported by studies proving a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ○ The department can legally restrict the implementation of hunting/killing of wolves under Act 169 by setting minimal quotas (including '0' wolves) and/or restricting timing and methods. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures and the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners as a precondition for eligibility to compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan runs contrary to public values towards wolves and fails to mention this despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the	3	The plan represents a good start but please consider all of the other points above which, if adopted, will benefit both humans and wolves. Coexistence and flourishing of both need not be seen as a zero-sum gain.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." Ref: (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023).		
Manuel Lopez	Most of it	No	That you guys also want to take science into consideration	That u guys are considering lethal methods of wolf management	1	You guys could use non lethal methods of managing wolves
RICHARD RIEMER	Most of it	Yes	Basically, I like most of the plan because there is enough that all interested parties should be mostly satisfied except for the anti-hunting segment which will probably never be satisfied. As a hunter and trapper my entire life I consider the plan fair to all parties. I think the plan is good for all species as well.	I don't like the fact that there are no specific population goals in the plan. I think there should be wolf population levels established for all zones and sub-zones which could be adjusted after each hunting and trapping season.	9	In my humble opinion the wolf should be treated as a trophy animal, and I would not allow non-residents to apply. I tagged along with a group of hunters one day during the last wolf hunting season. I was surprised to see so many wolf tracks and opportunities that resulted in success. There was and still is a very healthy wolf population. Hunting with dogs is a lot of fun so I hope that continues. I also firmly believe that a hunting season for wolves teaches a wolf to not be quite so brave in a populated setting and also in agricultural areas. They should mostly stay in less populated areas and hopefully have less conflict with humans.
Ron & Jan Eckstein	All of it	Yes	Management Zones, no set population goal, using biologists and research information to make management decisions. The survey of people's perceptions of wolves and wolf management was well done and appropriate.	Need to change state law mandating seasons, repeal use of hounds in wolf hunts, and allow state biologists and NRB to set management.	10	Well done.
Michael Sorenson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The draft plan is well written and it's obvious a lot of time and effort was invested in developing this document.	I think there should be a specific number in the goals section, starting on page 98. I believe the original goal was 350 for Wisconsin. Perhaps, 750 would be a good goal to sustain wolf population in Wisconsin.	6	I watched the Youtube video and the majority of callers were against harvesting wolves to control their numbers. Non-lethal methods will not work on private land that's used by deer hunters. The DNR didn't manage the short notice Feb 2021 hunt very well and too many wolves were killed. I think the 8 hour harvest reporting will help prevent over harvesting in the future.
Ji Montgomery	Most of it	No	Non lethal methods	Belaying on scince to do the work to recover the wolves	10	In Montana, Wyoming and Wisconsin there been widespread incidents of wolves being chased by automobile, dogs and helicopter and trapping and slaughtered
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None of it.	Please do not allow the murder of wolves. They live in family packs and and care about each other.	0	Please leave the wolves alone.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.	0	
	Most of it	Yes	I do like the idea of management zones being established that buffer the tribal lands. Predators DO migrate/travel to access additional resources.	I still don't see the point to financially compensate dog owners (both hunting dogs and pet dogs) for damages incurred by wolves, or any other natural predator for that manner. It seems like it should just be an accepted risk by the dog/pet owners. If your out in the woods, there's a chance your dog/pet may be attacked. Do I feel like i need to be compentated for my vet bills when my dog tangles with a porcupine? No, its a risk I should be expected to be aware of when in the woods and i dont think others should be financially on the hook for the results of the risks I decided to take.	9	It does seem like the people putting this plan together made a very honest effort to include all groups and stakeholders. This process seems to be quite transparent, and I appreciate all the efforts those have put forth.
John F. Barker	Most of it	Yes	I like the reliance on science based field information such as radio tracking and snow tracking to determine wolf populations. The plan is comprehensive that includes wolf biology, human interaction, wolf history and consideration of native american input. I don't know what the optimal wolf population should be, but this plan should help determine that. I have helped build the Ice Age Trail which is often located on public land and have wondered about the safety of hikers especially in remote areas. Management plans like like this can be helpful in assessing such concerns.		10	
	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal method by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves. ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative.	6	Wolf management plans should prioritize the wolves and their health first and foremost. The needs of humans should be the second consideration. Manage the humans and minimize their desires if they harm the wolf populations which a majority of people love and support.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Lynn kurth	All of it	Yes	That CWD and other factors were included in the study	I do not think you are considering the Benefit of wolves reducing CWD as much as you should at a time CWD has shown obvious spread throughout the state. Studies in Yellowstone illustrate the benefit of increasing predators when the prey is diseased. Wisconsin's deer population is due to crash unless the diseased animals are better managed.	4	Please error on the side of limiting the Number of permits. There are more "illegal" wolf kills than You are aware of.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	If you have no idea how many wolfs have been killed illegally and not reported your numbers on mortality and reproduction mean nothing. With the amount of people that have claimed they have killed an animal illegally and still do every year deems your report mostly a guess at best. Sorry for the poor response but the illegal killing has been going on for years and will continue. I believe this has a greater affect on your numbers making your report more of a guess than fact.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Lowering the wolf population.	Anything to do with wolf population maintaining or increasing in the state of Wisconsin.	5	This is almost 200 pages long. Cut the [redacted] and make a plan people will actually read.
	Most of it	Yes	None of it	Playing down the treat to wildlife	0	
	All of it	Yes	Having a hunt.	Having to flexible of a quota.	1	Stick with the 350 goal and get on board with a hunt/management plan. If you don't, you'll lose control and money while citizens take matters into there own hands.
	Most of it	Yes	I did not realize there were so many positive things related to having wolves in the state. I thought that all the wolf's did was kill deer and livestock.	Even with the benefit's wolves can have I believe there are way too many in Wisconsin and they should be hunted or relocated to other states. I also think politics' play way too big of a part of the management which should be done by wildlife agencies with input from hunters, ranchers, farmers etc.	5	
Michael Baker	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Using data/science to manage the population for a healthy ecosystem.	None	8	Manage the wolf for a long term survival of the wolf population and for other wildlife they wolf preys on. Maintain a healthy ecosystem for all wildlife.
John	Most of it	Yes	Having a wolf season	The inaccurate wolf population estimates	3	There are 5 thousand wolves in Wisconsin, not 937. They are destroying deer hunting.
Phil Nona	Most of it	No	Any draft for wolf management is not a good one. I prefer to rely on predator/prey balancing out populations.	Any draft for wolf management is not a good one. I prefer to rely on predator/prey balancing out populations.		
	All of it	Yes	I am very interested in the wolf draft plan staying on top of the ever changing wolf population year to year. Saving the deer herd comes before saving more wolves than the state can afford.	Living in vilas cty near the LacDu Flambeau reservation concerns me in the fact wolf nos. may be controlled by the tribes demands for a particular area that is high in wolf nos.	2	I understand the difficulty of trying to please every one on the correct or accepted wolf population in the state. My concern is the deer population is so low in most of northern wi now . This fact in itself will be the deciding factor whether the wolf lives or dies.
Jim Angresano	Most of it	Yes	Please note that I completed the survey earlier today, but I have one more suggestion.			In the plan you included Promote non-consumptive recreational opportunities and wolf-related tourism May I suggest having a photography contest with the objective being to take and submit photographs of Wisconsin wolves? You might consider naming the wolf in the winning photograph - naming a wildlife creature has been an excellent way to gain public support for that creature. Thank you for considering my suggestion.
P. Clark	All of it	No	I like that the plan acknowledges the values and worldview of Native American tribes, as well as proposes creating buffer zones around tribal lands. The Ojibwe revere the wolf (Ma'iingan) as a relative, rather than a resource to be managed, and have a deep and advanced understanding of wolves as they have coexisted with them for thousands of years. The plan also considers and details the ecological benefits of wolves on the landscape, such as their potential to reduce CWD in deer. The plan eliminates the unpopular population cap of 350 wolves. The results of the social survey are included in the plan and reveal that many residents have very positive views of wolves.	Recreational hunting is ineffective at reducing wolf conflicts because it splinters packs and kills wolves at random. The use of hounds to hunt wolves is not fair chase hunting and should be, at minimum, banned within national forest lands in Wisconsin. The draft plan includes no oversight committee. The current committee greatly overrepresents hunting and trapping organizations and should be more inclusive of the interests of tribes and the majority of Wisconsin residents who value wolves.	8	
	All of it	Yes		Lack of population goal	1	
Joshua Carlson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the idea of taking them off of the endangered and threatened species list and make them open to hunting in the near future.	I dislike the amount of wolf population that we estimate. I believe that we are way over the 250 population.	3	I think that hunting them should be legal. I think that they should be similar to hunting coyotes. I see them all of the time deer hunting and am scared to walk out at dark sometimes.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Mainly the area that addresses what they prey upon and when.	The random statewide dispersal of surveys.	1	I don't feel that the economic impact of the gray wolf has been addressed. If only science is to be considered the necessary population for the wolf to be self sustaining should be addressed. Unfortunately emotion is being applied.
Miles Narveson	All of it	Yes	Comprehensive	Not sure how a wolf hunting season would be triggered. Does not appear to have a concrete path to allow a wolf harvest.	7	Not a fan of the management options of increase, maintain, or decrease. Seems too wishy washy. Current wolf population is way to high, a reduction is needed. This plan does not appear to offer a clear path for that to
	All of it	No	That you're including the public AS IT SHOULD ALWAYS BE STOP ALL KILLING OF OUR WILDLIFE	There should be NO WOLF HUNTING TRAPPING OR KILLING OF ANY KIND ITS THE YEAR 2023 & this world hasn't evolved from Neanderthal thinking! Males are destructive, unsympathetic & have a h---d on for killing wolves	1	Wolves are our top predators! HAVE ANY OF YOU PEOPLE EVER READ THE AMAZING STUDY ON HOW GREATLY WOLVES HELPED THAT NATIONAL PARK????? Males need to stop these old white male archaic ways of doing & thinking concerning especially wolves & our environment! HAVE HUMANS NOT LEARNED OR CARE ABOUT THE ATROCITIES IF THE PAST?!!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Not much	No population goal number,(stay with 350.) Extra zones, Boundary around reservation	1	Need a population goal and a hunting season. Too many wolves
		Yes				Remove 75percent of the wolf's in Wisconsin they're devastating the the deer heard in the northern part of the state
Dan Scudder	Most of it	Yes	Continuing study/research No numeric goals - outcome based		8	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Nothing	No numerical population goal, too much emphasis on the native American tribes and not enough on farmers and sportsmen who pay the bills for this wolf management.	1	The property owners across the northern half of Wisconsin should file a class action lawsuit against the state for the continued decline in property values of their wooded lands due to the high wolf population and no deer left on their lands.
Dale Heeringa	All of it	Yes		Need to remove the Grey Wolf from Endangered Species list as soon as possible. A controlled hunting/trapping season should take place soon to control wolf numbers.	2	Wolf population needs reduction in numbers through controlled hunt to keep population in check. With out population check Wolf will be reduced to poor outlook by people living in Wolf County and will be removed from the landscape.
	All of it	Yes	None need to shoot more wolves	Not enough wolfs shot	1	Do you guys know how to count Think about the last hunt that many killed in that short of time, your numbers are off there are more than you think!
	All of it	Yes			0	Higher harvest numbers
Ron Gilson	All of it	Yes	I like that you acknowledge the importance of our wolves and the important role they play in our ecosystem. I like that you're making an attempt to include the public and tribes who hold wolves sacred.	That you think wolves need to be hunted, real hunters don't hunt wolves. That the hunt if allowed will unleash hounds , traps, snares and baiting to kill wolves. That you use a method to count wolves that seems to assume there are more wolves than what may be actual. That you need to lean toward a number to set quotas without taking into account what the killing does to a pack and science has proven depredations occur more frequently after killing the elders of the pack. That hunt could be set at zero as zero is a number. To allow hounds to run down and kill wolves is by far the very worse part of this plan. Dismiss the possibilities wolves could bring to states tourism. Dismiss the majority of the public who want them on the landscape . no plans to fund farmers when depredation happens to their livestock and getting them non lethal methods to protect their livestock .	3	I grew up living next to a state park in wolf country , I come from a family of hunters and have been a hunter myself and never have any of our groups ever wanted to kill wolves or mistreat and terrorize wild life. I grew up respecting wild life and the landscape of their habitat , never did I see such reckless bills as today to dismantle the safety and sacred ecosystems to cater to reckless sporting groups .These wolves and the habitat they call home belong to all of us. There is no need to hunt wolves .
	All of it	Yes	Nothing	Why do wolves have to be MANAGED AT ALL! LEAVE. THEM. ALONE!!!!!!!!	0	STOP MESSING WITH AND KILLING WOLVES. LEAVE THEM ALONE!!!!!!! MAYBE IF WE HAD MORE PREDATORS LIKE GOD INTENDED, WE WOULDN'T NEED ALL THE HUNTERS OUT THERE KILLING DEER!!!!
tom wiensch	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Please end the hunting of wolves, coyotes, and bears with dogs.		
Cheryl Campbell	All of it	Yes	A very well written and balanced document. As a researcher, I was extremely impressed with how thorough, clear and organized this material was. Kudos to all involved.	ABSOLUTELY AGAINST promoting hunting activities that increase wolf/dog interactions, including bear hunts and wolf hunts utilizing dogs. Aside from being barbaric, the compensation costs to dog owners who choose to subject their animals to damaging interactions is a cost tax payers should NOT have to bear. Over a million spent to compensate users of hounds when their owners intentionally place these animals in wolf habitat, whether to pursue bears or wolves, for "fun".	8	It is extremely important that the Wolf Committee truly be representative and inclusive and not heavily weighted toward the loudest or most influential organizations. Please, also, take into consideration potential wolf mortalities in the future due to the potential for Covid in canines and the current spread of bird flu in mammals. Set hunting limits flexible enough to compensate for a future unexpected and devastating mortality event, however remote.
	Most of it	Yes	Inclusion of tribal nations in the workgroup, good general background on the species/habitat, letters from the tribes stating their position against wolf hunting, surveys on WI residents opinions	I question the use of a 30+ year old "recovery goal" as a minimum count of wolves to protect in the states of WI/MI. In general I dislike the entire plan, as I strongly disagree with hunting wolves at all. Not only is it a slap in the face to the tribes who share our state, but morally wrong.	1	I urge the DNR to lobby the WI legislature to repeal the laws mandating a wolf hunt. WI residents are overwhelmingly against it, it projects a negative image of our state and our hunters/sportsmen and women. It also strains relations with our tribal nations.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The history of the Grey wolf.		9	
george gfall	All of it	Yes	zones for harvest	native adjacent boundaries	4	higher reimbursement for livestock and hunting dog losses
Stephen Napp	Most of it	Yes	The plan seems to try to represent all viewpoints.	I do not believe any wolf packs should be allowed to establish in zone 6. Wolve will be in the zone from dispersion but I don't think that can be stopped. I think that the wolf damage section underestimates damage. I have raised cattle and I am sure there is more damage than your methodology catches.	6	While I think a few wolves in state may be tolerable I support hunting wolves to keep the numbers low. Maybe problem wolves should be moved to the arboretum in Madison when people object to lethal control.
Brian Rice	Most of it	Yes	Specifics of believed wolf numbers and information on packs in Wisconsin	The history while important to understand could be short because the historical context is not equal to today's population.	4	To me any plan that does not include hunting and trapping of wolves is not a conservation plan. Wolves and all species of animals must have a comprehensive hunting and trapping plan in place to control overpopulation and indicates a lack of comprehensive conservation.
Brett Deringer	All of it	Yes	NONE... too divisive and gives voice to the loonies and nut's out there... shame on you!	Elevating the wolf type of special animal that has more meaning than the tradition of deer hunting.It also appears that most of groups that provided feedback were/are the same ones that take the DNR to court over all previous attempts to manage wolves. This plan reeks of politics and not science. On prior drafts, it was reported by DNR science that Sawyer county has 20 deer per square mile and that wolves have minimal impact on deer populations. This is B.S. although I'm sure it's true down in Madison and Milwaukee. The bottom line for me is that this new plan places Wisconsin's deer hunting tradition soooo far on the back burner that you alienate the very people you represent. It appears the special interest and fringe groups wrote this for you and you're taking all of the joy out of deer hunting like it is an intended result. P.S. Sight seeing wolves... really, have you ever been to the northwoods. That's some funny stuff there!	1	Why does it appear that most if not all of your interest groups Do not pay taxes or purchase a license which pays for this boondoggle?
Mark	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Wolf Harvest Management	I question the legitimacy of the science used to calculate wolf populations.	5	Please, if there ever is another season, allow trappers and predator callers to have the first few days or week of the season before the dog runners begin hunting. Just like bear season; every other year sitters and dog runners alternate. The same policy needs to be emplaced for wolf season, so the trappers and other non-dog runners have a chance to participate before the quota is met and the season closed. I did not see mention of this in the draft plan.
	All of it	Yes	tribal input reducing harvest registration time	Zone specific permits are not needed. With no "designated number", who is deciding "when the population is healthy and sustainable"? (too subjective). Tribal buffer is too large. I want to respect the tribe but I live near tribal land which I can not hunt, and wolves have killed hunting dogs near tribal land. There shouldn't be a lower harvest rate in zones 1,2, and 5. That's where most of the wolves live and they are preventing humans from enjoying the outdoors - I no longer feel safe walking by myself or with my dog. Hunters can't put dogs out for fear of them being killed by an overabundance of wolves. This is where most of the state's public hunting land is but we are not able to safely hunt there.	4	Perhaps wolves involved in conflict could be sent to zoos instead of being relocated to cause issues somewhere else in the state.
Michael Multhauf	All of it	Yes	0	no population goal	1	wolf populion in central forest has hinderd deer recovery and forceing elk into ag areas and BRF industial park
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			9	
	All of it	Yes	none	all	1	sucks
	Most of it	Yes	Literally nothing you are sticking more money into the biggest problem that is causing the decline of outdoor participation the proposed 350 wolves was more than enough and your numbers are not even close as it is I spend a tremendous time in the woods managing properties for deer, turkey, grouse and the amount of wolves is far greater than your number is suggesting	Everything you are listening to nonresidents and people from areas of the state that don't contribute anything to the dnr and the management of out wild life wolves do have a place in our state I have no problem with them here but I was part of the last wolf hunt we hunted in you new 4 and 5 zones and in the 2 days we hunted we found over 25 seperate wolf tracks in a few square miles that were not part of packs just singles and doubles so we need to reduce numbers severely before we begin managing them to be a healthy population	1	Start over
tom wiensch	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That it doesn't call for extirpation	I believe that there should be no wolf killing. As an alternative, I believe there should be no: trapping, hunting with dogs, hunting in the winter when snowmobiles can be used, and no hunting during mating and birthing season.	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Lots of hunters want zero wolves, likely the same hunters that can't get over the crossbow season as they are simply greedy and want to hoard all the deer for themselves. FYI I also am a hunter and a private landowner in WI AND I do plant food plots for the deer/etc BUT I understand wolves are as needed on this landscape as deer are and as trees are and I have no problem sharing "my deer" with other hunters or wolves! The WDNR does good work keep it up!
	All of it	Yes	We are very encouraged that the draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves — a number that when hit provides a rationale to kill wolves by the hundreds so that the state can keep them below an artificial ceiling. That “cap” was always arbitrary and it again and again set the stage for wolf killing.	There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands.	5	Some parts are fair and some still need work. Too much emphasis is given to "hunters" who only want to kill - anything and everything just for fun. That is truly sick.
Aaron	Most of it	Yes	Having an annual wolf harvest to limit wolf population.	Nothing in your plan suggests reducing the amount of wolves in Wisconsin.	2	I spend a lot of time in the forests of Douglas and Bayfield County. I am an avid outdoorsman. I enjoy scouting, bow hunting and gun hunting whitetail deer. I've noticed a drastic drop deer off in encounters recently compared to 90's and early 2000's when I started participating. It's disappointing because whitetail are a resource I enjoy and a great way to get our youth to value our natural resources. It has gotten much more difficult to harvest deer with the rapid 22% annual growth of this grey wolf population. I've had multiple encounters with wolves while in a deer stand in the last 10 yrs. They howl almost every night and have even had them follow me out of the woods. I believe mostly out of curiosity but the experience isn't an inspiration to get back out there. I feel that the increase difficulty to harvest whitetail deer and the felt presence of excess large canine predators in our forest is going to greatly reduce an already declining youth interest in our sport. I believe it is in our best interest to greatly reduce the grey wolf population in Wisconsin through harvest tags. I think you should take the accounts of residents that purchase whitetail tags into careful consideration when approaching your future management plans.
	Most of it	Yes	The various graphs, tables, stats on pack and cub dynamics were interesting.	The fact it is too long, should be about a 40 page document. Only government could bloat it out this much I feel like this is a smoke screen made 178 pages to confuse and intimidate. Written by folks with too many degrees that don't get out from behind their desks very often. It kowtows to tribes (how can the wolf be your brother when you spear walleys to decimation), out of state do-gooders, liberals and bambi types. It appears to run away from any hunting or trapping amnagement. It greatly understates any population estimate and in fact says that there won't be much emphasis on population numbers. Let's not forget that the head of the DNR when this was written had a degree in urban forestry. Sure qualifies him to be a wolf expert I guess.	1	This is mostly political nonsense and fluff. It is designed to appease the tribes, liberals, tree huggers and democrats everywhere. It ignors the residents of Wisconsin especially the north, who, by the way foot the bill for all of this.
Shane Kray	Most of it	Yes	That we are discussing it and there is support for a wolf hunt in WI	We are not doing enough, the population needs be managed, we need to allow more tags.	7	
Maureen Schiener	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I am pleased to see recommendation of non-lethal methods for reducing conflicts. Too often the response is "just shoot it". As the human population increases, encroaching on wildlife habitat we need to learn to co-exist if wolves and other species are to survive.	Why were so many hunting groups involved in this draft plan?	5	Even though I'm not a Wisconsin resident, the issue of protecting wolves is very important to me. I appreciate the Dept. of Natural Resources giving the opportunity to comment. I trust you will take everyone's comments into consideration while formulating a plan. I've seen the surveys where a majority of Wisconsinites want the wolf protected and are especially abhorred by hound-hunting of wolves. If Wisconsin chooses to protect wolves it will be a great example for other states to follow. Even though wolves are federally recognized as endangered, the federal government has yet to relist them. That's why it's imperative for states to protect wolves from recreational hunting and trapping. Thank you.
	Most of it	Yes	That there will be a kill to keep wolves in check.	zones around reservations	7	
	All of it	Yes		Not having a set quota. Please reinstate goal of 300 wolves for Wisconsin or at least set a northern limit and southern Wisconsin limit. 200 north of Hwy 29 and 100 south		
	Most of it	Yes	wolves should be totally eliminated south of US hwy 70	feeding wollves carrion	1	hunting season every year to eliminate all wolves south of US hwy 70
Brett Hazard	Most of it	Yes	I liked the background information on the historical wolf management in Wisconsin, as well as the information around First Nation tribal perspective.	N/A	8	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Brittany Ricci	All of it	Yes	I would like to recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: - The elimination of a numerical target population. The previous plans referred to an old numerical goal of 350 set when the Wisconsin wolf population was much lower. The elimination of a target number is reflective of a new direction for wolf management in the state. - The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. More than ever before, the DNR has taken consideration into the ecological benefits of wolves, including CWD, landscape of fear, etc. This should be priority #1 over all other goals. - The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. Overall, most Wisconsinites somewhat or strongly agreed that predators like wolves keep nature in balance (77%), wolves are culturally important (71%), and wolves are special animals that deserve our admiration (75%). Similarly, a majority of Wisconsinites agreed that people and wolves should be able to coexist (75%) and that it is important to maintain a wolf population in Wisconsin (80%). - The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. While I stand firm against recreational hunting of wolves, I think the zone system and shortening of reporting is a step in the right direction. I support buffer zones. We CANNOT allow what happened in 2021 to ever occur again when quotas were recklessly exceeded with no consequence. - The new plan emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts. While I oppose lethal control, I am very pleased to see more discussion about nonlethal abatement to reduce conflict.	- Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. - Please BAN hounding and hound training. This practice is akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, and should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. I live in Birchwood, WI where hounding is rampant. I don't feel safe walking my dog or camping out in the woods, stray hounds wander onto my yard and hounders are constantly being caught trespassing on my land. They park their trucks all over the road as if they own the place and their baying dogs ruin the peace and tranquility I seek from nature. There should be no reimbursement of hound hunters for any reason when they are willingly putting their dogs in combative situations with wild animals out in wilderness purely for the sake of "sport". Hounding is an outdated, barbaric practice which has no place in modern society. At a minimum, the DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. - The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution - The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. There is also plenty of scientific evidence documenting the harms that may come from wolf hunting. Wolves self-regulate their populations, without any need for human intervention. Given their internal regulation, an "overpopulation" of wolves is scientifically unheard of, and clearly a value judgment by humans who would simply rather have fewer wolves on the landscape. Wolves know what they need and live sustainably; it is a fallacy that their numbers need to be "maintained." The majority of Wisconsin citizens do not support wolf hunting. It is cruel especially with the use of dogs. Until that law is changed, a hunt being mandated is against the public trust. The DNR has the responsibility to establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. - The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. There is no evidence that wolf hunting decreases wolf-human conflicts. On the contrary, wolf hunting will likely create problems that did not exist in the first place. Wolf killing disrupts the social stability that allows for their cooperation and self-regulation. Hunting causes the break-up of wolf family groups necessary for taking down large wild prey, which in turns leads to some wolves shifting from wild to easier domestic prey. Hence, wolf hunting would increase harms to wolves, domestic animals and their guardians. Wolf conflict is highly exaggerated. - The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. - The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves and omits mention of such majority values from the plan, despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals. - There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. - The committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of scientists and biologists. The makeup of that very committee will have huge impacts on this plan. In the plan you state that you will monitor expectations and outcomes. I have a hard time supporting that not knowing who will be on this committee going forward? When will these assessments take place? I would like this committee formed before approval of the plan. - Too much emphasis is placed on the killing of wolves rather than coexistence.	6	The reason I live in Northern Wisconsin is to be near the peace of wilderness in coexistence with all wildlife. I have always had a spiritual connection with wolves. They are an incredibly intelligent, sentient, family-oriented species that are not all that much different from you and me. Over centuries, the wolf has evolved to play a crucial role in regulating its ecosystem, from the survival of trees and riverbank vegetation to the health of the populations of their prey. It is a beautiful, complex tapestry that shows the level of interaction that must happen between apex predators and their environment for the full health of the system. Allowing them to exist unthreatened on this landscape is top priority to me.
	All of it	No		No hunting, trapping, or killing wolves.	3	Protect them.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The goal of 300 wolves in Wisconsin should not be removed from the plan. You are opening to door for anti hunting organizations to increase the sustainable amount of wolves in Wisconsin. Deer hunting brings the revenue not the wolves.	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Bob Spoerl	Most of it	Yes	That you have a plan!	That you don't set goals; at least in regions within the state. Also, how is it that you don't allow single wolf observations to be part of the total population?? That's not sound science.	1	The state breaks down the goals for deer and turkeys by area why not the same with wolves? Yes, they have a large range but you can have even 3 sections across the state at a minimum.
A Sportsman	All of it	Yes	The Draft took into account a number of affected parties and attempted to discern their collective issues.	There is almost zero (0) true consideration given to the actual danger that wolves present to lone human beings while in the wild. I have personally been stalked by wolves in a forest road within 440 yards of my home. VERY UNSETTLING & SCARY EXPERIENCE to say the least. It is simply a matter of time that someone is KILLED by a lone wolf or wolf pack. This will be a great tragedy not only for the decedent's family & friends but for the WDNR. It is simply a matter of time...	6	Try basing wolf population management on the Wold Damage $$$ amounts paid to verified claimants. $100,000 worth of annual damages paid may be the best barometer of credible & sustainable wolf populations. The following wolf population management season can be based upon the prior year's total damages paid.
	Most of it	Yes	It seems like the DNR is trying to turn Wis. back to the Indians. We live in a different world today and ir seems cancel culture is now the norm, so why do we care?	The need to set a target goal in the short term is not there. We need to manage these killers of our dogs and cats and stock because we aren't living in the Indian past.	0	Let the sportsmen and women have their say in the management of these animals not a few people who pretend to be God.
Richard Hansen	Most of it	Yes	I like actual data detail such as wolf population over time, wolf locations, specific depredation activity. wolf damage expense, wolf - deer interaction	What well meaning citizens "think" when answering questions and completing surveys about best scenario wolf populations probably doesn't align with what experts "know". I discount citizen surveys because of course an animal lover wants nothing killed and a farmer or dog owner who lost animals to wolves want lots of wolves removed.	8	I does need to be updated.
	Most of it	No	The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	5	
John B Yonash	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Protect with common sense laws!
Leonard A Vetsch	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	You are correct that people who do not have to live with wolves have a much higher opinion of them.	There is no real summary. How many wolves are acceptable? How accurate is the counting of wolves. What is the impact of wolves on Wisconsin elk. I don't care how they impact wildlife in Spain.	1	I'd like to see a plan that disperses wolves in the neighborhoods that really support them. i.e. suburban Madison, they are already complaining about the deer eating their flowers. I'd like to see a study of the impact the wolves have on Wisconsin elk. It's a pretty expensive wolf feeding program. The program to compensate damages of wolf predation needs to be fully funded. I don't believe that wolves need to be completely exterminated, but they number of wolves needs to decrease. Just because they were a native species is not a good argument for an unlimited number of wolves. Poison ivy, mosquitoes, and wood ticks are also native to Wisconsin. I don't see the DNR trying to increase their populations in the suburbs of Madison...
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The charts that show the significant growth of winter packs.	I think it's unclear as to the direction the plan is leading up to. Lots of nice information but, without control there are problems looming.	7	Take away the politics and the cultural impowerment. Do the right thing and control the population.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			1	For all the people who love this majestic animal we should start moving wolf packs all over the state so they can have the same benefits that the northern part of Wisconsin has. It wouldn't take very long and they would change their mind. The old adage I love em as long as there not in my part of the state.
	All of it	Yes	Leave the wolves alone.	I dislike the idea of having a "hunt" for wolves. It shouldn't be a "sport".	5	Harvest (not hunt) as many wolves as absolutely necessary. Hunting them shouldn't be a "sport".
	Most of it	Yes		Need to have a better understanding of the number of animals in the state	2	
jim gibson	All of it	Yes	Not much of it at all.	I'd like to see the original goal implemented of a Maximum of 350 wolves.	0	I'd rather not.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	* The Mission Statement sounds good ... but when you delve into the actual plan … not as much. :-(But I'm glad to see that the public in general is taking a kinder view toward wolves and their priceless ecological value — and especially that more folks recognize our responsibility to protect their habitats. * The DNR's scientific attempts to map and report wolf populations and conflicts vs humans. It is also heartening that there seem to be few conflicts & depredations and even fewer lethal conflicts than some would have the public at large believe -- though that is of course not true for those animals involved on either side of the tragic encounters. (Of course, that is only IF these conflicts are well-documented -- which closer examination of the plan makes doubtful.) The plan mentions the value of wolf-based tourism, but needs to follow up & make it a reality. Living just over the WI-IL border as I do, I hope a time will come when I can take part in similar ecological efforts in my state. We are already living with coyotes, lynx and cougars (and no DNR denials please -- our neighbor's wildlife cam clearly shows them passing thru, and we have so many turkey & deer (i.e.,prey items!), the local community sadly has to cull the deer annually.) More local predators would make a few humans nervous, but would be beneficial overall -- though I acknowledge it will likely be even harder to find public acceptance for that idea in more populated areas here farther south. OTOH, it is heartening to note the upswing in public education and acceptance of wolves and other predator species.	+ This is supposed to be a NEW plan for the future, "to protect and enhance" WI's wolves and biodiversity. Instead, it's still about the USE and exploitation of wolves and nature for human "benefit" (prioritizing livestock and human "recreation", i.e. hunting) and, as usual Nature "just has to suck it up and deal with" the many harms humans are still choosing/preferring to cause instead of changing OUR behaviors and mentality to *actually* protect and enhance WI's wolves & biodiversity... + Wisconsin's wolf hunters/ lethal management advocates are decidedly in the minority. So WHY are their fingerprints still all over this plan, while important findings of scientists and pro-lobos wildlife managers are barely mentioned or seemingly even consulted? More scientific research about wolves and wolf-friendly viewpoints MUST BE INCLUDED in anything calling itself a fair and ecologically beneficial plan. + Where is a comparison of the management success of lethal to non-lethal methods? I consider it dishonest and unethical to prioritize lethal methods, hunting/trapping and licenses as primary forms of control and funding, when non-lethal measures are increasingly proving to be more effective AND more popular among wider swathes of the population. + Continuing to prioritize lethal over non-lethal measures is NOT wolf "management", it is subsidizing the same old Little Red Riding Hoodlums looking to perpetuate the machismo factor of slaughtering predators without mentioning the dire need for the presence of this extremely intelligent and social species in optimally functioning ecosystems, which human encroachments have only harmed, never helped. Enough with the 18th-century, "shoot it if it scares you" mentality. + Wolf tourism is mentioned, but not actually factored in — a short-sighted mistake that could be rectified, again, by rethinking the preference for lethal measures and fairly considering more complex issues. + The public has consistently advocated for more discussion and implementation of non-lethal options. Information about their successful implementation exists, but these aspects are left on the table in favor of same-old, "It's easier just to kill 'em" convenience. + OVERALL: Because many of the folks compiling this plan own guns and/or hunt (i.e. own Hammers), this plan turns far too many issues into Nails. + Think OUTSIDE the "Shoot First, Apply Scientific Knowledge & Ethics Later" box! + If we are trying to minimize the number of illegal wolf killings, then it makes sense to implement methods and mentalities that minimize/avoid as many total wolf killings as possible. THAT is what brings any plan into the realm of actual, ecologically beneficial "management", IMHO. + Better management of human behavior = better, easier wolf management. Actual application of the latest scientific and popular majority findings means MANDATING MORE NON-LETHAL MEASURES. + The American government as a whole and WI specifically needs to start respecting *and implementing* indigeonous populations' views and practices. More folks need to ask themselves, "Who Was Here First?" Answer: 1) Wolves and 2) indigenous tribes. Mother Nature knows far better than humans do what is best for properly functioning ecosystems -- without which none of us could survive. + Pro-active measures (abatement, non-lethal conflict-avoidance measures) should be given higher priority. E.g., if, in spite of the known presence of wolves, zero pro-active abatement measures are taken, why should those recalcitrant humans receive compensation for losses they could have prevented? Again -- an 18th century, predator-eradication-first mentality permeates this well-meaning but sadly inadequate "plan". Sure, it's more complicated to coexist, but coexist we MUST. This means that the pro-lobos shift in the local and nationwide human populations needs to be ackowledged AND adopted by the decidedly anti-wolf authorities trying to manage them with short-sighted, half-hearted ideas. Again, this WDNR plan clearly prefers using lethal, "Hammer-Nail" hunting/trapping measures, even though recent findings have proven them to be far less effective than more humane, non-lethal measures, which are in fact more popular with the public at large. + I'm shocked at the map from 2013 designating "Suitable Wolf Habitat" in tiny, isolated pockets of the lower continental U.S. What unrealistic, non-ecological malarkey. I didn't discover an updated map that reflected today's less fearful, more educated viewpoints, but am hopeful a 2023 map would include far more of wolves' historic habitat and reflect their roaming behaviors.	5	Despite my criticisms, I THANK YOU for your many efforts. But if you're going to make a new plan, it should go as far as possible, because it has to reflect your BENEFICIAL intentions for years to come. Best regards from Galena, IL
	Most of it	Yes	The fact that they are recognizing that they are the main reason of elk kills.	It was made long and kept repeating itself so people would get sick of reading.	2	We need to agree on the fact that there are way too many wolfs in our state, and 1000 wolfs is a great starting number for tags.
	All of it	Yes	That wolves eat deer and elk like they should eat .	That people have negative views about them just because they are scared of them.	0	I think no wolves should be killed. I've never seen one yet in my life while living here for over 30 years.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	parts regarding wolf management harvesting etc	i feel this plan is definitely to long winded lots of basis facts/history/habits etc that does not pertain to the subject of how to manage the overpopulation of wolves for those of us that live up close and personal with wolves and have sustained repeated property damage from chasing large game and have had a dog killed by wolves its really pointless to read the whole draft to get to the point of a plan i honestly couldn't finish it to many words and no power points	1	please summarize the wolf management plan instead of page after page of non relavant facts
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	Everything	1	I'm totally sick of everything being political and the dnr is siding with the ultra liberals plus science is no more than one person's opinion maybe we should go back to old science and kill them all
Timothy Ryan	All of it	Yes	Historical information, factual information provided such as Wolf behavior, population dynamics, ecology and biology. Provide well-regulated wolf harvest season; establish a wolf advisory committee and be sure to follow their recommendations!	Plan is well written; however, very lengthy and too scientific for the average person. Too much emphasis on returning wolves to their natural historical range cart blanch. Wisconsin's landscape and people population does not allow for a wolf population of more than a few hundred animals. Obviously ungulate populations have changed since the 1800s and we no longer have wild Buffalo and Caribou to support a large wolf population.	6	Emphasis should be given to this part of the plan "Ensure a sustainable wolf population to fulfil its ecological role and follow strategy A1b of the wolf management plan "Ensure the late-winter wolf population abundance is reasonably maintained above federal and state listing thresholds utilizing a late-winter count of 250 animals". In this scenario, the conflicts with people are minimized while allowing a healthy wolf population! We own a rather large parcel of land in Northern Vilas County with family members. We purchased this property in the 1980s primarily to establish a family deer hunting camp/tradition and to preserve our property in its natural state for future generations. We had excellent hunting from the day of purchase until the early to mid 2000s. Then we began to notice a dramatic increase in the wolf population on our land and a dramatic reduction in the deer herd. Most family members don't even come up to hunt anymore and our dream of a family deer camp on our property has all but evaporated. Hunters were the apex predators of deer on our property and now wolves have supplanted that role. As a tax paying property owner, this is very disappointing to us, that the state and federal government have allowed this to happen by not properly managing the wolf population!
Jayne L Belsky& Michael Belsky	Most of it	Yes	Goals: Increase public understanding of wolves! The overall information provided in your draft plan is valuable and an effort to disseminate this information to the general public should be a high priority!! Science based management is so important. We also like the fact that you will not set a firm number of wolves allowed to live. We are also happy that the Tribes were allowed to have a say. Thank you for the effort everyone put into this.	Depredation funding: We do not agree that hound hunting should be allowed, and we do not agree that hounders should get paid for a hound depredation. We agree with depredation payments for livestock and pets. We didn't see anything here about pursuing other funding from the general public. We would gladly purchase a wolf sticker if the moneys went directly to livestock depredation compensation. That should be a consideration! We didn't see any clarification that The Necedah National Wildlife Refuge is closed to wolf hunting? Maybe someone should take the time to contact the Refuge Manager and clarify that.	8	We have lived in wolf territory for over 25 years. Both of us were lifelong hunters. Last wolf hunting season we had a small pack of 4 on our property that we loved seeing and hearing, Opening day the hounders killed 3 of those wolves not far from us. They left one but it wasn't long before she disappeared too. Something that we cared deeply about was stolen from us. We were volunteer wolf trackers for 15 years and donated over 2,000 hours and hundreds of dollars in gas money to the cause. We resigned as trackers in 2012 and I quit hunting. We feel to this day that we were taken advantage of. We no longer were allowed a voice and all the hunting and trapping factions took over. We feel that to this day the general public is not included enough in the decision-making process. I hope that changes in the future. We also hope you will set your kill quotas low and that someday the use of hounds will no longer be allowed. It's barbaric and shame on Wisconsin. At the very least we hope that you will greatly reduce the "training" time for hounds and the number of wolves killed will be minimal.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I don't need a plan to know that killing the best of the best, whether it be wolves or deer is a stupid thing to do, and the violation of all ethics .
		Yes			0	Wolves kill to many deer.Let hunting control the herd through real herd size,not the fake estimates the dnr comes up with
Richard Scot Stewart	All of it	Yes	I think the department did a very thorough job with the plan and I like that.	The department did not weigh in on population goals. This should be done by unit or unit type. The department did not weigh in on chasing wolves with dogs. That is what allowed the last season to overshoot the quota. I think chasing wolves with dogs also leads to the problem we have with cats, which is group hunting. I think special harvest opportunities such as cats and woves should be done by the permit holder, not a group of people stationed around a pack of dogs. that seems like it lessens the special nature of the harvest.	4	I would like to re-state that you need to set goals for management units and address group hunting by hound groups.
		Yes	The Biological data of the wolves was interesting	The plan needs to place a number on the accepted population in the state. 350 wolves statewide, etc.	1	The needs to place a set number or goal for mangement. 350 was used in the past and many people in the state would agree that number was too high!
Robert Beam	All of it	Yes		There is not a specific number of wolves set as a goal. I strongly believe you should stick to the 350 wolve goal you originally promised!	0	
John Wilde	All of it	Yes	Not a fan of plan, as I view current wolf population is far over goal in northern regions of state.	I do not believe that current population is sustainable unless range is allowed to increase. Populations should be reduced in current range and increased in the central and southern portions of state.	1	Results seem to based of some fairly old studies, as well as studies done in different states with vastly different conditions. Results do not even consider allowing wolves to expand range, which shows people are just fine until they have to host a pack of wolves. If these wolf populations are good for northern landowners, they are good for central and southern landowners.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	Nothing	Numbers of amounts of wolves is terribly wrong	1	People that make decisions who sit in offices or courts outside of the state don't know anything!
	Most of it	No				There should be no hunting of wolves in Wisconsin. The illegal killings of wolves in the northwoods is openly discussed by residents. It is wrong and our government should not aid in this horrendous practice.
Craig Galloway	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That the DNR has a plan so we can have a season .Finally	The zone management plan.	3	Tribal estimates are too high.
Andrew Rhinehart	Most of it	Yes	Management through legal harvest	Specific zones for harvest	2	Impact on the deer herd here in northwest Wisconsin is the most important to me.
Dan Seibert	All of it	Yes	We have to many wolf as it stands		3	You need to look at how many we have I took the class an we have to many
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like that wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. This is outdated, bad science.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to:	3	The omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan.		
Joan Leuck	Most of it	Yes	The research that supports ethical provisions for the existence of wolves. Also the compensation to landowners that may have loss at livestock due to wolves.	The continued allowance of "culling" by hunters and hunters utilizing dogs. The limited amount of $ allocated to the preservation of this species.	2	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	None.	None. You do not need to kill any more wolves. They are a necessary part of the eco-system.	0	If there are too many wolves. Try a trap and release plan instead of murder.
Allan	All of it	Yes		You have chosen to ignore the increasing population of wolves in Wisconsin, as evidenced by dropping the population numbers from policy development considerations. This means that every policy that you adopt will be based on political pressure rather than what's actually happening to the population of wolves in Wisconsin. Good policy cannot be developed without the most important data being considered, and you know it !	2	Certain groups of folks freaked out when the harvest #s were exceeded in the last wolf hunt, but the population of wolves in Wisconsin was not damaged. The wolf population is still way beyond the 300 wolves that your own experts considered a good, sustainable target number in recent memory. It's quite evident that you are blatantly giving voice to these anti wolf population control people at the expense of critically needed wolf management tools. Your proposed plan is, in my view, not really management at all.
Mike Buss	All of it	Yes	duct A5c: Consider elk population objectives in relation to wolf management objectives Product A6a Product A5c Strategy C1	too much info for the average person- I do not see many reading all of this Strategy C	6	I am on the side of less wolves the better so this is allot of planning and money spent on something I am unable to hunt.
James Fandrich	All of it	Yes		Since the major funding of the WI DNR budget is related to deer hunting, and the northern deer herd is being demolished by the wolves, I feel we are in danger of a complete collapse of our northern deer camp tradition and a total collapse of funding to the DNR because of this. Much more emphasis needs to be given to deer hunting and the wolves impact on it.	3	
Scott Freer	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Creating a hunting and trapping season	Using scientific info to twist the true amounts of wolves to make the public believe there is less wolves then there actually is.	2	Looking forward to the day when they will be honest with us and release the actual estimated number of wolves that occupy the State and not the amount they use to keep us from getting a trapping or hunting season.
Mike Schmalz	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The bureaucratic baloney involved with wolves is overwhelming. Getting on with wolf hunts is consistent with the 12000 years of history here in North America. Those tribes that hitch themselves with the Idea that they "lived in harmony" with wolves are ignorant of animal / man dichotomy that has been part of history for the ages.	Not enough wolves are removed from the landscape.	5	Get on with it.
	Most of it	Yes	Not much	Almost all of it, really meaningless if Wolves aren't taken off the ESL	2	I'm not a scientist but, it's like anything in the world when the balance gets out of alignment then something will break, the numbers of wolves is probably 4 or 5 times more than even the DNR wants the time for management is long over due.
Elizabeth Levings	Most of it	Yes	I like that you are including input from the tribes.	I dislike any and all language that could be manipulated into ANY future wolf hunt. Also, any references to wolves fighting with hunting dogs who terrorize our forests due to being allowed there for bear hunting. These dogs do not BELONG in our woods here in Wisconsin.	3	Please remove any language about a potential future wolf hunt. I live on 80 forested acres in northern Wisconsin and am still deeply traumatized by that last illegal hunt. Wolves belong here and do not need to be "managed" by us. Plus, we open up our state to psychopaths on high-voltages snow machines that are so scary. Seriously. The wolves in my woods do not scare me. The killing frenzy does. Wolves are pack animals and when they lose even one member, the oftentimes do not recover. Please consider my comments of compassion.
Jacob Mathews	Most of it	Yes	Specifically I like the models and graphics used to help provide clarity throughout the draft.	I don't think DISLIKE is the right word because it's not that I necessarily DISLIKE anything. I specifically disagree with the range of the wolf population model based on conversations I've had with hunters. I believe their range pushes much further South in Wisconsin than is acknowledged.	8	Personally I would prefer to be more aggressive on reducing the overall population/ range goals. I've just seen deer populations plummet so much in my lifetime in wolf country that II would hate to see the wolf range expand anymore in the state.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	I like that the draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves. Historically, that number provides incentive for killing wolves to keep the state below an artificial ceiling. The cap was arbitrary and incentivized killings. I also like that the plan takes into consideration indigenous tribal concerns, and buffers will protect wolves within.	Do NOT use a numerical goal - it's used against the species. Place less emphasis on 'lethal management' and more on the value of wolves to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to 'non-consumptive users.' The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. Have a separate committee for science and for stakeholders. Create a buffer between politics, science, and special interest agendas. Create more restrictions on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and 'training.' The rules are essentially nonexistent and their use should be minimized.	2	The population estimates leave far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. The Wisconsin DNR is too quick to promote lethal responses to the rare conflicts that result between wolves and people.
	Most of it	Yes	We are very encouraged that the draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves — a number that when hit provides a rationale to kill wolves by the hundreds so that the state can keep them below an artificial ceiling. That "cap" was always arbitrary and it again and again set the stage for wolf killing. The management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas	The population estimates leave far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. The Wisconsin DNR is too quick to promote lethal responses to the rare conflicts that result between wolves and people.	3	We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on "lethal management" and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to "non-consumptive users." The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and "training." We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Please trap and move the WOLVES to areas in Wisconsin which have high CWD.
	Most of it	Yes		I oppose the removal of a numeric population goal, the elimination of proactive control zones, and the creation of subzones around tribal reservations.	6	
Dennis Campbell	All of it	Yes	I like the fact that-the plan is focused on a holistic and pragmatic approach to wolf management, conservation, and stewardship--it was time for a review of the plan	I can live with what I read.	9	
ayako firsing	Just the parts I am interested in	No	None	Too wordy, not to the point.	1	
Hilary	All of it	Yes	I like that's there's none specific numbers and room for doing nothing and leaving them alone even when not listed (which they should be).	Bias toward hunting.	8	Too long for this format.
Kory J. Scholze	Most of it	Yes	I like the idea of controlling the Wolf populations, this is much needed	I think the estimates of the current range are incorrect, wolves continue to migrate South. I disagree with the assessment of the fawn and bear mortality. I believe the wolf population estimates are too low.	5	I live and hunt in Southern WI and hunt in Northern WI. I have seen a huge decline in the Northern Deer herd and bear population due to wolves. We must decrease the number of wolves, especially in Northern WI. maintaining a smaller number of wolves and wolf packs would be ideal.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	• We are very encouraged that the draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves — a number that when hit provides a rationale to kill wolves by the hundreds so that the state can keep them below an artificial ceiling. That "cap" was always arbitrary and it again and again set the stage for wolf killing. • The management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas.	1. We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. 2. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on "lethal management" and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to "non-consumptive users." The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. 3. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. 4. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and "training." We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.	5	
John	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	maintenance	Little enforcement	1	Last years hunt was supposed to be 119 wolfs but 97 extra wolfs were killed. Clearly until you can guarantee that only legal number of wolfs are killed there should be no wolf hunt this year for sure and perhaps next year as well. Perhaps taxidermists could be fined for treating illegal wolfs or hunting licenses and vehicles confiscated for non permitted hunters?
Rita Zappen	All of it	Yes	Ensuring a healthy wolf population.	Zone specific harvest permits	1	Opposed to all killing of wolves unless a threat to livestock. I totally oppose reimbursing hunters for dogs that are killed by wolves.

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	All of it	Yes	The management of predators in the State of Wisconsin.	Overall, the low quota allowed to reduce the number of wolves in the State of Wisconsin.	1	The increase in the number of wolves in the State of Wisconsin have negatively impacted the whitetail deer population. Due to the reduction in whitetail deer, there have been a very negative impact on the economy in northern Wisconsin and I would go as far to say, land values have been adversely impacted due to the lack of whitetail deer and other game, once prevalent in northern Wisconsin. The estimated number of wolves far exceeds what was designated as an acceptable number of wolves in the state. Request: Significantly increase the wolf harvest quota and significantly reduce the number of wolves. Thank you.
Guy Peterson	All of it	Yes	None	All	1	Northern zones need wolf season. Hunted all my life and never saw so few deer, even worse than back in the 60's and 70's.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	We are very encouraged that the draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves — a number that when hit provides a rationale to kill wolves by the hundreds so that the state can keep them below an artificial ceiling. That "cap" was always arbitrary and it again and again set the stage for wolf killing. The management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas.	The population estimates leave far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. The Wisconsin DNR is too quick to promote lethal responses to the rare conflicts that result between wolves and people.	5	We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on "lethal management" and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to "non-consumptive users." The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and "training." We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.
Michael J Ruesch	All of it	Yes	That it finally got done!	I dislike the fact that the DNR staff are pro wolf and pro wolf protectionist groups. The department has lied to the people since before the reintroduction was started - telling us many of the access roads needed to be closed as wolves could not survive outside of total wilderness! They are also spineless when it comes to admitting there needs to be a numerical number of 300 max for a population goal.	2	The current plan is vague and has major affects on landowners and hunters in the Northern half of the State. The Southern half has the greatest human population density but the majority of them love wolves because they do not have them in their back yards. Why does this plan not push HARD for reintroduction of wolves throughout the ENTIRE state? Why does the DNR not move problem wolves or excess wolves to the lower half of the State? It certainly cannot be that wolves would not survive or that they never populated this region. The wolves have proven they can survive in areas with roads - which in the earliest days of discussions we were told needed to be shut off cause the wolf needed total wilderness to survive - LIE #1. Again, why doesn't this plan push hard for populations in all 72 counties if the wolf is so beloved and roamed the entire State at one time? Why is one region slapped across the face and kicked in the pants while the other has no skin in the game? This plan is nothing short of racist and is territory based racism. Where is the inclusion and equity as far as the most liberal part of the State taking on their fair share of giving the wolf full rights across all 72 counties and their cities. Prove the DNR and bureaucrats are not racist towards Northern WI folks or the wolves. Show the world that ALL of WI welcomes wolves anywhere within its borders!
Diana Lewis	Most of it	Yes		Lethal means of reducing the wolf population	1	We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on "lethal management" and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to "non-consumptive users." The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers
Dusty Hecimovich	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Reduce wolf related conflicts!! You should not have to worry about a [redacted] wolf killing our pets/animals. It has happened too much. They are killing machines. Ask yourself, how does a wolf quota get met within a couple days? Answer..there is WAY TO MANY. ITS A BAD PROBLEM.	Ensure a healthy wolf population or spend money on them. They are at the top of the [redacted] food chain. So it must be healthy.		We have too many wolves in Northern WI. It has decreased our hunting and made people afraid being in the country. Bring wolves to southern WI or other places. Im fine with being some wolves but not how it is. Give out tags and have a season every yr. Wisconsin is losing lots of money because of the poor hunting now.
Kyle	All of it	Yes	We are very encouraged that the draft plan does not put a cap on the number of wolves — a number that when hit provides a rationale to kill wolves by the hundreds so that the state can keep them below an artificial ceiling. That "cap" was always arbitrary and it again and again set the stage for wolf killing. The management plan takes Native American tribal concerns into consideration and establishes buffer zones around tribal lands to protect wolves in those areas.	The population estimates leave far too much room for guesses about the wolf population. There is still far too much emphasis on recreational killing and providing "hunter opportunity" to kill wolves. More emphasis needs to be placed on the value of this species to non-consumptive users of our lands. The Wisconsin DNR is too quick to promote lethal responses to the rare conflicts that result between wolves and people.	6	We recommend that the DNR continue to not include a numeric goal, as these can and have been used against the species. We encourage the DNR to place less emphasis on "lethal management" and more on the value of the wolf to the ecosystem, indigenous culture, and to "non-consumptive users." The reliance on USDA Wildlife Services is concerning as lethal options seem to take priority over non-lethal as shown by the numbers. We encourage the DNR to have separate committees for science and for stakeholders. This provides a buffer between the science and the politics and special interest agendas. We also recommend far more restriction on the use of hounds against wolves for hunting and "training." We understand that the use of hounds is allowed under state law, but rules are almost nonexistent and their use should be minimized.
Juan	All of it	No	I liked the non lethal methods of control and more studies of the wolf population	I think the wolf population numbers are not properly tracked or have enough scientific backing to it. The metrics doesn't seem right neither it seems to expand the killing of the wolf population following the methods of other states. Seems like shortcuts were taken.	5	It is obvious that care was taken into the draft and it shows. Still needs a little more work in accounting for the wolf population and I do like non lethal methods implementations.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Myreya	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				No soy residente ni Ciudadana Americana, pero estoy enterada de la caza y matanza indiscriminada de lobos en algunos estados de la Unión Americana, con trampas helicópteros, cebos y demás, también argumentan la depredación de ganado por lobos, cosa que ya demostraron no es cierta, los lobos son necesarios, son esenciales, traen beneficios para este planeta, equilibran la cadena alimenticia, la ecología reforestación, y muchas otras cosas, no hacen daño a nadie, los humanos van a donde están a cazarlos, no es justo no es bueno para ellos ni para el planeta, la "diversión" humana no debe ser a base de matar y asesinar seres inocentes y necesarios para este mundo, detengan la matanza, analicen lo que significaría su extensión por capricho o negligencia. Es mi argumento, Gracias por escucharme.
	All of it	Yes	I agree with the fact that the mangement plan addresses how the DNR has to better manage the population with regards to having a healthy population with less conflicts between humans, their pets and the farmers.	I believe there too many wolves in areas and they are not regulated well enough.	5	
	All of it	Yes			10	
John	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The mere idea of being open minded to accepting suggestions from the people of Wisconsin though it's authenticity still needs to be revealed.	The original target goal of the wolf population is far exceeded resulting in the decimation of our deer herd in some areas. This was never in the plan that I'm aware of. What will we do now?	5	Wisconsin has dealt with this problem in the past. People don't seem to realize that there was once a bounty on wolves. We wanted white tailed deer instead of wolves which we succeeded in getting. Now that effort is reversed. What a shame. One more problem for our children to inherit.
Edward Blau	All of it	Yes	I like the scientific approach that sees where the Grey Wolves fit into the big picture.	I do not see any rational justification for hunting or trapping Grey Wolves.	8	I am in my 80s and have been hunting since I was 12. We live in Central Wisconsin and have a lake cabin just north of Land O Lakes and in both places, there are too many deer. They are a public health menace and destroy the flora. Wolves are one of the ways nature controls the deer population. Leave the wolves alone.
	Most of it	Yes		Your committee is all one sided don't see any public input plus tribes are hypocrites	0	Kill them all
	All of it	Yes	● The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and the inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasize the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	● Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	5	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
	Most of it	Yes	I agree there needs to be a balance but the original goal was established for a reason. I did not purchase property to feed wolves.	Keep control in the landowner's hand. This is what happens when big government gets involved.	3	Remember who and what brings income to the state of Wisconsin
Mik lemke	All of it	Yes	Honestly not allot because I think there should be a way lower density of wolfs in the north woods. When they start coming in your yard around your children, I think you could agree.	Wolf density plan is way too high. Have you hunted in the north woods or have had wolfs in your yard?	1	
Erik Brynildson	All of it	Yes	More consideration to non-lethal alternatives than previous proposals. Still far too slow & steeped in archaic "game management" approaches.	Not enough respect for the spiritual beliefs & philosophy of native people. No genuine understanding of the priceless & inherent value of indigenous sentient life... Focus on PEOPLE MANAGEMENT!	3	Get rid of all utilitarian & even corporate terminology! e.g. "products" p. 100, "extinct" & "harvest" p. 21, "furbearer" p. 125, etc. And it's absolute barbaric insanity to use canines to cruelly pursue wild canines! SHOOT THE WOLF & PET THE DOG... That's pathological if anything is... The DNR has a very long way to go to truly embrace the 21st Century.
Tom Weidert	All of it	Yes	Admitting that managing the population is a priotity. Permits by zone where most complaints come from.	I doubt there will be a lot of "sightseeing" for wolves. We are not Yellowstone. Also not a fan of all the people who don't have to deal with the problem, having such a strong opinion that we have to cater to. If you don't live among the wolves, I really don't want to hear how great they are. This problem could get out of hand quick. Hunting with hounds and trapping are the way to control them.	6	Although I support hunting with hounds, as a taxpayer, I am against us reimbursing hunters when their hounds are running through the wolves bedroom.That's a risk they pay for their sport. I do appreciate the DNR's work on this project. But I get mad when people from the city come up North and tell residents affected by wolves, how they should think or act towards wolves. Personally I don't care if I ever see one. I never saw a Sabertooth tiger either and my life turned out pretty good! 😉 Thanks
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	It fairly points out the flaws in the unscientific, inhumane approach that authorizes the killing of wolves.		7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Steve	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The balance of using science to protect wolves, while also educating the public about wolves in general along with their management. I also liked how it covers the low numbers of depredation to livestock, and how non-depredation has a higher impact on livestock.	I couldn't find anything I didn't like. It's a thorough recant of the economic, environmental, and overall scientific contributions wolves have to society	10	
natalie battistone	Most of it	No	I like that there is increased recognition of the important and significant roles wolf populations play ecologically.	The primary issue I have with the plan is the lack of concern for dispersing/individual wolves.	8	Thank you for your work and concern for this species!
john	Just the parts I am interested in	No			1	Thin the packs out.
	Most of it	Yes	Managing the wolf number	The fact the DNR is lying about the current wolf population, it's much larger than they're saying	5	Wisconsin DNR needs to stop letting liberal judges from other states dictate how it's conservation plan needs to be
Shelli Dubay	Most of it	Yes	The objectives are really specific with mechanisms to assess success included. I like that the registration time might be shortened to 8 hours - this will help overshoot quotas. Creating wolf zones based on vegetation zones seems logical.	Over 40% of the respondents to the survey wanted about the same number of wolves in the state. I think that goal can be achieved by shortening the wolf season so that it will not coincide with breeding in spring. I did not see specific dates mentioned (but i did not read the entire document).	8	
Mark	All of it	Yes	Very detailed, thoughtful and well written. Much information was obtained from a wide variety of persons and organizations and now seeking feedback from the general public. Nicely done.	Hunting dogs killed by wolves, the owners should never ever be compensated. Shame on the hunter to allow their dogs not to be within their control...bear hunting or not. The DNR does not compensate boaters when they destroy a prop on their boat when they hit something in the water. This is so so wrong. Harvest: there needs to be X amount of tags that goes to hunters using dogs and X amount that goes to trappers.	5	See #5 Thank you for all of the work that you do.
RS	All of it	No	Likes the data and details of kills	No management for the northern units, their are way to many wolves, and your numbers are way off there more wolves then you think.	5	Need to kill more wolves north of 29, poor deer and elk are taking a pounding. Big woods have lost 90% of the deer population since the 80 and 90s do to wolves and T zones and doe tags. Need to manage the wolf better, but I belive you know that.
	All of it	Yes	I like the move away from a numerical goal. I like the plan's goal of "ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role."	I dislike the use of sport hunting to try to reduce conflicts around livestock operations. I think targeted trapping and removal is more effective.	9	
Paul Gabriel	Most of it	Yes	All of the plan objectives, A-F, are appropriate, well thought out and make sense to me as an informed lay person and state resident.	None stick out. In objective C., the statement "ensuring regulated harvest does not jeopardize the security of the statewide wolf population" is critically important based on recent harvest/hunt experiences.	9	This is a good plan. It is counterproductive to argue based on seeking 350, 1000 or 1200 wolves in Wisconsin. The plan approach is better.
	Most of it	Yes	Public opinions were taken into account both in 2014 around the hunt as well as recently. While there are often going to be extremes on each end of the spectrum, the median responses (i.e. on a scale of -10 to +10, averaging % based off responses in the -5 to +5 range) give a better glimpse as to the general public consensus. The graphs provided from surveys do a fine job showing the majority of individuals opinions, both in the higher population wolf areas and areas where wolves exist but are not reported as being inhabitants of the area (to say wolves aren't capable of existing in every county, exception to Milwaukee county as being unlikely due to human population density, in the state in 2023 on some level at some point during the year is not truthful). I do like the transparency on how the public reported favorability to the DNR and it's wildlife management abilities even though, by me, it is perceived as a negative %. All-in-all, the transparency and details are there. Most of which the average person who prefers to see a healthy ecosystem could have deduced. The information is good, and the plans involve common sense objectives.	Among the survey information both from 2014 and the most recent, labels of "negative" or "positive" attitudes were placed and listed in this draft plan. While this may be only listed as verbiage towards the overall opinion towards a negative or positive trend towards outlook of wolves, it is nearly irrelevant information when it's not directly shown as a graphing tool as well. Similarly, separating three statements which were not included in 2014 from the index on overall favorability directly eliminates variables given to the public to accurately measure their favorability. These should absolutely be included as fact and there should not be a line drawn stating that overall favorability remains positive when it in fact is not based off the new data. I do not like how the DNR sees it as a positive that ONLY 65% of the public, which widely recreates at some level in and out of wolf areas, was favorable towards the DNR's ability to make decisions regarding the states wildlife management. That is a horrific showing of support for a non-elected state agency. The science has been done, the consensus has been concluded, and for those looking to find the answers... they've been available to view online. Most of the objectives are intrinsic in nature by striving for another objective, this is a way to make it seem as though the DNR is really striving to do "all of these things". 167 pages of science and data that could have been condensed down to 40-50 with instructions for allowing people to find the data on their own.	7	
Peg Zappen	Most of it	Yes				My comments are value based. I thinks wolves should be destroyed only when they are a threat to livestock and people. I really oppose reimbursing hunters for dogs that they think are killed by wolves. Thank you.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Ken Winkelman	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Too long to read. Who has that kind of time.	Irrelevant for me to read as my wolf plan is to not have them period,	1	I am seeing fewer deer each year since wolves have been reestablished during our 9 day gun season. I fear taking our bird dogs out hunting grouse because of the chance encounter with a wolf. I have had friends lose hunting dogs to them. Recently a friend posted on Facebook 9 deer carcasses he found in 4 days of wolf predation. They don't just kill to eat. My encounters have shown me that they r pretty bold. No fear. When they were introduced I do not remember any survey asking us in the Northern part of the state if we wanted. Perhaps these people from the Southern part of the state that wanted the re introduction should have a few packs there. I am sure A couple packs in Milwaukee and Dane Counties would put a whole new outlook on the need for wolves. In summary I don't want them.
Sally Sorenson	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			1	I do not believe that because we are humans and we have created guns we have the right to forcefully "manage" other animals on this planet.
Brett	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes		Anything other than total wolf eradication.		We don't need wolves in WI. They've cost taxpayers plenty already and they have destroyed the deer hunting tradition in Northern WI.
	Most of it	Yes	Addition of more management zones	The vagueness of the wording when it comes to management goals, specifically going away from a specific population number. (ex. 350). This leaves the door open to a large variety of interpretations on what exactly the management goal is. Now, I also understand that is the exact reason why it is left vague, I just don't agree with it. It feels too political rather than scientific.	3	
	All of it	Yes		They do not say anything about the 350 wolves or having season to keep them in check!	1	If you get rid of Baiting for deer(State wide)! That would help spread the Deer out making the wolves spread out!
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Anything thst builds the wolf population in numbers for continued existence.	The idea that wolves are a threat to humans or livestock at this time in history. Properly handled, wolves can help humans	5	
Gary	Most of it	Yes	In depth figures/graphs on wolf impact on elk and human input. Interesting First Peoples take on origins	Eliminate federal legislation allowing interference with animal population control (Too much government/overreach)	8	When opening a season eliminate guide input help to give average hunters and trappers a level field to harvest a wolf.
Paul G Sinn	Most of it	Yes		Too wordy. I want less words, more action, and less wolves.	3	I want to see a plan that reduces the population to a minimal level, (500) or less. Tell the wolf huggers to let their children play in the woods. What? No response?
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the target of 350 wolves Proposed buffer zone	Does not take into account new (or old) science re: wolf sociability, effective non-lethal intervention, wolf dynamics Does not limit lethal management methods unless as a last resort Does not prioritize wolf protections Does not require non-lethal management first Does not account for tribal worldview of wolves	4	
Dick Reilly	Most of it	No	Pg.98 Objective A: Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role. and, Objective D: Increase public understanding of wolves in Wisconsin. and, Objective E: Conduct scientific research to inform wolf management and stewardship		10	
William Waughtal	All of it	Yes	Moving away from a set number of animals that should be maintained.	I respect the tribal interest and considerations shown to them but question the fact if it's not more of a political issue.	8	Being a past member of the conservation Congress I sat in on many fish and wildlife meetings. The southern part of the state seems to get their views heard more than the northern people who are living with the animals. That has to change. Wisconsin public radio had a show on wolves and every guest was from Madison?
Harry Sweet	All of it	Yes	It seems to take in concern from everyone.	I dislike the fact that it doesn't take into account how high the wolf numbers REALLY are and how MUCH IT AFFECTS ELK AND DEER NUMBERS IN A NEGATIVE MANNER.	4	Delist, hunt and trap wolves and keep the numbers to less than half of present time.
	Most of it	Yes	Control of the numbers	Need to have number limits in order to maintain as needed	3	Not enough to get numbers down to where it needs to be
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	all good information, a lot of work went into the research. It appears the wolf population is increasing to a point where i believe is out of control and needs to be controlled.		3	I spend a lot of time in the northern Wisconsin woods year round and feel the wolf population is way to high and the proposed quotas are too low. I'd like to see the population reduced to 650 wolves.
	Most of it	Yes			10	

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Anthony Pautzke	All of it	Yes	Population distribution analysis. Sociological considerations. Analysis of who is in favor of wolf harvest and who is not.	Superficial treatment of wolf density and and types of habitat. And the affect on prey species. Harvest quota must not be shared by hunters and trappers. It should be separated. Very weak on proposed harvest structure. Trapping is far more effective harvest technique.	4	While the background provided is exhaustive, it does very little to evaluate harvest techniques. Spot and stalk, Calling, Dogs, and Trapping. The harvest plan is incomplete.
	All of it	Yes			7	
Joseph Allen	Most of it	No	I generally support much of the plan. I like that wolves are recognized as being part of a healthy ecosystem, that public preferences are being taken into account (not just the preferences of a certain segment of the public), and that the DNR is focused on following the best available science and data and obtaining more data as time goes on. Although I don't think it's strictly required for good wolf management, I'm fine with a limited, regulated recreational wolf hunting season, as long as it's conducted in a humane manner, following fair chase, and the population remains healthy and robust.	There should be some recognition that the February 2021 wolf hunt was a bad result, although I understand that was mandated by the court and not necessarily DNR's fault. There should also be more recognition of recent science illuminating the individuality of different wolves, with different personalities, as well as recent science on wolves from a neuroscience perspective (self-awareness, theory of mind, etc.).	9	Thank you very much for your service. I know this is a highly charged topic, and there is no way that any wolf plan will satisfy everyone (or even anyone), and this represents a great work product. I appreciate that your team is endeavoring to stick to the best available data and science as the path forward.
Marti Sowka	Most of it	Yes	- removal of an arbitrary population goal for wolves and basing decisions on the current science relating to wolf adaptability. The Voyageurs Wolf Project in northern Minnesota is gathering science-based data on wolves that should be helpful to the WiDNR moving forward. - recognition in the plan that wolves are part of a healthy ecosystem and provide many ecological benefits as apex predators -including tribal input in every facet of the plan and recognizing tribal ability to manage wolves on tribal land. -the repeated commitment to science and research as the plan is implemented. Well done!	Perhaps you should consider adding a timeframe for review and changes to the plan over the course of the next five years. Again, the Voyaguers Wolf Project in northern Minnesota, continues to gather and evaluate scientific data regarding wolves and will be a great resource for updating the plan. Also, the plan should prioritize working with farmers on responsible practices and non-lethal ways to reduce conflicts. The Voyaguers Wolf Project has data on the success of fencing in reducing livestock depredation.	9	The plan is based on science and the committee was huge, reflecting diverse stack holders. Well done!
Dona Doig	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves and omits mention of such majority values from the plan There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence The rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to public perspectives on wolves	6	The Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	More localized control of the wolf population.	I am not certain that the wolf population numbers are accurate now or will be in the future.	5	I am not certain how this plan will work out. The most important issue is to reduce the wolf population, especially in the snow belt area in the northern part of the state. With low deer populations in several areas now, it is very upsetting to see so many wolf kills in the deer wintering areas. In the snowbelt areas, the deer heard cannot successfully be maintained with severe winters AND wolves. We cannot control the weather but we can control the wolves. Additionally, now days the north is not a vast untouched wilderness as some imagine, that can support a large population of wolves without conflict. There are farms, remote cabins, homes, camps, recreational trails, and roads scattered throughout. People use the land and can access it by various methods, so the wilderness of 30 years ago is not the same today. Tourism is highly encouraged and plays a huge roll in local economies. Recently on Facebook, I read dozens of comments about how much enjoyment people people got from watching deer on their property. There was not one single comment saying someone enjoyed watching wolves. My final comment is this: The people who love wolves don't have to live with them.
Jeremy Skaw	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Its thoroughness	How can you have a wolf management plan without including any hunting season conditions?	8	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Lory	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		#1 I do not agree that one of the main factors in developing the plan is the publics attitude towards wolves. This should serve 0 influence on the wolf management plan. Period. Right along with public input. There is a lot of grey area there. Many people who live outside of wolf populated areas feel there should be a large population of wolves. I live in Bayfield County. I am not sure there is a heavier wolf populated area in the country. I am all for having wolves on the landscape, but they must be managed at a sustainable number. There are currently thousands of wolves in WI and that number is a far far cry from what the original population goal was. Since then what has happened? We have logged an outrageous number of acres of county forest land right here in Bayfield Co alone. The number of WI residents is on the rise, cities are growing, there has been a HUGE influx of people moving to our county in the last 3 years. Which means the natural areas for wolf habitat are shrinking, and yet they want to make the population goal significantly larger than it has ever been. It doesn't take much sense to realize this will result in more human/pet/agricultural/hunting/recreational encounters with wolves. #2- They want to take away a numeric number on a population goal. This will take away any intrusions on having a wolf season (which the dnr obviously doesn't want) because no one can ever say they are "over populated" #3 They want to reduce harvest registration times- because too many wolves were harvested in a zone before the dnr had a chance to close the zone. This is literally scientific data stating that there is already an overpopulation of wolves if they can be harvested so effectively and efficiently. However instead of proclaiming that aspect of it, they are trying to change things to make it harder to harvest a wolf. #4 - The Dnr has had many many many years to come up with a wolf management plan. It took the Dnr getting sued before they decided to do something about it. Now they have made up this new wolf expansion plan. Not a management plan. It is time to take wildlife management out of the Dnr's hands. They have proven in many aspects that they are not qualified to manage Wisconsin wildlife. I used to have great faith in the Dnr. They have proven me wrong time after time. It is very disappointing.	1	Deer hunting used to provide small northern towns with all kinds of revenue. They wolves are eating the deer at a rate where there soon will be very very few deer around. This should be alarming to the Dnr as they make lots of money off of deer hunters alone. We see it in towns around here. Many places there are no deer where deer were once plenty. Wolves are migrating to where ever there is a food source for them. They decimate that population-then move onto the next. They are an apex predator, its what they do for a living. There is too much political jargon and hurt feelings standing in the way of just having a regular wolf season like any other game. It is a shame what this has come too. The wolves in Northern Wisconsin are heavily overpopulated. It is the Dnr's JOB to maintain a healthy population. They need to only take the law and scientific data in consideration for a wolf management plan. If the Dnr cannot manage wolves on their own as they have proven for decades, it should be put in the hands of an unbiased organization that will.
Linda Mort	All of it	Yes	The elimination of a minimum number of wolves on the landscape. A buffer zone around all reservations.	Hunting wolves with dogs. And trapping wolves.	4	We live in the Northwoods of Wisconsin in wolf country. We've spoken to many of our neighbors and no one has a problem with wolves in the area. We don't need conflicts with bear hunters running their dogs on or near our land. We pay taxes and deserve peace. Totally against trapping too.
Joel McVinnie	Most of it	Yes	The fact that these animals need to be managed!	I feel the DNR numbers are falsely reported.	5	Please do better with understanding the numbers of these predators. I own 160 acres in Bayfield County Wi. This land is infested with wolves, I have trail cam pictures with as many as 7 wolves in one picture. Beautiful animals, but they create havoc with deer and I personally carry a gun every time I go into my woods as these animals are becoming more bold towards humans, I have had several encounters while bird hunting with my dogs and while bow hunting. These animals should be a very rare encounter, not a normal situation. The DNR have no idea on what the true numbers are and the proposed harvest numbers are a absolute joke. I pay taxes, Wi hunting licenses that is supposed to help support the natural resources that I love, but the DNR continues to support the woke tree huggers and other special interest groups that want to take away our natural resources. Remember who pays your salary!!! Wi outdoorsmen and women. please pay your respects and manage the wolf population at true levels and numbers and stop letting these woke groups manipulate proper management!
chris n	All of it	No	less anti-wolf propaganda, no longer focused on a goal of 350 wolves.	it doesn't prohibit lethal intervention nor recreational hunting of wolves. we must do better to protect and preserve all wolf species to prevent extinction	3	
Steve Kall	All of it	Yes	Of the 350 minimum. Also buffer zones around reservations and the reduction of reporting time to 24 hours you're an idiot man you talk to me like I'm a piece of s***	Still allowing wolves to be hunted by dogs and trapping.	3	My wife and I live in northern Wisconsin in close proximity to many wolves. We feel they're part of the ecosystem and should not be hunted at all. The only time it becomes a problem is when we the people make it a problem by bearing irresponsible with their pets and livestock. There's really no need for a wolf management plan as nature will let them manage themselves.
Craig Thompson	Most of it	Yes	Very little, the WI DNR has become politicized and liberalized under Democrat leadership.	Dominant predators like wolves MUST have a population objective.	1	Wake up and use science, not politics and emotion.
Greg Dekalb	All of it	Yes	Controlling wolf numbers in zones that need it.	Not being able to reliably count the number of wolfs is disturbing, and to not be able to decide on a viable number.	2	I've been hunting in Ashland County for over 30 years and progressively every year is worse for deer hunting, it's a shame that the wolfs come before the Deer and Elk!!!!
melvin r yeakle	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	less than 350

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
John McNellis	Most of it	Yes	Controlling the population by area	1. Does not address specific population goals, stick to the previous approved plan of 450. 2. Does not include s specific hunt tag percent to zone population: Example: Z1 has 500 wolves x 50% harvest goal = 250 tags for 2023 3. If I live NEAR a tribal land, why should my land be treated different? every square inch beside tribal should be treated the same. 4. If the intent is for the state to manage the herd and not harvest what is needed, plan needs to address over population by capturing and dispersing to all other areas in state where they do not currently exist. Let's be fair about this is we are going to have a management plan. Deer, turkey, coyotes all exist in every county. If the public really wants wolves, then it is a civil duty to place them in their back yard. Let's see this topic addressed in the plan!	3	If we are changing the plan, make it FULLY comprehensive and address all the issues needed. Not just the interest groups of Tribal, wolf advocates, and livestock. Appears to limit the hunter, nd only appease the public interest. Also state where the monies come from to adopt and implement this plan - be transparent. I am guessing directly or indirectly from hunting and fishing licenses. Please educate us all, thank you
Mark Laustrup	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Science based	No maximum or minimum number of wolves	8	It sure would be nice to see the J.Q. Public more involved. Now, it seems a vocal minority is getting all the press.
	Most of it	Yes		No numbers!	2	300! Quit playing wolf advocate and manage the animals.
John S	All of it	Yes	-ensure a healthy & sustainable wolf pack -address/reduce wolf conflicts -provide benefits provided by wolves	-any proposal to kill 2/3 of the wolf pack to meet an outdated & arbitrary management cap of 350 animals isn't just controversial, it is a political creation bordering on insanity. The last wolf hunt was a stinker!	9	We have to learn to live with wolves. And as a rural, deer hunting Badger I can live with that. It's been a long time since I heard a wolf howl at night. I'm looking forward to maybe hearing it again sometime in the future.
Steve Kall	All of it	Yes	The elimination of a minimum number of wolves on the landscape. Also a buffer zone around reservations.	Use of dogs and trapping.	4	
	All of it	Yes	Graphs	Too much fluff	3	It is disturbing to see the evidence and contacts I have had with wolf packs in Douglas County. I encountered 5 contacts with wolves during bear hunt and 7 during Whitetail hunting last year. I hear them almost nightly and witness deer kills in my yard. This depredation is harming our deer and bear cub populations. The deer here has suffered this winter due to the snowfall amounts and they are sitting ducks for the wolf packs in my area. I have several pictures on my trail cameras Year round. We need less numbers of wolves.
Nina Coleman	Just the parts I am interested in	No			10	
		Yes				Wolves are destroying the northern Wisconsin deer herd. Between the wolves and you guys not shutting down the deer farms that spread CWD, northern Wisconsin hunting and land values have decreased dramatically.
Shirley LaMarche	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Promoting an understanding toward wolf packs.	Harvesting. The public, unless in danger should not be involved.	1	I was born and raise rural with personal contact with one Mountain Lion who was about to attract me, escaped with my life. I was in the wrong place at the wrong time. Yet I would never form adverse attitudes towards these beautiful animals. I met few people in the U.P. who would not shot and kill, any time of the year a wolf or cat. I joined a forest camera group in the U.P. There were beautiful photos of wolf packs and their pups. I mistakingly made a comment about how cute the pups were and the enormous harassment from the group actually scared me. Forestry is quite naive of peoples true attitudes toward animals of prey. I wish more individuals would read of the benefits wolfs have created at Yellowstone. The wolves help balance the eco-system, as I'm sure you know.
	All of it	Yes	The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	Absent is a commitment by DR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training must be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
Mitch Krug	Most of it	Yes	That there is a need for state management	The calculation of the number of wolves present in state.	5	There are many actors involved in this drama, however a balanced plan needs to be worked out that can rely on science and common sense.

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	All of it	Yes	The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	6	I am a canine behavior specialist. I vehemently disagree with using dogs to hunt wolves. Please become familiar with the cruelty of this sport and use compassion to judge it.
Joan Glasser	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
	All of it	Yes	Nothing	All of it	1	Without a population limit, and mgt practices, plan is a waste of time. Poor job
	All of it	Yes	none	Going beyond the 350 we were told.	0	There is no ceiling for the population. The WDNR has LIED all along to the public. Remember 350 was the goal. LIAERS !!!
Dianne	Most of it	Yes	Very small population maybe, large population absolutely not.		1	Increasing wolf population will put farmers, deer population and rural communities in danger. Bad enough we have so many coyotes. With less and less farmland it put stress on all these animals. For what purpose.
Roger Jolly	Most of it	Yes		Unnecessarily wordy!!	4	Manage wolves the same way you manage every other big game species. Give little if any weight to anti hunting input. Stick firmly to the original population goal of 350.
Scott Buss	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None - We don't need any wolves. Bad idea from the start. Get rid of them.	Same as 4	1	Again - we don't need them. Nothing will change until someone is killed by these things. They have no place in Wisconsin.
	Most of it	Yes	That the plan doesn't go with the 350 population and goes with not numbers but how the wolves are interacting naturally with other animals n people but the health of all is included and by and are looking at the whole picture of in regards to all living being together	I hate to see anything being out right killed but see necessary if causing I'll health to any species	7	Hoping that all are regarding the wolves as a part of the environment necessary to live amongst all other life n they have a belong here
Dirk Bengston	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Respecting the Native Americans. Specific zones for Wolf hunting.	None	10	Good job.
	All of it	Yes	I like the change to the zone specific harvest as long as the predicted DNR wolf population is similar to the true wolf population. I also like that the management zone boundaries are being revised.	I am worried that reducing registration times would negatively impact successful positive wolf harvest.	4	I am worried that the DNR is unable to get a true wolf population from the current monitoring process thus producing a low estimated population. Better monitoring must be established to get a more accurate wolf population to allow a more precise number of harvest authorizations per zone. Using the current estimated numbers produced from the current monitoring system, the population number is much lower than the true population which would then result in far fewer authorizations to be allowed, which again would lead to a unsuccessful harvest to control population.
Nicolas Cravillion	Most of it	Yes	Increasing systems and tools for measuring an accurate wolf population in Wisconsin.	Lack of true population understanding.	5	The draft plan is a great start, but in my opinion a sustainable wolf management plan should allow for hunting of the Wisconsin grey wolf. The population is a lot higher than what is being presented which is why the past hunt met the quota so fast. Many other animals need their populations looked at more closely as well. We have a large overpopulation issue across the board for many of Wisconsin's wild animals.
Jake A Anderson	All of it	Yes	Charts and insite information.	Its total lack of a detailed management plan!	1	I am very disappointed in this plan and its total lack of considering a reasonable target population goal. This seems like a expansion plan rather than a management plan. I also dislike the lack of understanding the need for management of the dangerous animals in this draft of a plan. It reads and seems to me that the author of this is not interested in the needs of the people who live and deal with these animals.
	All of it	Yes	That the DNR will allow some population control.	The fact that there is no set number for the number of wolf population that the land can support .	2	The wolf program is nothing like is was originally sold to the public. It ashame that the DNR is more interested in politics than the welfare of pray animals of wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Doug Hansmann	All of it	Yes	Historical and ecological context — e.g., carrying capacity, pack dynamics, and breeding season.	Lack of target population size discussion other than the shockingly low action limits for re-listing. Also, while the bear population may not directly impact the carrying capacity for wolves, the unsurprising conflict between, and outsized influence of bear hunters on wolf acceptance begs for incorporation of bear goals and hunting practices in any best-practice wolf management plan.	8	While I strongly believe government-based population management practices for all wildlife species should be primarily driven by ecological considerations, I think the survey results — indicating most state residents prefer to keep roughly the current wolf population — are remarkably supportive of a near-carrying-capacity number of wolves. While it is perhaps difficult to state a population goal for Wisconsin, I sincerely hope that this confluence of actual and healthy numbers dictates the future of wolf management in Wisconsin.
Orren Fredrick	All of it	Yes	You are asking for input, the science is being updated.	You are proposing no wolf population goals in opposition to previous science and conservation goals. The sources that fund the WI DNR are the hunters, land owners and fee payers. You are ignoring their clear out cries in favor of "non contributing voices unaffected by policy.	1	I think specific areas do need specific number goals. The reservations are allowed to manage their own areas , but not areas other people pay taxes on. It is foolish to allow them part of a reduction number when they won't apply it. In my survey of Northern Minnesota wolf tourism, the hotels in St Louis Co. say it is non existent. That goal is imaginary. The locals see a deer population so low it may never recover. Loss for all who benefit from this past source of income, and nothing to harvest for people in a depressed economy. This is the future for Wisconsin if this plan goes ahead. The loss to Wisconsin hunters and property is a real one. Why should we continue to pay taxes when there are no deer to hunt. The anger at government is real and justified.
	All of it	Yes		see below	1	To start....to have a plan you have to work with Real World numbers to start with...with that said, your plan is not worth a penny that the 100+ pages that were submitted. You have no clue or maybe you do? but your numbers aren't even close. Are you afraid? or just don't want to report "real" numbers? The plan submitted present a lot of "fluff"....GET to The POINT of what the citizens of Wisconsin want and a direction they want for Wolf Management. This so called plan does absolutely nothing in solving a problem we have had with "lack" of Wolf management in our state. Doing more surveys and appointing more committees, etc...does nothing! I'm a hunter and steward of the land as a land owner in our great state and consider myself very knowledgeable of the wildlife concerns affecting our state, hunting seasons and herd management, the anti hunting community and how they have tried and successfully halted our hunting heritage at certain points throughout history. With that said too much politics have been injected into the states wildlife management programs....deer herd management, CWD and lack of deer in the north. Bear management is very poor. We have more bear and they are moving into areas never seeing bears before, yet it takes 10 years to get a tag in some units, etc., etc., and the wolf management (lack of) is an absolute joke! IMO. Stop trying to satisfy everybody....not everybody gets a "trophy"....even though that's what people think in our politically correct world. Do what's right for Wisconsin and our wildlife and have a simple plan that everyone understands, gets on board with and proceed to go through with it. Also, the tribal nations will not manage the wolf and say so in your "plan". Stop giving them permits or putting them into the equation, we know what they are (not) going to do. The DNR at one time was pro hunting, doesn't seem to be that way anymore. Too many non qualified folks in our DNR or management committees...again, my opinion. My personal thoughts falling on deaf ears as usual. Another survey!
Brian Bielema	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Basing all management on clear scientific data	Lethal control should not be done except when absolutely necessary in individual cases. Under no circumstances should hunting and trapping be allowed by the public.	1	As in other states controlled by Republicans wildlife management by biologists is overruled by politics and sound principles are set aside to provide hunters and wolf haters the right to kill them regardless of their status. Only with federal protection will wolves recover in states so controlled by politics.
Denise Thornton	All of it	Yes	The Department's 2022 scientific survey of statewide public attitudes towards wolves which shows the majority of residents wish the wolf population to remain the same.	I dislike vagueness about how many wolf harvesting licenses will be approved. Please include the carrying capacity of bears and bear hunters into the equation for our state's environmental health. I suspect the majority of those in the 2022 survey who wish wolf population to remain where it is would not mind the tiny increase in their taxes that eliminating the funds from bear hunter fees would require. This is about the future of our state's natural resources -- not currently popular recreational bear hunting.	8	Bear hunters (a very small percentage of our state population) interests seem to be over represented and are clearly indifferent to wolf population health and general ecological balance. Please let ecological experts and public will direct your choices here.
Brian Johnson	All of it	Yes	Zone specific permits not much else.Stick with what you told us to begin with, 350 Damon wolves.	Changing boundaries around reservations.	1	350 is enough. It's to bad you can't round em up and fence them in on the reservations, I think our native American neighbors would change their BS.
Gary Pelkola	Most of it	Yes		No base quota for wolves in northern Wisconsin	3	Wolves and other predators have decimated the deer population in Northern Iron County and must be controlled
robert devine	All of it	Yes	none	there should be a set number for population and he harvest set to keep it there.	1	our settler forefathers realized out of necessity there was no tolerance for large predators in populized areas. They hunted them and that kept the predators away from the humans. When you don't do that you get cougar and bear predation on humans like you see out west and alaska. The proponents of increasing wolf populations don't generally live in areas where the wolves exist, and don't invest in their conservation financially like hunters and fishermen do; through license purchase and PR funds.

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David Lefebvre	Most of it	Yes	The fact that the population of wolves will be managed.	A specific management number is not in the plan. 350 wolves in Wis along with the management of that number will ensure wolves remain in Wisconsin. I also disagree with a buffer zone between tribe lands and private land. The report is essentially taking control of private land away from the owners.	7	I have no problem with wolves but I do have a problem with them not being managed. There is a reason they were killed off many years ago. If you fail to manage them, I'm afraid citizens will manage them for you. That would be a waste of a valuable resource.
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), i recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. 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				members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023 Reference(studies not integrated into the		https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012918 David, P. (2009). Ma'iingan and the Ojibwe. In A. P. 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LARRY BEIRL	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	NONE OF IT	POPULATION GOAL OF 350	1	I SAT IN ON THE MEETINGS WHEN THE DNR TOLD US THAT ALL WOLFS OVER THE POPULATION GOAL OF 350 WE THE SPORTSMEN AND TRAPPERS WOULD BE ABLE TO TRAP AND SHOOT THEM TO MAINTAIN THE POPULATION OF 350 WOLFS IN THE STATE OF WISC .
Joyce M Arndt	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	it seems like a good plan,just hope its taken seriously	whenever people start 'controlling'nature..bad things happen	5	
Nathanael Secor	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciate that Zone 1, 2, and 5 have low density numbers proposed for hunting quota. I appreciate that you are listening to stakeholders from many different perspectives.	I respectfully do not believe that wolves should be considered a game species. The growth of chronic wasting disease as an issue in our state's deer herd is of huge concern for me. We do not know if this has the possibility of jumping to other organisms in the wild, but we do know that it has made the leap to mice in lab conditions. This should give us great pause as it regards wolves considering the historic and current role of wolves in culling sick deer we should be promoting not targeting wild carnivores who preferentially kill sick deer. Additionally, I believe that the use of dogs to hunt wolves is irresponsible and cruel. It is irresponsible because of the known issue with bear dogs and pet dogs being targeted by wolves. Hunting with dogs presumes that surviving wolves are so stupid as to not understand the trend in dogs contributing to their brethren's exhaustion and death. Dogs will only be targeted further as this is the rule with carnivore conflict. It is cruel because the wolves do not have a chance to get away from multiple hounds trained on their scent.	3	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Steven Johnson	Most of it	Yes	I like the fact that after procrastinating for several years, the DNR is finally attempting to address the need for an updated plan. Wolves in Wisconsin need to be managed to ensure they continue their exist in Wisconsin but not at the expense of other species, and agriculture and recreational activities.	1. The plan needs to include a specific population goal. 2. Expanding protected areas around native lands is a take away from non native rights. 3. The plan does not adequately address the impact of wolf populations on key recreational and economic species such as deer.	3	The summary for the plan lists an objective of providing benefits for hunting, trapping and sightseeing. As a resident in the center of wolf country in NW Wisconsin, how can I take this plan seriously if a listed objective is sightseeing? Does someone really believe there will be significant sightseeing activity and revenue in the territory of wolves by people coming to see wolves? I live here and consider myself very fortunate to see a wolf once a year and I spend 100s of hours a year in the woods. The plan does not adequately address the concerns and preferences of those who live in wolf territory. I have the strong impression it has too much influence from those who think they can go sightsee wolves. While I am glad to have wolves be a part of the Wisconsin wildlife species, I also believe their existence in Wisconsin has little benefit to the success of the recreational industry that is key to much of the state. As a past volunteer tracker in the wolf census program, I know the population numbers are VERY conservative and are likely impacting other key wildlife species that are clearly more important to the recreational industry. A plan to allow current populations to continue or even expand panders to those who give wolves mythical standing in the scheme of wildlife management. Wisconsin needs and deserves a management plan with clear objectives and goals to insure a viable wolf population exists at a level that is addresses ALL social/economic/recreational factors.
Vaughn spaulding	All of it	Yes	Scientific Research	Numbers are to high!!!!! Too little to late! Deer populations have suffered severely. Let's try harder to eliminate the high numbers.	3	The Northern half of the State needs serious updating….follow through on what was initially setup……A cap of 350 Wolves for the State!!!!!!
Wayne Nelsen	Most of it	Yes	The fact that we need to reduce the wolf population in Wisconsin	I didn't find anything in there about a hunting season for the general public!!!!!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Steven Amundson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I'm very pleased to see that you have a taken a scientific and wholistic approach to wolf management and didn't put a specific number on the wolf population for the state. I believe it is important to continuously assess and discuss the subject.	There isn't a specific element in the plan that I dislike.	10	
Jeff Hermann	Most of it	Yes	Putting a more modern plan in writing.	No real talk on how to control the overabundance of wolves in the Northern part of the state.	3	Getting more accurate counts of wolves. We all know that they are dramatically undercounted. Whether that is by accident or on purpose is up for debate. The last wolf hunt tells you all you need to know about the actual population of wolves. In less than two days the hunters and trappers harvested a giant percentage of what the official population count is in the state. That tells you that the population is undercounted. People that spend time in the woods can tell you there is a lot more than what it is stated.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That we continue to work towards a sustainable wolf population.	That, nowhere, did I see a specific population goal. A "sustainable" population should be quantitatively defined. Minimum and maximum.	1	As written- the wolf plan will allow the wolf population to go unchecked. Not good for the deer herd of the north, livestock and pets. Unacceptable.
	All of it	Yes	None	Population goals	0	I sold my cabin and land. Wife won't let me take our hunting dogs up north anymore. She won't go up there anymore either. Don't need wolfs.
Chad Trudell	Most of it	Yes	integration of adaptive management		7	
Richard Polodna	Most of it	Yes		No numerical population goal	1	Need more input from citizens that actually encounter wolves in their daily lives
Patrick Quaintance	All of it	Yes	That it has taken 13 years to finally get the plan worked on is a good thing.	I really do not like anything about the plan. Who ever came up with this plan has no experience on wolf management or the people that have to live with theses wolfs. They need to be managed at 350 or less or the people that live with him will.	1	You take the rights of private property owners to be able to hunt or trap a wolf in these sub zone. I wonder how the tribes would like it if I would be able to hunt and trap wolfs on tribal lands. So is the state going to do the same with bear since some of the tribal members are bear clan members. This is just not right. And the wolfs have been doing just find without these sub zone since the state has had four wolf hunts already.
John Kohler	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That it addresses that wolves should be managed and not left unchecked.		7	Understanding that given this predator is in protective status by the federal government limits in scope what the plan can do. As a sportsman I don't hate or want to see them eradicated however I don't think they should be given a complete pass while other predators are allowed to be hunted. Any plan that doesn't provide for complete balance is going to fail. And my next comment is more political in nature, but when politicians get involved in the decision making process the best interests of the animals are lost. That's one reason the DNR gets a bad reputation. Do I have the answer, no, I'm just some old guy voicing my opinion.
Weston Schmidt	Most of it	No			9	When planning wolf season, Trapping and dog hunting should be separate. Or a longer season starting before dog hunting as normal animal behavior travel or patterned routes can be disrupted during dog seasons.
	Most of it	Yes		There is no management goal for population. There should be a number of wolves stated in the plan to determine how the population should be managed and controlled. It should be kept at the 350 wolves as stated in the previous plan.	3	
Me	All of it	Yes	none. It is not true management when you favor one side over the other. No Sensible plan in the draft.	all of the draft!!	1	Wolves do not fulfill any ecological role in the environment! And the past history of Wisconsin supports my statement. Don't believe it?, ITS STILL TRUE!
Greg Sacia	Most of it	Yes		I don't think it shows enough info on how the dept will deal with farmers from wolf kills to livestock etc.	5	I believe there should be a minimum of 350 wolf tags available to hunters with dept control if the wolf population gets above dept target more tags would be issued.
Chris Svachula	All of it	No	I like that you are taking public comments however I'm not sure how much input is actually used.	There should be more tags and longer season. I believe as well as everyone I know that there are way more wolves than estimated.	2	There needs to be more wolves harvested. My family doesn't even hunt northern WI anymore. The deer popular is decimated. As an out of state land owner we are considering selling our northern property as it has no hunting value for deer and bear tags take close to 10 years of points. It's ridiculous that I can see we used to see dozens of deer on a hunter but see 2 or 3 over a long weekend. I would like to see archery only tags that are open longer and have their own quota. I am a bow hunter and don't gun hunt. I would relish the opportunity to take a wolf with my bow should one pass while I am on stand.
Jean Psyhos	Most of it	Yes	At least considering it's well-being	Harvesting	5	Let the wolves be and reimburse farmers for their livestock
	Most of it	Yes	The basis of the entire plan to me is to reduce the Wolf numbers just enough to appear to be doing something about it. There are too many wolves. I can't buy into the plan in any capacity because it's not aimed at significantly reducing the number of wolves.	Wolves are great in areas with limited human populations. I have traveled to far northern Wisconsin for over 35 yrs to hunt whitetail deer. For many years now it has been a joke. Days without seeing a deer. Most of our crew had abandoned coming up anymore. And got those of us who do still go have a hard time finding places to eat since so many have closed. I feel bad for what this has done for small businesses up there.	2	I said it in the previous section. Wolves have ruined the "up north" hunting experience for our family and friends.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	I like the part that your trying to make a plan	The plan is based off of thoughts not actual listening to hunters	1	If you want to keep hopes up for the wolf hunt you did your job. You've made another plan to get shot done by a non hunting group or wildlife lovers that have no idea how big of a impact the wolf herd has on our deer herd. If you want the hunt do it. Stop letting other groups tell you how to manage your herd.
David Roth	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	There is no population goal. How can you manage a population without a number to achieve that goal?	It's political and not science based. You know it and I do too.	1	There is no population goal in the plan. This plan is a farce. There should be a wolf population at around 350 wolves in Wisconsin like the original science based plan. The WI DNR has become political and catering to the special interest groups and the money and not the interest of managing the wildlife. It's disappointing to say the least.
	All of it	Yes	Overall it is a well thought out plan, but without a numeric population goal I don't feel it addresses "management" of wolf populations.	Without a numeric population goal I don't know how this can be considered a management plan. The plan ignores public input from those living in the northwoods as to why residents here feel numbers should be restricted to 350 wolves. Wolves are commonplace here, and restrictions must be put in place to reduce human/wolf conflicts and ensure wolf survival. Without a numeric goal this cannot happen nor is it management. It is simply monitoring.	1	
deanna horton	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the	2	we need more protection for our wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
kris konopacky	Most of it	Yes	not much I feel wolfs should be treated as the predator they are I feel there numbers should be held in check at no more than the 350 number originally agreed to, I don't feel wolfs should be in the southern two thirds of the state at all	not holding to a number goal like you do with all other game animals that I feel have much more value deer bear turkeys	2	please manage them in a way that the wolf lovers don't constantly look for a judge to overturn delisting, Probably NOT possible
Jon Kuerschner	All of it	Yes	Zone-specific quotas and collaboration with multiple agencies to develop a plan that everyone can support.	Concerned about the management oversight needed to maintain and police the plan. Have considerations been made to improve the registration, monitoring and policing processes and technologies to support this plan?	8	Please work hard to put this plan in motion. We have to manage the wolves like all animals in our Wisconsin ecosystem. Thanks
scott dahlk	All of it	Yes	The ability to control the population in specific zones although I doubt the DNR has any intention of doing so.	No population goal is insane, we were sold this wolf recovery with the understanding that if the population hit 350 it would be managed to keep it there. We were flat out lied too	1	I hunt and hike the national forest in Bayfield county, there are wolf tracks everywhere. The population numbers being told to us are lies, it's at least double thier yearly counts. We ran a minimum of 14 wolves out of 1 section near Brinks Camp 2 years ago. Tell me again about the pack sizes, this plan is ridiculous, appears to have been written to go against science. Disgusted
Curtis	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	It didn't show up. BLANK PAGE !!	Let the Wolves be..... they are part of the life cycle. Sure I like to hunt them... I applied for a tag 2yrs ago. didn't know I could hunt them.... that day... only to find out 2 days later , wolf hunter fill the Quota... and went over.... some people don't get a chance. There should be a LOTTERY.... hello... you all screwed that up...Good Going !! Goofball bear hunters with Dogs are a problem. they over run my bait station and didn't give F..k about me being there baiting.. so I left the area...	0	LOTTERY..... Apply to get a TAG !! No over the Counter crap... you got $10.00 from me... and didn't get a notice about when to hunt...
	Most of it	Yes	not much, as is too one sided	a lot, as is one sided	2	I agree with a lot of other people on this plan that a sustainable number of the population of wolves needs to be added
Jeff Erickson	All of it	Yes	None	As an avid hunter in Wisconsin I see no use for the wolf I have hunted black river falls for the last 20 years the last two years I didn't even go for the lack of the year. It is ruined our deer camp in our annual hunt.	1	Then you try and re-introduce out and you see how they are decimating the elk

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Douglas Jensen	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Its thoroughness.	The executive summary needs to tell the bottom line (headline descriptions) for actions supporting each of the management goals. As a non-DNR ecologist and policy decision maker, I need to be able to see clear actions quickly to know which areas to focus on since I do not have time to read the full plan.	5	Put more meat and less fluff in the executive summary.
	Most of it	Yes	Being able to kill them	Limits	0	Kill them all hunting has never been the same after they were here
Greg	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				When I was a kid hunting in Northern WI was fun. Saw a lot of deer. Deer numbers are to low and trophy quality is poor. We lease land out of state for hunting now
Dan Ruck	Most of it	Yes	The only thing i like is that you are formulating a plan.	1.No limits on population is absolutely a disgrace to the department. 2. Buffer zones are an absolute discrimination against neighboring landowners. I understand tribal lands but boundaries are boundaries. Unbelievable.	1	I am not anti-wolf. They need to be managed to a measurable level as originally established. I am a US citizen and i have landowner rights as well. Please stop the discrimination.
Jason Hilger	Most of it	Yes	Its a plan . . .	The plan needs to further reduce the population and there needs to be more investment into determining the correct number of wolves because estimates are way low. Wolves should be captured and distributed from the North to the South - the plan would change quickly when a dog in Madison is eaten.	0	
Marge	Most of it	Yes	Well documented science based management says it all.	I always get ticked when special interest groups especially those from out of state use money as their motivation to kill wolves.	7	
Cody Akey	Most of it	Yes	Potential to have a wolf harvest season again	I feel there is too much pressure from tribal and radical groups that represent the minority of the population.	7	PLEASE move forward with a productive Wolf harvest season!
	Most of it	Yes	Na	No numeric goal, no guarantee harvest season if above numeric goal of 350.	1	72 counties in state of wi. Allow 5 wolves per county. Would be a state goal of 350. Move wolves to Dane, Buffalo, LA Crosse, Milwaukee counties. The whole state should enjoy the creatures .
	All of it	Yes				Get rid of them and bring our deer herd back upnorth
Jon Buchler	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			9	If this plan supports a vibrant, healthy wolf population, then I fully support it. You know more than I do, so I will trust your judgment. But the primary goal needs to be the health and welfare of the wolves. Bait trapping needs to be outlawed. Any trapping needs to be illegal. Thanks for the chance to provide my thoughts.
Ronald Henry	All of it	Yes	Totally rewritten and shows updated data. Seems like this is where we need to be: a good balance.		10	
Jarret Yoshida	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Why are we culling wolves? This is insane. The deer population is out of control.	1	
	Most of it	No	More recognition of the ecological role of wolves. Not having a quota of 350 wolves.	Stop solving everything by killing. Wolves are an essential part of the ecosystem and have the right to live. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.	4	
James Angresano	Most of it	Yes	Virtually everything - except the issue of compensating those who suffer depredation and stress related damages.	Only the absence of a proposal to increase compensation for depredation. Given the huge budget surplus we enjoy in Wisconsin some funds from this surplus could be allocated to compensate losses rather than relying only on revenue from hunting tags and the like. In addition, it could be pointed out what percentage of deer fatalities are due to wolves versus vehicles, disease and other predators.	9	The comprehensiveness and readability of the plan is superb.

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Sandra Materi	Most of it		We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	1	

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Roger Richter	Most of it	Yes	None	Everything	1	Leaves Wolfes alone!
Bill Ruder	Most of it	Yes	After all these years, at least the DNR submitted a plan.	Refusing to adhere to a set population goal number. It was used in the reintroduction program.WCC recommendation ignored.	1	
Charles Johnson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Having no DNR quota.	This still contains a possible hunt.	2	Eliminate dogs used in any wolf hunt and better yet end all wolf hunting!
Todd Rongstad	All of it	Yes	You seem to address all of the conflict groups in a defensive crouch.	First, a hunt is a shortsighted effort to placate the fear and ignorance crowd over wolves in northern Wisconsin. Our wildlife populations are not just meant to serve or feed this human-centric idea if the forest. We are in their space and not vice versa. Let them fully return and fulfill their role, whether angry, misinformed northern white guy likes it or not. Second, it's long past time for more aggressive public education campaigns to help people understand the need for wolf reintroduction and return to our landscape. Not in a pleading way, but in a forceful, authoritative way. I know it's tough to deal with the ignorance, but only a forceful response has any chance of success.	4	I live full-time in the Chequamegon National Forest and have a wolf or wolves consistently nearby. They belong here, and we all need to adjust to that reality. We must reverse the human tradition of fear and hatred of the wolf. Please stand against the ignorance and fear, and reverse this tragedy. Thx for your efforts.
Paula Napychank	Most of it	No	Comprehensive with Clarity	N/A	9	None
Jane Alexander	Most of it	No	It seeks to be fair in regulation s.	There should not be lethal use in wolf management. Especially of Alpha females. The taking of wolves should be "o". Wolves as umbrella species are valuable in the ecosystems they inhabit.	2	It needs more work in the science.
Dean	Just the parts I am interested in	No				Please protect the Wolves, Please NO KILL
Maurice Plummer	Most of it	Yes	The control numbers, the surveillance and the possible hunt controls.		8	If it comes down to a public wolf hunt the kill permit fees should be high and the registration should be immediate.
DeWu	Just the parts I am interested in	No			7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating. I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	4	

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				towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). 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Linda Robb	Most of it	No	Information is very extensive and informative.		5	Would like to see protection of wolves by both state and federal regulations. Total ban of wolf harvesting or hunting.
Carmen Rocco	Most of it	No	Saving wolves	Save all wolves and wildlife.	9	Stop the barbaric cruelty of killing wolves save them ,
barb lasley	Most of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killing	2	not an expert but believe that these creatures are an important part of the balance of nature and a lot of this plan is out of balance
Rick Mattos	All of it	No			10	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
LJ Orszlak	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like the fact that there is a plan to help wolves.	I do not like all the "red tape" as far as implementing the plan.	3	
Jay Yoon	All of it	No			10	I always want support wolves as possible
Timothy Daley	Most of it	Yes	Science-based approach. The wolf population must be fluid letting nature determine the actual population that can be sustained subject to the interactions and conflicts with humans and livestock.	Lack of regulation on the training and use of dogs. I would like to see a complete review as to the use of dogs for bear and wolf hunting with the goal being a more humane protection of the dogs.	8	Set a review date in five years to assess the impact and results of the plan.
	Most of it	No	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.		7	
	Most of it	No	Saving wolves	Wolves are a not harmful	10	Wolves need to be protected they are very important to the eco system
Cindy Kreiman	Most of it	No	I don't know I do know that all life matters not just ours	We are always looking at things from our own perspective and looking at the whole picture of the rights that belong to the wolves Have you asked the wolves how they feel?	3	There are too many that are killed illegally Killed and maimed in horrific ways Can you not see that they are living beings that have to survive in an unnatural man made world Can you not see that life is hard enough without us causing more problems because we want and need to be in control dominate and have power In essence all I see are cowards who cannot share the home that is meant for all not just us.,…
Cathy Stoba	All of it	No			10	
Arlene Steinberg	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting,should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in	3	This plan shows some improvement over past iterations but overall relies on bad science and questionable ethics. There still needs to be substantial improvement.

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				policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	All of it	Yes	appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What not liked ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to	1	appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. 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Vicki J	All of it	No	I like the buffer zones around Tribal reservations. Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. The plan has greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves and the inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves.	The plan does not curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The plan does not restrict nor outlaw "hounding" The plan does not recognize the LARGE body of best available scientific evidence on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The plan is counter to public opinion that Wisconsin wolves, individually, have value ALIVE. A majority of people oppose a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season : the public opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64% against it) or traps (70% against traps), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%) are committed from the plan. All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). The plan does not acknowledge that different Native Tribes of people have very personal views of wolves, many referring to a wolf as a relative or family. The plan dismisses those vital connections and values of the Native Peoples and general public, disregards scientific evidence and pretty much only caters to the small group of WHITE HUNTERS.	1	Try again.
Nancy Freyer	Most of it	No	Immediately Start Protecting Wolves.	Immediately Stop the Killing of Wolves.	1	More Protection of Innocent and Helpless Wolves.
Juan Hernandez Garibay	All of it	No	NONE OF THEM	I DISLIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT DRAFT PLAN(SORRY IF I AM SINCERE)	0	THE ONES THAT NEED OVERPOPULATION MANAGEMENT ARE HUNTERS, RANCHERS(THE ONES THAT KILL WOLVES) , AND CORRUPT FROM FISH AND WILDLIFE THAT ALLOWS KILLINGS, "WOLVES AND WILD ANIMALS RESTORE ECOSYSTEMS , KILING WOLVES DISRUPTS ECOSYSTEMS " HEY SORRY IF TRUTH IS AN OFFENSE!! NO MORE KILLINGS AT ALL!!!
nancy siebert	All of it	No			8	
Judy E. Embry	All of it	No	Buffer zones around tribal reservations. Recognition of the social value wolves have in the state, showing positive attitudes and increased opposition to wolf killing.	I do not believe there should ever be recreational killing of wolves. Any lethal management of wolves should be curtailed and used only in extreme circumstances. Hounding or hound training should never occur. It is cruel to the wolves and to the hounds. There should be no hunting season on wolves. Conflict with livestock should be addressed with non-lethal methods.	5	
Bridget Palecek	Most of it	Yes	Since wolves were reintroduced in Wisconsin it has been a waiting game for them to reach a total of 250. We all know wolves are a pack animal much like elephants who are family oriented. To kill the head of the pack is disorienting to the whole pack and inhumane. Why did we introduce wolves to begin with? To satisfy hunters and trappers? The wolves are here now at our bequest and all this game playing with their lives is disgusting.	I absolutely hate trapping any animal, especially claw traps. There is no need for trapping wolves today. It is cruel beyond belief - would you like to be caught in an excruciating painful trap for hours or days? Trapping for fur is obsolete so we need to come to grips with that and stop it and see it for what it is - cruelty for no good reason.	4	We reintroduced the wolves in Wisconsin and now you want to hunt them (for the fee money) and to make hunters happy. The majority of Wisconsin citizens couldn't care less about hunting, so you are appeasing a minority of folks who enjoy killing. I vote for the wolf - let them roam free. They are more loyal and family oriented than most humans.
	All of it	Yes	None	All of them	0	We as so called Humans can't even take or control ourselves so were do the DNR or any one else have any say about any Animals in the wild
Michael Gannon	All of it	No	I like the move away from the 350 wolf limits and the references to tribal lands which were previously ignored.	Under no conditions should 'recreational killing' be permitted given the massive damage hunting has caused wolf populations. Also there should be more factual, science based information included in the overall plan and it's conclusions.	6	Wolves are vital to any environment to help maintain natural balances that mankind overlooks or over manages. The idea of 'recreational killing' is a green light for the hunting community which has already proven its inability to respect wildlife and act within established limits. Wolves need a solid chance to prosper and grow and any interference beyond science based proven limits and measures should be avoided.
Joseph Marsala	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves, and the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Unless in extreme situations, any lethal management of wolves should be off the table. Hounding should be illegal. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. And finally, the plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.	4	Wolves are essential to the ecosystem, and need to be allowed to live so they may accomplish their role in nature.
Natalie Powers	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I don't like killing wolves	I don't like killing wolves	0	Wolves are very important to a healthy ecosystem

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. 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	Most of it	No	Proposed buffer zones. Limiting the hunting of wolves to zero.	No seasonal hunting should be allowed. This is not based on the best science available.	4	Please protect the wolves. They are necessary and useful to our ecosystem.
Kim Sterrett	All of it	No	Education of all citizens including city folk and farmers...everyone ! Stop the demonization of wolves. I also liked that Tribes were allowed to individually comment rather than as mentioned, a "group response" And finally I liked the Examples of non-lethal wolf depredation abatement tools, such as 6-layer electric fences and special lighting. I appreciated the survey results and I agree with most of them as to learning to coexist with wolves is a good idea. I agree with the Tribal responses too that wolves are sacred. In my city we just had a seminar last month on coyotes from wildlife experts and it was great, super informative, and it was a full house of at least 350-400 people.	General allowances to hunt and kill wolves especially with the use of cruel crossbows. That is from another century not modern times. Would also like to see a reduction of cattle farming in the USA, then there are less calves for wolf prey and no compensation needed.	6	I did read through the entire draft and made notes...overall it seems to try to appease everyone, not an easy feat. Good luck. Thanks for allowing comments.
	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings	1	
Christina Larkins	All of it	No	● More value is being placed on the ecological role of wolves. ● The old goal of 350 wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be a reference point for managing wolves. ● Using a social survey to note a rise in positive views of wolves, acknowledgement of their ecological roles and an upturn in opposition to the means and ways for killing wolves	A large amount of scientific literature on points such as the effectiveness in non-lethal controls, impacts of widespread killing on wolves well-being and social dynamics, and their sentience and sociability are missing from this draft, and it does not reflect the best available science.	4	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Addressing tribal concerns and the ecological importance of wolves	Please—recreational hunting is unacceptable, as is hunting as a management tool. Please prioritize non-lethal methods of management.	4	

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Jean Hoffman	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Like that the plan removes the numeric population goal; Like the buffer zones around tribal lands; The plan recognizes and emphasizes that wolves are a keystone species and that most Wisconsinites value wolves; The plan mentions and illustrates non lethal abatement measures as a way to avoid wolf conflicts; Like that the time hunters have to report kills is reduced from 24 to 8 hours.	The plan should prioritize non lethal ways to avoid wolf conflicts. It should call for a strategy to prioritize ways to acquire more funding for non lethal practices and to educate people on how to coexist with wolves; The plan should state that it should be reviewed more than once a year and that is will be updated as needed; Night hunting should not be allowed; I think the plan should put more restrictions on hound training and hound hunting. Dislike that the plan proposes hounding during the wolf breeding season. Hound hunting and training should not be allowed where wolf den and rendezvous sites are known to exist; Hound training and hunting should not be allowed where wolf families are not bothering anyone in the deep forests of our public lands.	8	The plan does not reflect everything I would like to see, but it is good to see some changes that hopefully will prevent out of control hunts Ike the one in February 2021. Thank you.
	Most of it	Yes	Buffer zone for tribal lands	Still resorting to lethal 'management' over non lethal and still allowing hounds (sickness!)	2	Hounding needs to stop. Only the few noisy members of the WBHA practice this barbarism. They run roughshod over all wildlife and trespass on private property with immunity. Wolves are integral to our ecology in WI, we need them to keep our deer healthy and our ecosystem in balance.
Jennifer Valentine	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although i believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), i recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What i don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Laura	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the	4	

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				population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Like The sound of Holistic, but doubt the Dept. Of Agriculture would even bother to to enforce this.	I couldn't find what type of trapping devices are being used. The traps that torture the animals for long times before they are killed should not be allowed. Traps that strangle them and make their brains turn to jelly or explode and this can also happen to our pets, should not ever be allowed. No torturing of any animal. Must be killed quickly and humanely.	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dr. S. Huber	All of it	No	These efforts are appreciate: That wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	-The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation when compared to non-lethal practices. -The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution-Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal. -The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. -The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). -There is a lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence. -All omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	4	
Britt Lind	Just the parts I am interested in	No	This plan is heavily written to favor hunters and farmers who make up most of the committee drafting the plan.	To use the term "management" is an insult to anyone who cares about wildlife. What you are talking about is allowing hunters to slaughter wolves for fun and pretend they're doing it for their own good. Leave the animals alone as they were before humans took over their land for profit.	1	As long as moneyed interests are in charge of the welfare of wolves they will continue to be slaughtered by idiotic cowards and the government agencies who should be protecting wildlife will continue to support their suffering and their eradication.
Mary Lou Ramirez	All of it	No	a holistic approach to ensuring the state's wolf population remains healthy and secure while balancing the public's diverse interests.	Revising wolf management zone boundaries to better reflect current wolf distribution and habitat.	1	
Richard Taylor	Most of it	No	Not much	The persecution of wolves	1	Poor
	Most of it	No	Non-lethal means to handle the wolf population	All the zones to kill wolf adults and pups. Going into dens to kill the pups.	2	People should be able to live in harmony with wolves with the right tools and information.
	Most of it	No	Some scientific data collected	Scientific data seems to be hand-picked to what the group wants versus what is best.	5	I'd like to see more scientific information included, such as: wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution
	Most of it	No	Safety of the wolves	I'm concerned about the well-being of the animals. I'm worried the public will get scared or threatened by their presence and want to kill them. Which is WRONG!	6	The wolf population has declined everywhere. They have been on the board line of extinction. We need to protect them at all cost
Edele Heath	All of it	Yes	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. Greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. Adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature. Scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy,results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan) despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals, not just for the viability of the population. Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a broad biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	1	
Michael Reynolds	All of it	No	Saving the animals	Not savingthem	10	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Sharon Porter	Most of it	No	Wolf protections			
Teresa	Most of it	No	The part of the draft plan is there is recognition of wolves in WI that is very important to our ecology. They help balance the population of deer and other wildlife. They are an apex predator (if you don't include humans) and we need them to keep everything in check.	I wish the plan had a more of a focus on wolf protections. The evidence needs to be clear on how populations are counted and if these populations are a risk to ranches in the area. I haven't seen any evidence of this. I also want to understand why there is a need to kill wolves by trappings and other lethal ways especially by the public. This doesn't seem safe to the public nor necessary to kill wolves indiscriminately. The wolves keep the environment healthy and in balance. The local populations views seem to be in favor of not killing wolves why is it necessary to kill them? I want to understand this argument more, I'm not convinced we need to kill wolves to keep "ranches safe". Please include more scientific evidence in the reason why less wolves are optimum to the area.	5	I'm providing neutral support. I think it's great this plan is recognizing wolves are an important part of our ecosystem and there's a lot of support behind saving these wolf populations. They are more important than not having them. There needs to be way more evidence to prove why there is a need to kill any even 1 in the first place. I just don't see it stated anywhere. Please include evidence of many scientific studies to avoid bias as well. I want to see more scientists, teachers, hunters, everyone to get a more clear picture of what's happening out in the wild. Thank you for listening.
Susan McFadden	All of it	No	None. There is zero reason to annihilate the wolf population except for man's incessant blood thirst in killing innocent animals, from deer to wolves. Complete disregard for other living beings. Man is the most destructive animal to inhabit this planet.	All of it. What is the real purpose of this slaughter? Let's get real for a change. Wolves, deer, rabbit, birds, squirrel etc. have just as much of a right to live peacefully on this planet. They have families, offspring and elders..just as humans. They provide for one another. They have geniune love for one another. It sickens me to know that you feel the only answer is a murderous rampage and the complete annihilation of a species.	0	After reading this plan, how can anyone assume humans are superior to any species. It is always the same playbook, kill kill kill.
P.A. Woodburn	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I haven't read it but I don't in any way whatsoever approve of killing any wolf whatsoever. The wolves have as much right to live on this planet as anyone else. The wolves don't belong to Wisconsin. The wolves are an apex species and critical for the environment. I won't set foot in Wisconsin until I know you are going to leave the wolves alone.	I'm sure you have read all of the negative things that happened to Yellowstone when wolves were removed. Haven't you read about climate change? The wolves don't need to be managed by humans.	0	My answer to above is one. It is not clear how the thing works. Every thing I have ever read concerning wolves and Wisconsin is negative. That is why I haven't bothered to read it. I know it is going to be about killing more wolves. The wolves will be here when we have managed to kill and destroy the planet by climate change or some other stupidity. Don't run another species into extinction no matter what your latest method is it is wrong.
Tammi Priggins	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I love trying to save the wolves, they are God's creatures. I am their voice!!!	N//A	7	
Heidi	Most of it	No	I just like to protect all wildlife		10	Save and protect wolves and all wildlife
Angela B.	Most of it	No	1. Pursue options to minimize human/wolf conflicts. 2.Include the overall ecosystem health and sustainability of the wolf population as a stated goal. 3. Allow wolf populations to fluctuate naturally. 4.Collaborate with government agencies and Tribes in monitoring wolf populations. 5. Use science-based input and methodology to monitor/estimate wolf populations. 6. Create zones of no/low wolf harvest based on Tribal boundaries, conflict levels, and research.	1. Wolf depredation compensation program.	9	
Karen Bartell	Just the parts I am interested in	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates	3	

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				when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Maria Proietti, Esq.	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves	The plan should strictly curtail any LETHAL management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	2	Avoid legal management at all costs

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Jonathan	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The improvements over previous iterations	shoddy science and ethics behind some of the policies	0	
Therese Laitinen	All of it	Yes	I am overall pleased with the entire draft.		9	
David	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Nothing	Plan to exterminate the wolf	1	Human white colonizers have driven countless plant & animal species extinct due to human expansion. The state kills everything in it's path. How do you live with yourselves causing so much damage to the environment? Your wolf murder plan is shameful and I'm embarrassed for you killers
J	All of it	No	I like and appreciate the greater acknowledgement of the ecological role of wolves in the draft plan.	I wish the plan would prioritize the protection of wolves with regards to livestock disputes. Act 169, which allows a wolf hunting season, could be changed to set a quota of 0 wolves. Hunting wolves statistically does not provide a long term solution to live stock issues, where as a non lethal approach would benefit not only the farmers, live stock, and wolves; but the eco system as well.	6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No				Wolves need protection, period.
p nunez	Most of it	No	not too much	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	2	
Richard Kite	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent		

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Sarah Kittrell	All of it	No	I only like, that saving them is important	Any killing	4	Wolves are essential
mark baker	Most of it	No	im already sponsering helene, let me know when the renewal will be plz			

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	All of it	No	The current plan needs significant updates, but so far I like: + Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old and weird numerical goal of 350 wolves. + The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. + Seems to be a much greater recognition of the vital ecological role of wolves. + The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations that previously did not exist.	There are too many reasons that this plan is a big, fat FAIL. - The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on:- x Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; x Impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution; x The effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones - The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. - The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. x A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. x Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. - The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. x Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. x Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. Additionally, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. x Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods - The plan should REQUIRE the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. - The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). x Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). x All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). - Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). - There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence). - There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. - In general, all omissions of scientific literature,	4	Do better.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. - 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	No	Scientific approach to wolf management, consideration for the impact on the cultural and natural environment of wolf management and elimination of inhumane trapping and hunting techniques	Any allowances for inhumane hunting, mass killing or trapping activities	8	Thank you for your work on this plan
Patricia Browne	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well-being, social dynamics, ecological relationships, and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a primary management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous, and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, have found that policies allowing the liberalized killing of wolves results in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. The plan should prioritize wolf protection and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, significant evidence shows that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan) despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals.	4	Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)
	Most of it	Yes	Not much	350 wolfs no more,surey,boundies,people working on the plan	1	We need low numbers for wolfs too ,help our deer and elk herd.These two hunting seasons bring alot of money ,to WI.
	All of it	No	The summary of animal reintroduced and their control of the elk population. Also the way Wisconsinites trust the DNR	Bounties on wolves and quota system and how they affect wolves population If some major illness occurs you can potentially affect the whole population and severely deplete tje Wolf population and then the killing of more wolves	3	The elk population will regulate the wolf population. Culling can be too drastic

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No		What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F).	6	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	What I like most: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killing ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence)	3	
Brittany	All of it	No			10	
	All of it	No	It is good		10	
william Crosby	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	anything short of total wolf protection is unacceptable.		2	
	All of it	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf	4	

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Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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stephanie johnson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	using more science than just a quota number as previous done by DNR	no research on how taking our a wolf from pack the repercussions of dispersing a pack ...more current science involved...non lethal methods	2	involve the cultural impact on Native Americans instead looking at trophy hunting as an answer. No killing of wolves unless humans are threatened which none are documented, new science on wolf packs
Bob Gendron	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Though I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf	2	

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	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in	4	

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				policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Kimberly Vernon	Most of it	No	Save the wolves	N/A	7	Please save the wolves. They need to be added to the endangered species list again. The Wolf plays a important part in our environment as seen in the yellow stone documentary.
GidaNaser	All of it	No	Saving Wisconsin wolves	NA	10	
Emmanuel James Muyuela	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	The elements that seem good to me are the plans to promote public education and encourage acts that benefit wolf conservation.	What I see about that this that's so wrong is the fact that after a certain number of wolves in the state (350), people are basically allowed to do what they want to them. I know this could prevent overpopulation, but can't the ecosystem balance these populations naturally?	5	
Amanda Hedgpeth	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized	5	Killing should not be allowed unless a human is in under direct attack and protecting themselves

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				dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. 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Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification		

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				will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Nina Berry	Most of it	No	I like that the plan recognizes wolves are an important part of the ecosystem, the inclusion of a social survey, and that buffer zones around reservations are proposed. I appreciate all the thought and effort going into this update!	This update doesn't include the latest science on things like how killing wolves affects their social dynamics and evolution, the incredible effectiveness of non-lethal deterrents (much better than lethal ones!). I dislike the promotion of "sustainable recreational killing" of wolves, which is an oxymoron and isn't supported by the most recent, vigorously researched science. Killing should be an absolute last resort. The science shows that when you have liberal killing of wolves, it actually leads to GREATER predation by the remaining wolves. So you're shooting yourself in the foot as well as shooting the wolves.	2	Thank you for reading my comment!
Cecelia Samp	Most of it	No	I like the idea of using non-lethal methods for wolf "management " as studies like those in Idaho show this method is much more effective than killing wolves.	The plan seems to give those living in higher wolf populated areas more weight in allowed wolf numbers. Science shows that wolf-human contact is very low.	5	I really appreciate the input from Native American tribes. Their ancestors lived alongside wolves and showed that humans and wolves can co-exist rather well. They link the prosperity between humans and wolves. Humans need to take more responsibility for wolf conflict. Pet conflict can, in most cases, be better controlled. If you live in an area with wildlife you must adjust and be adaptable. Wildlife was there long before humans. Hunting dogs are more vulnerable because they are in wolf habitat hunting wildlife which exposes them to more conflict. Farmers should take advantage of non-lethal methods to deter wolves. Wolves inspire strong feelings from people, both in support and in the hatred of wolves. Plans should be based on science and what is best for the wolf, not fear of what ifs.
Armond Matevosian	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The wolf population is increasing as it should		3	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The current draft has some improvements over previous plans and I appreciate the work done to update this plan. I support the recognition of the ecological role of wolves, the change in the goal/number of wolves and the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	However, the current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on the following: wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, particularly relative to lethal ones; and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. I believe the plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Period. In addition, the plan should prioritize wolf protection and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Hounding or hound training, which is similar to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is archaic and extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the general public. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves and omits mention of such majority values from the plan, despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals and not just for the viability of the population. I oppose a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season. There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal views about wolves. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the draft plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. Thank you for your consideration.	4	

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Kaija Jones	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. 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That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. 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Preston	Most of it	Yes			10	
Daniel	Most of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dog fighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as	1	Thank you.

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				recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e.,Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Mike Maher	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	4	
Rachel Magnavite	Most of it	No	Protecting Wolves God's gift Under The Endangered Species Act.	None	10	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	The emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).	3	
Barbara Liszeo	All of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management	4	

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				may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Barty Thompson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I applauded the apparent change of attitude from perceiving wolves as vermin to acknowledging their ecological value and moving away from the goal of keep maintaining as low as population as possible in Wisconsin.	They still have not included the recognition of the moral worth of wolves that are reflected by the attitudes of the majority of the people in Wisconsin and the US. THey should not be depicted as items that can be destroyed to meet desires of individuals who are so biased by their anthropocentric views that only humans matter. Wolves and wolf individuals matter a great deal. This report should be trying to achieve the goal of developing a plan that minimizes the killing or harming of wolves. As such it needs to be transparent about the need to value wolves as sentient beings. Non-lethal methods of remediation should should be the main methods with lethal methods coming only as a last resort. Recreational hunting for wolves has no place in this report. Nor does hunting with hounds/dogs or any other methods which induce more pain and harm than necessary.	2	There are some improvements, but the plan has to reflect a changed understanding of our relationship with non-humans. It is past time to recognize that wolves and other animals are intrinsically valuable and need to be treated with respect and care. This report needs to adjust its provisions to reflect this viewpoint.
Ashley Stagnari	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, andespecially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators	4	Wolves are essential parts of environmental functionality and demand full protection.

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				for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." 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				Herbert, J., Hersey, K., Hurley, M., Lukacs, P. M., Mccorquodale, S., Mcintire, E., Nowak, J., Sawyer, H., ... White, P. J. (2013). Relative influence of human harvest, carnivores, and weather on adult female elk survival across western North America. Journal of Applied Ecology, 50(2), 295–305. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.12044 Browne-Nuñez, C., Treves, A., MacFarland, D., Voyles, Z., & Turng, C. (2015). Tolerance of wolves in Wisconsin: A mixed-methods examination of policy effects on attitudes and behavioral inclinations. Biological Conservation, 189, 59–71. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2014.12.016 Bruns, A., Waltert, M., & Khorozyan, I. (2020). The effectiveness of livestock protection measures against wolves (Canis lupus) and implications for their co-existence with humans. Global Ecology and Conservation, 21, e00868. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2019.e00868 Bryan, H. M., Smits, J. E. G., Koren, L., Paquet, P. C., Wynne-Edwards, K. E., & Musiani, M. (2015). 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				1–9. https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.819137 Kershenbaum, A., Root-gutteridge, H., Habib, B., Koler-matznick, J., Mitchell, B., Palacios, V., & Waller, S. (2016). Disentangling canid howls across multiple species and subspecies : Structure in a complex communication channel. Behavioural Processes, 124, 149–157. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2016.01.006 Koval, M. H., & Mertig, A. G. (2004). Attitudes of the Michigan public and wildlife agency personnel toward lethal wildlife management. Wildlife Society Bulletin, 32(1), 232–243. Kuijper, D. P. J., Sahlén, E., Elmhagen, B., Chamaillé-Jammes, S., Sand, H., Lone, K., & Cromsigt, J. P. G. M. (2016). Paws without claws? Ecological effects of large carnivores in anthropogenic landscapes. Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, 283(1841), 20161625. https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.1625 Louchouarn, N., Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Parsons, D. R., & Treves, A. (2021). Evaluating how lethal management affects poaching of Mexican wolves. Royal Society Open Science, 8(200330). https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.200330 Low, P., Panksepp, J., Reiss, D., Edelman, D., Van Swinderen, B., Low, P., and Koch, C. (2012) Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness in Non-Human Animals. University of Cambridge, Churchill College. Lynn, W. S. (2006). Between science and ethics: What science and the scientific method can and cannot contribute to conservation and sustainability. In D. M. Lavigne & S. Fink (Eds.), Gaining ground: In pursuit of ecological sustainability (pp. 191–205). International Fund for Animal Welfare. 7 Manfredo, M. J., Sullivan, L., Don Carlos, A. W., Dietsch, A. M., Teel, T. L., Bright, A. D., & Bruskotter, J. (2018). America's Wildlife Values: The Social Context of Wildlife Management in the U.S. National report from the research project entitled "America's Wildlife Values". Fort Collins, CO: Colorado State University, Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. Mazzini, F., Townsend, S. W., Virányi, Z., & Range, F. (2013). Wolf Howling Is Mediated by Relationship Quality Rather Than Underlying Emotional Stress. Current Biology, 23, 1677–1680. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2013.06.066 Miller, S. D., Person, D. K., & Bowyer, R. T. (2022). Efficacy of Killing Large Carnivores to Enhance Moose Harvests: New Insights from a Long-Term View. Diversity, 14(11), 939. https://doi.org/10.3390/d14110939 Miller, J. R. B., Stoner, K. J., Cejtin, M. R., Meyer, T. K., Middleton, A. D., & Schmitz, O. J. (2016). Effectiveness of contemporary techniques for reducing livestock depredations by large carnivores. Wildlife Society Bulletin. https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.720 Milleret, C., Wabakken, P., Liberg, O., Åkesson, M., Flagstad, Ø., Andreassen, H. P., & Sand, H. (2017). Let's stay together? Intrinsic and extrinsic factors involved in pair bond dissolution in a recolonizing wolf population. Journal of Animal Ecology, 86(1), 43–54. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.12587 Mitchell, M. S., Ausband, D. E., Sime, C. A., Bangs, E. E., Gude, J. A., Jimenez, M. D., Mack, C. M., Meier, T. J., Nadeau, M. S., & Smith, D. W. (2008). Estimation of Successful Breeding Pairs for Wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountains, USA. Journal of Wildlife Management, 72(4), 881–891. https://doi.org/10.2193/2007-157 Murray, D. L., Smith, D. W., Bangs, E. E., Mack, C., Oakleaf, J. K., Fontaine, J., Boyd, D., Jiminez, M., Niemeyer, C., Meier, T. J., Stahler, D., Holyan, J., & Asher, V. J. (2010). Death from anthropogenic causes is partially compensatory in recovering wolf populations. Biological Conservation, 143(11), 2514–2524. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2010.06.018 Ordiz, A., Bischof, R., & Swenson, J. E. (2013). Saving large carnivores, but losing the apex predator? Biological Conservation, 168, 128–133. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2013.09.024 Palacios, V., Font, E., Márquez, R., & Carazo, P. (2015). Recognition of familiarity on the basis of howls: A playback experiment in a captive group of wolves. Behaviour, 152(5), 593–614. https://doi.org/10.1163/1568539X-00003244 8 Pereira, P., Fandos Esteruelas, N., Nakamura, M., Rio-Maior, H., Krofel, M., Di Blasio, A., Zoppi, S., Robetto, S., Llaneza, L., García, E., Oleaga, Á., López-Bao, J. V., Fayos Martinez, M., Stavenow, J., Ågren, E. O., Álvares, F., & Santos, N. (2022). Hair cortisol concentration reflects the life cycle and management of grey wolves across four European populations. Scientific Reports, 12(1), 5697. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-09711-x Rich, L. N., Mitchell, M. S., Gude, J. A., & Sime, C. A. (2012). Anthropogenic mortality, intraspecific competition, and prey availability influence territory sizes of wolves in Montana. Journal of Mammalogy, 93(3), 722–731. https://		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Beverly Foster	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science).	Personally, I think that we should stop hunting wolves. This is 2023, not 1623 when people didn't know any better. Wolves are essential to their ecosystems. They are wise, beautiful, emotional, family-oriented, ancient creatures who deserve all the support and protection we can give them. Ranchers need to be tightly restricted in their grazing areas and if people can't keep their pets safe, they shouldn't have them. If we don't learn to live with nature, we're all animals, pretty soon, it will be too late.	3	
Joel J. Piehl	All of it	No	1. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations 2. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves	Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. 1. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. 2. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. 3. The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature. The scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence. 3. There is still a great deal of the ecological role of wolves that should be added. 4. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. 5. It should include that there's a majority of public support for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).	1	I dream for the day that the term sustainable applies to all the wild life that is NECESSARY for earth's sustainability. The wolves play a key role the balance.
Larisa Garski	All of it	No	I appreciate that the plan included a social survey and I do appreciate that the old numerical management goal has been	The draft plan misunderstands the nuanced relationship between wolves indigenous tribes. The plans lack of focus on non-lethal management tools is of profound concern.	4	
Kirsty	All of it	No	That time has been given to look at the wolf population	Any form of killing the wolves. Why not use meat baited with contraceptives if you don't want them to breed. Americans just seem to want to kill things	0	
Kathi Michalek	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				Let them be!
Kelly ODell	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I don't like anything from your so called plan	Wolf Harvesting why do u people keep killing the wolf, u invade their homes and take over their land, just as the white man took over the Indian's land. When they according to u so called government find the wolf a pain, now all of a sudden u want to lower their numbers by killing them. How cruel can u people be?		U really don't want to hear what I am thinking right about now.

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Vicki Napper	Most of it	No	Your study of wolf habits and interaction with species	Specifically on page 35 "mong wolf range residents in Oregon and wolf stakeholders (i.e. issue public) in Michigan, researchers found political party affiliation to be the best predictor of attitudes toward wolves, an effect that was intensified when one's social community (e.g., friends, family) belonged to the same political party (Hamilton et al., 2020; Lute et al., 2016). In both studies, politically conservative identities were more likely to hold negative attitudes toward wolves" Seriously, if political party is the driving factor of deciding how to educate people about wolves, then it will be highly skewed. A focus on social groups seems to be more of a significant factor.	8	I did not see a strong connection between what the various Tribes held to be important and the overall management plan for wolves. Statistical data doesn't seem to be the best factor for determining overall kill rate (aka "harvesting"..these are not plants). Management of wolves by area of influence is difficult but needs to be a highly considered factor. Also timing of hunts to minimize distruption to pack heirarchy. There are many factors that contribute toward wolf mortality beyond human presence/harvesting that need to be more highly considered.
Steve Hughes	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	None of it.	All of it.	0	What right have you got to kill intelligent, sociable, and family orientated animals? Wolves are being persecuted due to the lies of ranchers and farmers. Mother Nature dictates wolf populations. Conservation does NOT start with a high powered rifle or other nefarious methods!!
james massmann	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	zero	most	1	I want the wolf numbers down to 3-400 in the entire state of wi.
D. Corsiglia	Most of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	It does not reflect best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature; it is biased and runs contrary to scientific evidence; The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life; The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence; The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation; The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves;	4	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				We need to protect these wolves and not have humans gun them down with helicopters and hunting. There should be preservation land where they can establish their habitat and live free without fear of being killed. Only legislation can provide this protection because these laws passed by congress would ultimately be the voice of these harmless species to protect these wolves
Ayce Knutson	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for	2	PROTECT our precious, iconic and ESSENTIAL WOLVES at all costs. It is time to ban hunting and only use non-lethal methods.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Val	Most of it	No	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and	I think there are far more ethical, researched, and effective practices when it comes to the treatment and or/containment of wolves. Many of the 'hunting' practices and or wolf management practices due to so-called 'predation' are inhumane, illogical, and unwarranted. Wolves are sentient creatures and do what wolves do...just as any other creature living a natural life in the wild.	5	As a NYS resident, one.of the states becoming ridiculously more and.more.lax with criminal laws...it's really a joke. Commit a crime and get released two hours later because, You didn't mean to do it..jails.overvrowded, and just simply because of the bleeding heart liberals running things...suffice it to say....WOLVES should just be let alone to live. They don't commit half of the atrocities that humans do. Wolves are living as intended as wild animals. Just let them be.

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			has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices.			
Arne Christian	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current	2	PROTECT WOLVES because they are ESSENTIAL to our ecosystem!!!! Ban all hunting and only use non-lethal methods.

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				promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating, we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g.,	5	

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				such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence). There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023).		
Serhii Pavlinski	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to	2	We need to PROTECT ESSENTAIL WOLVES at all costs. It is time to use only non-lethal methods and ban all hunting/trapping of wolves!

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Dawn Mello	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I tried to upload it and nothing happened. There was no draft plan to read. But if it's killing wolves and cubs then I disagree.	You people selling wolves lives. God created them.	0	All you have to do to stop wolves from killing livestock is: 1. Playing a recording of wolves howling. It's been proven to work. I don't think you people want to make it work. 2. Protect livestock by fencing them in electrical fences. But no they go near the wolf's den and taunt them. They're animal's that survive by killing other animals. Not for greed or profit like you people. 3. Just leave them alone.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I feel the DNR is trying to be fair to all the diverse opinions and needs of the State regarding wolves	I oppose a mandated wolf hunt in Wisconsin.This option should be eliminated from the wolf management plan.. The public has indicated they want a larger Wolf population..When the wolves were reintroduced into the Yellowstone area in 1995 they improved and stabilized the entire habitat for a diverse range of wildlife by reducing the elk populations which were eating the trees.Coyote populations were also reduced by as much as 50%inI some areas which in turn increased the populations of of pronghorn and red fox. When the trees restored,the entire ecosystem improved. The wolves reintroduction was a success! We have an abundance of deer in our state. I know many people that have had their vehicles destroyed by run-ins with deer in our area. It is almost impossible to get loaner cars or get a damaged car fixed in reasonable time because of the proliferation of the deer encounter tees. Wolves help to reduce th We need them to increase their range and balance our deer overpopulation. !!.That s counter productive and not solving any problems. If predating livestock isa an issue, that cane managed with compensation .I ask you to DELETE the option for a mandated hunt. It is counterproductive and unnecessary, and will result in overkill,which was the unfortunate result of the last mandated hunt.	5	A well advertised program of compensation, along with education of the crucial role the wolf plays in our ecosystem would be the best solution to educate the public (in schools, and other public venues)and gain publicr support for a healthy wolf population in our state.
Ragnar Sigurdsson	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not	2	PROTECT our precious iconic ESSENTIAL WOLVES at all costs!

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Rosalind Connell	All of it	No	Only that you are allowing democracy to let us ecologists given our knowledge .	The scientific data is flawed in the Wisconsin Plan compared to Yellow Stone wolf rewilding project date proof of biodiversity , ecological , beneficial presence of Wolves .	1	Please , Animal Equality and Ecological and Eco Tourism benefits have not been included in your plan . Extinctions are easy . We live in a fragile environment . Views on Wolves need better educating . Not a menace but beneficial . Eco Tourism is booming . Wisconsin Wolves are a benefit to Wisconsin .
Michael Koreiwo	Most of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	You are not using the best available science and are ignoring data to suit your desires…. For example: wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics All lethal elements should be removed, allowing for only strict 'self defense' in its truest definition.	4	Though not a resident, I feel it is critical to eliminate the vilification of wolves that leads to drafting legislation that supports killing, hounding, and other heinous method management. As THE apex predator, we can, and should, do better.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	protection and sustanabliity	n/a	9	

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Elizabeth Enright	All of it	No		The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I do not want wolves to be hunted	2	
	Most of it	No	There is more recognition of the important roles that wolves play in nature.	The plan should focus more on non-lethal tools for the management of wolf populations.	4	

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Meryl Pinque	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	1	Nonhuman animals are sentient beings. We, humans, must protect wildlife.

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Caroline	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like that wolves will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: -wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment. There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence). There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.		
Sue	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach is better.	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Polly Schneck	Most of it	No	1) Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350wolves. 2) There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves 3) The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations 3) The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	1) Scientific omissions (see more below), combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence. Much of the omitted scientific evidence is more recent, thorough (there's more of it) and of stronger inference. 2) The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.oA substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. 3) Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dog fighting, should be illegal, as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. 4) The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.oDespiteAct 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, includinga quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods.oSeveral studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to betterconflict mitigation.oLethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices.In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. 5) The plan should require the implementation o abatement measures as well as the use ofnon-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. 6) The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves(and omits mention of suchmajority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed).Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing,as robustly supported by science). 7) Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but also misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature,use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e.,Objectives A, B, D and F). 8) There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring diseaseprevalence (e.g.,accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones,measures ofpair/pack persistence). 9) In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 10) 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy,precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. Findings from Wisconsin,	1	

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				alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models, are insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased.Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods arec onsidered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) 10) The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below):ɔwolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well beingɔeffectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal onesɔthe impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well being,social dynamics,ecological relationships and evolution. 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				Science,8(200330).https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.200330Low, P., Panksepp, J., Reiss, D., Edelman, D., Van Swinderen, B., Low, P., and Koch, C. (2012)Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness in Non-Human Animals. University of Cambridge,Churchill College.Lynn, W. S. (2006). Between science and ethics: What science and the scientific method can andcannot contribute to conservation and sustainability. In D. M. Lavigne & S. Fink (Eds.), Gainingground: In pursuit of ecological sustainability (pp. 191–205).International Fund for AnimalWelfare.7 Manfredo, M. J., Sullivan, L., Don Carlos, A. W., Dietsch, A. M., Teel, T. L., Bright, A. D., &Bruskotter, J. (2018). America's Wildlife Values: The Social Context of Wildlife Management inthe U.S. National report from the research project entitled "America's Wildlife Values". FortCollins, CO: Colorado State University, Department of Human Dimensions of NaturalResources.Mazzini, F., Townsend, S. W., Virányi, Z., & Range, F. (2013). Wolf Howling Is Mediated byRelationship Quality Rather Than Underlying Emotional Stress.Current Biology, 23,1677–1680.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2013.06.066Miller, S. D., Person, D. K., & Bowyer, R. T. (2022). Efficacy of Killing Large Carnivores toEnhance Moose Harvests: New Insights from a Long-Term View.Diversity, 14(11), 939.https://doi.org/10.3390/d14110939Miller, J. R. B., Stoner, K. J., Cejtin, M. R., Meyer, T. K., Middleton, A. D., & Schmitz, O. J.(2016). Effectiveness of contemporary techniques for reducing livestock depredations by largecarnivores.Wildlife Society Bulletin.https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.720Milleret, C., Wabakken, P., Liberg, O., Åkesson, M., Flagstad, Ø., Andreassen, H. P., & Sand, H.(2017). Let's stay together? Intrinsic and extrinsic factors involved in pair bond dissolution in arecolonizing wolf population.Journal of Animal Ecology, 86(1), 43–54.https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.12587Mitchell, M. S., Ausband, D. E., Sime, C. A., Bangs, E. E., Gude, J. A., Jimenez, M. D., Mack,C. M., Meier, T. J., Nadeau, M. S., & Smith, D. W. (2008). Estimation of Successful BreedingPairs for Wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountains, USA.Journal of Wildlife Management,72(4), 881–891.https://doi.org/10.2193/2007-157Murray, D. L., Smith, D. W., Bangs, E. E., Mack, C., Oakleaf, J. K., Fontaine, J., Boyd, D.,Jiminez, M., Niemeyer, C., Meier, T. J., Stahler, D., Holyan, J., & Asher, V. J. (2010). Deathfrom anthropogenic causes is partially compensatory in recovering wolf populations.BiologicalConservation,143(11), 2514–2524.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2010.06.018Ordiz, A., Bischof, R., & Swenson, J. E. (2013). Saving large carnivores, but losing the apexpredator?Biological Conservation,168, 128–133.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2013.09.024Palacios, V., Font, E., Márquez, R., & Carazo, P. (2015). Recognition of familiarity on the basisof howls: A playback experiment in a captive group of wolves.Behaviour, 152(5), 593–614.https://doi.org/10.1163/1568539X-000032448 Pereira, P., Fandos Esteruelas, N., Nakamura, M., Rio-Maior, H., Krofel, M., Di Blasio, A.,Zoppi, S., Robetto, S., Llaneza, L., García, E., Oleaga, Á., López-Bao, J. V., Fayos Martinez, M.,Stavenow, J., Ågren, E. O., Álvares, F., & Santos, N. (2022). Hair cortisol concentration reflectsthe life cycle and management of grey wolves across four European populations. ScientificReports, 12(1), 5697.https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-09711-xRich, L. N., Mitchell, M. S., Gude, J. A., & Sime, C. A. (2012). Anthropogenic mortality,intraspecific competition, and prey availability influence territory sizes of wolves in Montana.Journal of Mammalogy,93(3), 722–731.https://doi.org/10.1644/11-MAMM-A-079.2Rutledge, L. Y., Patterson, B. R., Mills, K. J., Loveless, K. M., Murray, D. L., & White, B. N.(2010). Protection from harvesting restores the natural social structure of eastern wolf packs.Biological Conservation,143(2), 332–339.Safina, C. (2015).Beyond words: What animals think and feel. Macmillan.Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Agan, S., Hinton, J. W., & Treves, A. (2022a). Evaluating howmanagement policies affect red wolf mortality and disappearance. Royal Society Open Science,9(210400). https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.210400Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Chappell, R. J., & Treves, A. (2020a). Liberalizing the killing ofendangered wolves was associated with more disappearances of collared individuals inWisconsin, USA. Scientific Reports, 1–14. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-70837-xSantiago-Ávila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A		
Donna Logsdon	Just the parts I am interested in	No	That it recognizes that the wolves have an integral part to play in maintaining a healthy ecosystem.	I am a chemist and I found the scientific credibility to it sketchy. It doesn't reflect a sound professional treatment. Instead things are left out and not presented in a scientifically credible way. Also hounding should not even be an issue. We are far beyond allowing that cruelty. Also disappointed it did not even mention how the public values wolves and all wildlife on THEIR public lands.	2	Please consider a non lethal approach as studies have proven that produces optimal conflict mitigation.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Sindy Schalon	All of it	No	There has been improvement over previous plans, but not enough.	The science does NOT support the killing of wolves.	2	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.
Lisa Lashawayt	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	Please consider all options that come from compassion, kindness to all animals.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Only to Stop killing, SLAUGHTERING, murdering wolf's.	That wolf's are not killed.	10	Why can't you just get a way to Stop SLAUGHTERING animals and wolf's. They were here first.
Nancy Dean	Most of it	No	Non lethal methods to prevent predation of livestock	Do not like traps because many of today's people don't check frequently enough ex daily.	7	Would like relocation to areas where populations are diminished. Do not want hunts from helicopters like have happened other places. Do not want explosives used like has occurred other places, rescues and protected areas could be utilized. These are a keystone species. Wildlife should not be chased away from areas with wolves because this increases likelihood of livestock predication.
Olga Kim	All of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a	3	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Johanna	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				Wolves have to be able to exist and live from Canada down to Mexico. There should be an American effort to support a wolf corridor through our states. We need to protect and support this incredible intelligent animal to manage the land that humans dont live on.
Mary Margaret OConnell	Most of it	No	Limits on killing wolves	Authorizes killing wolves		Protect wolves
ENRICO PETER BARTOCETTI	All of it	No	Realization of the importance of the species	The management of hunting or killing of wolves.	7	
Maryanne deGoede	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Not sure because I have not read it but if it involves killing wolves, I don't like it. How about electric fences for protection of animals?	Not sure but if you get creative you can achieve more than by just repeating past solutions. I don't think killing should always be the solution. It is counterproductive. It leads to more killing.	1	I am praying for the earth and its creatures. Animals are the life of the land. We will be lonely without them.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Allyson	Most of it	No	I like the facts about the Wisconsin wolves.	Mainly the length. Would be a bit easier to navigate if the page of where each section starts	5	I just hope wolf hunting, killing, trapping slows down significantly. We could easily relocate wolves into areas that need the population and yet they're killed
Amber Crose	All of it	No	I like that Wisconsin is trying to find a way to coexist with wolves and disrupt their natural habitat as much as possible.	I dislike and firmly disagree with any legal wolf hunting, culling or loss of wolf life.	3	Solutions should include better livestock management, fewer factory farms and humane deterrence. Hunting, killing or culling wolf populations in the United States is unacceptable. These animals deserve to live in their natural habitat. We are the invasive species.
gary d	Just the parts I am interested in	No	improvements over previous iterations	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life	7	
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population	1	

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				health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
[redacted]	Most of it	No		It is contrary to the public's view & appreciation of wolves	2	
	Most of it	No				The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science).
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like that there is a much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves and an inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves.	I disliked that wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well-being, the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones and that the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well-being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution have been left out.	7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Carol Collins	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	0	SEE ABOVE

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Rating: 4-5 Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan)		
	All of it	No				The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrent. Thank you
Sherri Williams	All of it	No	The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings	4	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.
Thomas Artin	Just the parts I am interested in	No				I strongly support protections for wolves.
						LEAVE OUR WOLVES ALONE!! GOD DID NOT PUT THEM HERE ON THIS EARTH TO BE SLAUGHTERED BY A MERE HANDFUL OF STUPID REDNECK INFIDELS, AS THE VAST MAJORITY REVERES OUR FOUR-LEGGED RELATIVES VERY SACRED!!!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Frederick A Mathwig	Most of it	Yes	that wolves can be managed through multiple methods, ie. in areas of conflict, with deprivation of livestock, dogs etc.	no set minimal number that is acceptable lack of hunters needs and desires being met as it relates to deer populations and hunter satisfaction not giving a weighted consideration for those of us living in wolf country vs non wolf country residents no major consideration for the negative economic impact it has on northern communities as relates to major reduction in deer densities word salad obviously developed by a bunch of attorneys more consideration given to pro wolf groups and tribes than those with different views	3	need to have specific number of wolves not open ended a number that was originally proposed of 350 animals! acknowledge the findings of others who have extensively studied wolves in Minnesota where the northern deer herd has been decimated by wolves to 2 or less deer per square mile Dr.Ken Nordberg no mention of thrill killing by wolves in number of deer killed killed annually by a single wolf they do take down healthy animals as our group has witness by observing wolves chasing perfectly healthy animals maybe if we had ads showing wolf deprivation i.e. a mangled dog or deer the general public would have a different view of wolves instead of this playful non threatening animal on tv ads if numbers of wolves left unchecked disease could have very debilitating effects i.e. sarcoptic mange etc
Becky Scholze	All of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes.	The plan currently allows hound training during the wolf hunting season across the state until the last zone is closed. The DNR needs to better regulate hound training on wolves. Training season should close in each zone as it is closed for hunting, and not remain open everywhere until the last zone closes.	9	
Cynthia Samels	Most of it	Yes	The non-numeric population goal The greater recognition of the ecological benefits of wolves as a vital keystone species The proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations The use of zone-specific harvest permits Low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan Emphasis on public education that is desperately needed The plan is reflective of the overall positive public opinions survey about wolves in Wisconsin * Overall this plan centers on science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain our shared natural resources.	The plan fails to prioritize opportunities for non lethal alternatives to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts No mention of the need to revisit and update the plan on a regular basis with incoming and new scientific data Two permanent and separate committees (one stakeholder AND one science based) should be appointed. The scientific oversight is critical. The plan currently allows hound training during the wolf hunting season across the state until the very last zone is closed. The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. Training seasons should close in each zone as it is closed for hunting, and not remain open everywhere until the last zone closes. There is need for separate private and public land harvest permits to ensure that harvest does not come predominantly from core areas of public land. This was a very big issue in the Feb season. The plan should allow the DNR to create temporary (very low quota) CWD zones when the disease appears in new areas to maximize the opportunity to keep it from spreading. CWD will have easier encroachment to the north if the government wolf population is reduced. Western Lincoln County is now in zone 3 and should be in zones 1 or 2 due to high quality habitat. Lone wolves should be clarified and not considered to be their own pack as this is most often a temporary, not a life-long, condition.	9	Thank you FROM ZONE 1A for focusing on the science and emphasizing education! We love our wolves and would prefer they not be hunter at all, especially since a carrying capacity has never had a chance to be determined. And certainly not with the use of dogs. We understand that is, as of now, not under your purview.
Cynthia Samels	Most of it	Yes	The non-numeric population goal The greater recognition of the ecological benefits of wolves as a vital keystone species The proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations The use of zone-specific harvest permits Low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan Emphasis on public education that is desperately needed The plan is reflective of the overall positive public opinions survey about wolves in Wisconsin * Overall this plan centers on science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain our shared natural resources.	The plan fails to prioritize opportunities for non lethal alternatives to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts No mention of the need to revisit and update the plan on a regular basis with incoming and new scientific data Two permanent and separate committees (one stakeholder AND one science based) should be appointed. The scientific oversight is critical. The plan currently allows hound training during the wolf hunting season across the state until the very last zone is closed. The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. Training seasons should close in each zone as it is closed for hunting, and not remain open everywhere until the last zone closes. There is need for separate private and public land harvest permits to ensure that harvest does not come predominantly from core areas of public land. This was a very big issue in the Feb season. The plan should allow the DNR to create temporary (very low quota) CWD zones when the disease appears in new areas to maximize the opportunity to keep it from spreading. CWD will have easier encroachment to the north if the government wolf population is reduced. Western Lincoln County is now in zone 3 and should be in zones 1 or 2 due to high quality habitat. Lone wolves should be clarified and not considered to be their own pack as this is most often a temporary, not a life-long, condition.	9	Thank you FROM ZONE 1A for focusing on the science and emphasizing education! We love our wolves and would prefer they not be hunter at all, especially since a carrying capacity has never had a chance to be determined. And certainly not with the use of dogs. We understand that is, as of now, not under your purview.
	All of it	Yes			1	The wolf quota needs to be lowered.
	Most of it	No	Tribal consult, attempt for non-lethal mitigation, public education, appreciation for wolves role as critical apex predator in complex ecosystem	1) Indiscriminate killing. Wolves have highly complex social dynamics. Packs are 73% more likely to dissolve if the pack leader dies of human-related causes. Destabilized packs lead to increased livestock depredation. 2) unclear plan for dealing with poaching and cruel trapping/snaring 3) no clear addressing of wolves historically being chased down by vehicles, dogs, and helicopters or pups being killed in dens	7	
Robert Koepcke	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary population goal; involvement of various interest groups; low quota zones; quantifies wolf attacks on humans and pet animals; mitigation of wolf livestock damage including non-lethal methods.		9	I may have missed it, but is there any mention of restricting the hound hunting of wolves? Or is such for future consideration?

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dan Laskowski	Most of it	Yes	The fact that the DNR finally came through and came up with a wolf plan in order to satisfy the federal level so we can finally get the wolf de-listed again and legally manage them.	I do not support the new wolf plan as there are many flaws in it. What we need to do is start working together as a team instead of ignoring the issues of the ever increasing wolf population in order for our wolf management plan to be successful. All elected officials, who include our legislators, need to be involved and should be pushing for a sound wolf management plan. Wisconsin should seize the opportunity to be the example for all the wolf inhabited states by having a plan that has a wolf population, but that is grounded in reality and not at the expense of its citizens. Wisconsin has well surpassed the federal requirements to have them delisted as an endangered species, so the state should be focusing their effort on getting them delisted so they can manage them appropriately. If you were to ask me what I think the number of wolves should be in the state I would tell you "0", because I have been an avid deer hunter in the northern most part of Wisconsin, and have been a landowner in Bayfield County for the past 29 years. My opinion is one extreme and is a very selfish and an irresponsible one at that. And if you were to talk to the anti-hunters, which were the majority speaking during the public input session, you would get that no wolves should be harmed, which is the other extreme and also a very selfish and irresponsible opinion. The difference is I get and understand that there is a need for the wolf, but it needs to be managed like all other natural resources, which the anti's will never agree with. They have their own personal agenda and do not really care about the natural resource in itself; if they did they would realize the wolf needs to be managed and should only inhabit areas that are conducive to their life style. It would not be healthy for the public nor the wolf to inhabit urban areas in southern Wisconsin, even though I would love to send them all to Madison and release them like DeSantis did the illegal immigrants to New York to help prove a point. There also should not be buffer zones around the Indian reservations, correct me if I'm wrong but I thought that is what the reservation was for, so that anything contained on the reservation would be protected and managed just as the Native Americans would like and what was agreed upon way back when the treaties were first signed. That makes no sense, especially for those of us who own land that fall into these area's, now you are going to try and tell us we can't legally hunt our own land if given the opportunity for a permit, that is ridiculous! Then we should not have to pay property taxes if we can't exercise the right to legally harvest game because we are located in this presumed buffer zone. The wolf has all but eliminated the whitetail deer where my property is located in the sand river bottoms. I have been hunting this area since 1993 and never have I seen such an abuse of a natural resource. In 2018 I met the wolf biologist (at least I think he was, he was hired by Red Cliff to track the wolves in Bayfield county for 1 year) and he told me that at the time the Echo Valley pack was the largest in Bayfield county (18), the second largest was the Lost Creek pack around Cornucopia which is only 10 miles from me. So if that amount of wolves cleared out this area in the last 5 years or so and now we can't harvest them, what good is my place as a deer camp?? Who would ever want to buy it???? Will I get reimbursed for what the state has allowed the wolf to do to my property value because there are no deer left? Out of the 29 years of hunting deer in Bayfield county, in the past 20 years I averaged at least 4 weeks a year hunting here, this year for 5 weeks straight and sadly only saw 4 bucks and a doe and fawn, I am so embarrassed to report that but it's the truth and there were only 2 days (one for rain and one for snow) that I did not hunt out of all that time. The last 4 years I have hunted out of state (Iowa, Kansas, Canada, & Minnesota) and still spent at least 4 weeks at my cabin, I never thought the day would come where I would have to hunt anywhere else just to see some deer, but it has happened. Of all of the places and states that I have ever hunted, Bayfield County is by far the most beautiful and majestic land to have had the opportunity to hunt. With all of the rolling hills and awesome oak ridges and thousands of acres of public lands a hunter could not ask for a better place. But now with hardly any deer it is sadly a disappointment. It continues to get harder and harder to for me to waste my time and money hunting in Wisconsin in the foreseeable future, especially at my age. This year my son and I will be heading to Kansas again and this time we will not be buying a Wisconsin bow license. In fact I have a realtor looking for a farm down in Iowa for me to buy for retirement. I only say that because if the state cares at all for its residents/hunters, they should be interested in why they are leaving. Now, maybe not everyone loves to hunt as much as me and my family and are willing to move on and hunt regularly in other states but some will. The wolf and the deer are both a natural resource and the DNR cannot continue to sacrifice one natural resource for another. For the DNR to say they do not need or want to have a wolf population goal is very irresponsible and goes against every natural resource they currently manage. The	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				DNR uses population goals and amounts to manage fish, deer, bear, pcb's in water, air pollution, etc., how can you now then throw that out the window for wolf management, that is ridiculous. I hope that with the new DNR secretary we will see a change in how the wolf management program progresses so that the public does not get fed biased data from their agency or other special interest groups trying to sway the public, especially for those that do not hunt and are not aware of truly how many wolves are really out there. It was not surprising that the majority of the wolf lovers commenting during the public input live in the southern part of the state where there are no wolves, kind of ridiculous I think. The saddest part was that there were more out of state opinions for not managing wolves than there were in state supporters for managing wolves. Also, the amount of surveys sent to each area should be proportional to where the wolves reside, not just random or equally throughout the state when the wolf is not equally distributed throughout the state. I sure hope we get this right going forward because there are a lot of natural resources that will be affected by this decision. Thanks for taking the time to read my thoughts and feel free to get a hold of me if there is anything you would like to discuss! Dan Laskowski		
katy Head	All of it	Yes	I support all of Objective A I support Objective B with the exception of product B6d on page 132 which refers to the use of dogs to hunt wolves. I support all of Objectives D, E and F	I do not support Objective C at all and I strongly object to the terms "wolf related recreation" I do not support the idea that the wolf is a game animal like a deer or an elk. No part of the wolf is useful to the hunter. Hunting wolves with snowmobiles and dogs is inhumane to the dogs, destructive to the environment and a slaughter of an animal that can be dealt with in so many other humane ways. I live in Zone 2. the wolf population is high. I have seen wolves, heard wolves and have never had a conflict with a wolf. Please use lethal means only in the case of clear wolf depredation by a particular wolf or wolves. Especially if a wolf is attacking a domestic animal. We dont need a harvest to control only a small number of problem wolves. Please eliminate the wolf harvest season. Hunters can hunt other game	8	I think the plan is surprisingly positive toward maintaining a healthy wolf population. I was glad to hear about the programs in place for citizen scientists to assist in tracking which will help the authorities to keep abreast of the wolf populations in specific areas. I was very happy to hear that there are many sub zone 2 areas. I live in one such zone. I mainly object the the idea of a "wolf harvest" I think it is unnecessary. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to give you my feedback.
	All of it	Yes	No population limit	The allowing any wolf killing by " hunters" this encourages the idea of sport killing for enjoyment	5	I would like to see state funded guard dogs and possibly fencing for livestock protection
Dan Ferrari	Most of it	Yes	I like the plan of not setting a goal number ,and letting wolves reach a natural level that reflect the pray numbers. Only problem animals should be removed..	Any hunting season that does not use a lottery system to keep the number of animals to a minimum.	7	A plan that makes an effort to maintain a sustainable wolf population is good for the long term management of a completely healthy forest ecosystem.
George Evans	Most of it	Yes	The thoroughness of the studies was appreciated. I would have liked to see input of the Native Americans separated from the survey. Utilizing their reservations as a refuge would be a great opportunity for study of wolf ecologies. The Objective C specifically outlining how you would utilize hunting and trapping was appreciated. And it was nicely detailed. Being a student of Prof Em JJ Hickey I was disappointed in the first Wolf Plan in ' 99 where it was barely mentioned. These people are our main management tool. Its like a carpenter using a saw or hammer. Very necessary. Plus the funding provides necessary revenue for further research. My friends were not happy when dove hunting was legalized. I told them more than likely you would see more doves and a consistent population over time. The most hunted and fished creatures in Wisconsin are the most abundant. And many more flora and fauna get to enjoy the ride !	In your Executive Summary I question one statement in "Characterizing Respondents" where you add that "to ensure results were representative of the sampled population weights were applied to adjust for gender, age and percapita hunting participation". Does this mean you adjusted their responses to reflect there actual percentage makeup of the Wisconsin population? And did this/you change or "adjust" the published results to weigh their responses accordingly ? Some of your wording of the results I felt you were leading the reader and not entirely reflecting the results especially when it came to Table 25 and figure 27.	8	Nobody knew how our last Wolf hunt was to end up. The pent up demand. The advances in tools for hunting such as night vision optics, thermal imaging, suppresors, Onyx maps and similar apps. Electronic calls and the many scent reducing applications. Not to mention cell phones, gps, powerful walkie talkies etc . All offered a huge advancement from the previous hunts. Quite the learning experience. Next time approach the harvest goals similar to bear, bobcat, fisher where you do not have one specific number. Explain that the range is within our goal of recovery and and will further the health of wolves. I have seen wolves in January and February and March with mange ! You explain how and what contributes to this. A well managed harvest and also a well managed deer herd will help prevent this from happening . Good luck ! the harvest goals
	Most of it	Yes		178 Pages???????	2	Need to lower the # of wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
James Kerler	All of it	Yes	I am very pleased with the overall structure of the plan. It is wise to incorporate geographical differences in public opinion, differentiating and giving weight to the values of people who live in wolf territory. The plan's six objectives and the way they are prioritized are logical and the products pursued under each objective seem reasonable and broad. The plan provides a good platform for disseminating knowledge to all stakeholders and drawing input from a diverse advisory committee. Compromises will be necessary based on the needs of wolves and people will be needed and this plan allows for that. As a forest land owner who has encountered wolves more than once on my property, and as a nature lover and long time deer hunter, I believe the plan will respect my interests, though I recognize the process of doing this is complex. I am pleased that the plan seems to seek "constant improvement" through ongoing scientific research on wolf ecological impacts & benefits, wolf monitoring techniques and public opinion and culture. This allows for changes to incorporate new knowledge. Importantly this plan does not tie itself to static wolf population goals that were established over 20 years ago. Instead it incorporates the latest science to establish a dynamic and geographically focused process for managing wolf populations. It also responds to the needs of landowners who experience depredation. I am pleased that the plan respects tribal rights, culture and preferences. It also enables the DNR to consider Wisconsin's hunting culture and it's economic impacts as well as the diverse interests of people across the state.	My likes are much stronger than my dislikes, but I would like to see non-lethal conflict interventions for wildlife depredations given some priority, perhaps via landowner incentives. There would also be some benefit to including a periodic plan review and update.	9	It is unfortunate that wolf management is as contentious as it is and that Wisconsin's legislature has played a heavy handed role. The new plan though needs to respect federal and state law, science and Wisconsin's diverse cultural preferences. This may not be easy to do but the draft plan seems to encourage this to happen. I think Aldo Leopold would look favorably on this draft plan. Thank you for all the work done in preparing this plan and for the opportunity to comment on it.
	All of it	No		Oppose the expansion of the buffer zone around the reservation. You are opposed to unlimited population.	3	
Raquel	Most of it	Yes	I think the historical information and attitudes sections were interesting and reflect that most Wisconsinites are in favor of wolves and maintaining a healthy wolf population. I like the idea of trying non lethal means first to avoid conflicts with wolves (fencing, harassing, notices to avoid hunting dog issues, etc). I think continuing wolf education is very important, I hear a lot of misinformation about wolves, their biology and impacts.	I didn't see a section about the type of hunting that is allowed and the reason for the hunting seasons. For example, I am concerned about pregnant wolves being harvested and wolves that have dependent pups. While I am not a fan of trapping, I think hunting wolves with dogs is inhumane. The recent fall hunt was a travesty that significantly reduced the public trust in the DNR's ability and desire to maintain Wisconsin's resources for anyone other than those who hunt. I also do not think the state should issue licenses to hunt wolves from people out of state.	6	I think a really great effort was made to accommodate differing views on wolf management; although I'm guessing most hunters won't be supportive of it. Unfortunately many still seem to have the aversion to all things carnivore that we saw 100+ years ago.
Gregory Klatkiewicz	All of it	Yes	I am pleased that there is an attempt to develop a wolf management plan.	There is no numerical population goal.	1	Not having a numerical population goal may have been a nice attempt to eliminate a hotbed focal point in this very controversial issue, but it is not practical or workable. Historically that number has always been around 350 and should remain as such. Wolf encounters in state have increased significantly with the current population level. Bow hunting this past season, in Vilas County, I had a wolf on my deer carcass (at 8am) before I could even get out of my stand.
Julie Turner	Most of it	No	The parts about protecting wolves.	The parts about wolf hunting.	7	I support the plan for the most part. I encourage any organizations to protect wolves.
Gina Mason	All of it	Yes	The adaptive approach to our wolf population.	I support complete removal of our state law which requires a wolf hunt. I believe the plan should address this law directly and work to have it removed.	8	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Sara Grace	All of it	Yes	I support the plan having no population goal number. I like that the plan moves away from getting hung up on a fixed number goal, and instead focuses on ecological function and the use of adaptive targeted management. I support the redrawing and planned use of the wolf zones, including the buffer zones around reservations. I think the buffer zones are very important, and should be closed to wolf harvest if/when possible. I like the plan's use of science-based management. The best available science should always guide Wisconsin's conservation efforts and treatment of wolves. The plan is extremely well-written, researched, and fascinating to read. While I am no expert, it appears to be very comprehensive, objective, balanced, and respectful of a wide range of views, and rooted in actual scientific research.	State management efforts should prioritize the traditional ecological knowledge Wisconsin's native tribes on how to live with wolves and value wolves' role in maintaining the long-term health of prey populations and the health and diversity of plant communities. I know Wisconsin is a hunting state, but I don't like hunting with hounds - for either wolf or bear. That said, since I know hound-hunting is probably not going away, the training of hunting dogs should be limited ONLY to when wolf hunting/trapping season is open in that zone. Hunting should issue zone-specific permits, only allowing harvest in a single zone until the zone is closed. Enough permits should be issued that zones can be closed by early December, to avoid a long harvest season that can negatively impact wolf breeding season etc. I support mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification, which should also require biological samples for monitoring and research. I would like to see research on wolf impact on CWD in deer. I think prevention and non-lethal responses to livestock depredation should be pursued before use of lethal techniques, and would like to see a plan for increased research on non-lethal wolf control methods. I'm concerned about illegal killing, and would like to see the plan prioritize a range of efforts to reduce illegal kill rates. Please make sure the Wolf Advisory Committee is fully representative of all viewpoints. I would like to see greater representation for Wisconsin native tribes, science-based research, and wildlife/conservation science organizations. ACT 169 needs to be changed to allow the DNR to fully use scientific-based adaptive management for Wisconsin's wolf population. Outreach and education is critical to increase public understanding of wolves and should be prioritized and fully funded.	7	I strongly support maintaining a fully healthy and ecologically functional wolf population in Wisconsin.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Allowing different groups to comment and provide information.	No specific wolf numbers for the entire state and not just based on an area.The need for managed hunt and trapping season by the public not mentioned.	1	There need to be a statewide wolf season for hunting and trapping as is done for other predators. I wouldn't care to hunt or trap wolves myself, but season should be implemented asap. The we have wild areas and true wilderness areas the wolf needs to managed in such areas for its own good and will more public acceptance of the wolf instead of "all love or all hate' attitudes that is now the attitude. Wisconsin needs to support 350 wolves that would be tolerated as Wisconsin is a heavily developed and populated state for the most part. Would reduce hunter ,dog owner and farmers conflicts to a tolerable level.
Ryan LHeureux	Most of it	Yes		Doesn’t seem like a management plan with no population goal…	1	
	All of it	Yes		No Population goal / target population	4	All species have a management population - the wolf should also have a management population qty. that is managed too.
Deb Muraro	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	It strives to: • be stewardship-focused and science-based driven—not numeric-population-goal oriented. • be zone-based when determining if populations should grow, maintain, or reduce and also be respectful of Tribal zone quota requests. • offer workshops to help educate livestock owners on how to proactively reduce risks. • increase public understanding of the vital importance of wolves.	I did not notice if it will it be regularly updated. It took almost 25 years for this new plan. That’s too long to wait to react if the dynamics of climate change and biodiversity suddenly cause wolf populations to dramatically change.	10	Two things: 1. In the future, if wolves no longer are protected under the ESA, are there guard rails in place to ensure that outside hunting groups (e.g. Hunter Nation) will never again be able to file lawsuits to force a hunt that might result in a slaughter like the one that occurred in 2021? 2. When reading the plan, I was disappointed to learn that Wis. Admin. Code NR 19.80(1)(8) disallows the rehabilitation of wolves in Wisconsin. If an animal is endangered, why are we not attempting to save as many as we can for a robust gene pool?
Susie Stevenson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Focus on education and continuing education, the fact your tagging wolves and you started doing this early on. recognizing tribal relationships, and the importance of it, research on new techniques for addressing conflicts with livestock etc. Continued use of non lethal techniques for wolf conflicts,	Allowing the use of hunting dogs, and inhumane trapping, complaints of dogs being killed by wolves is a chance an individual takes, my dog got run over by a car, does that mean all cars should be banned ? I would've liked to have seen more language about PRESERVING their habitats, I believe preserving Wisconsin forests is key... Wolves are native to Wisconsin, they belong here Thank you!!	6	My main focus is to preserve wolf habitat , Wisconsin forests, and protect the wolves , we need more education on healthy boundaries for wildlife in WI You cannot put a pricetag on a pack of wolves in the wild, healthy forests and clean water will follow. Lets preserve our beautiful state, protect the wildlife and the forests they live in. Thank you

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GUY SCHULTZ	Most of it	Yes		The plan must be based on a population goal for a designated area.	2	Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the proposed wolf management plan. I'd like to begin with the Land O' Lakes herd study on page 14 of the draft plan where it states "overall deer density was reduced by 62%". Again 62%, and this area was not over-run with deer beforehand! I have deer hunted this area for at least 25 years, frankly the quality of the current deer hunting experience is absolutely terrible. It's no surprise that I see fewer hunters, not sure our group will hunt there much longer either. The only deer left in the area stay close to populated areas to avoid the wolves. The casual person may think there are too many deer, heck they are in town and all around the cabins by the lakes. But step in the woods, nothing. The "landscape of fear" is reality. The DNR wonders why people are leaving hunting? lack of deer, equals a poor hunting experience. You are playing right into the animal rights groups plan. All the Land O' Lake's report seems to care about is the tree growth with the deer removed. Nothing at all is said about the impact of each wolf eating approximately 20 deer a year has. Wolves wiped out 62% of the deer, then what happened next? The DNR did and does continue to promote liberal seasons for a new superior hunting weapon the cross bow, Crossbow use in Vilas County yielded roughly 295% better success rates with a reduced herd than vertical bows. In essence the DNR double dipped the deer herd, which like anything else it's a fragile ecosystem. Strategy 5A starting on page 114 does little to address whitetail deer balance. Reduce the wolves and the crossbow season length for the able bodied and maybe, maybe, the deer can recover to provide for all. At a meeting I asked "What's The DNR plan when the whitetail population is 20% under goal?" The DNR rep had no real answer other than reduce doe tags. If we have a severe winter at this point the northern deer herd could collapse completely. What will the wolves have to eat once the deer are gone due to mismanagement of the wolf population? ELK? The new plan to allow the wolf population to go unchecked does neither the wolves or deer justice. So, what are some other ramifications of this new Wolf management plan placing higher value on Wolves' health/population over whitetail deer? 1. Without the tourism dollars from deer hunting Land O'Lakes/Vilas County is now promoting the use of dirt bikes, UTVs, ATVs, etc. to rip up all the woods. Nice! 2. How is the DNR to recover lost deer license revenue and Pittman Robertson funds? 3. A friend owned 100's of acres specifically for whitetail deer hunting outside Westfield, Wi. which is in the central part of the state. Wolves moved in and inside of 2 years wiped out the deer herd. What happened next? They sold the property and bought in Illinois. Once again, Nice! White-tailed deer are not varmints, they; 1. Provide Food for HUMANS, not just wolves. 2. Create recreation and recreation dollars which should be equal for all user groups, 3. Generate a heck of a lot money for tourism and support the DNR. Promote a wolf population goal of 350! Lastly, thoroughly read your mission statement on page #1 You see noble words that include "protect, enhance, sustainable, ecosystems that sustain all life." The DNR's mission comes down to maintaining balance in all the user groups of nature. Again, Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I hope you do the right thing.
Anne Steinberg	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan is based on science and there are no longer arbitrary wolf quotas. Maintaining a viable wolf population and recognizing their vital role in the ecology of our state, Plans to educate the public and find ways to address wolf-related conflict besides hunters The tribes were consulted and their own words are included in the draft.	I don't agree with allowing hunting of wolves unless it is the DNR managing conflicts with farmers or others. My understanding of the tribal opinions in the draft is that they oppose hunting wolves and instead support taking care of these brothers. And I believe that respect for all living beings means that we only hunt or harvest what we will eat. Killing should not be a sport.	8	I sincerely hope we can all work to make sure decisions are based on science and the opinions of the majority of Wisconsinites.

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Christine B.	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	4	Please read the following studies (not currently integrated into your draft wolf plan) to come up with a better solution: Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. 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				towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		(Eds.), Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States (pp. 267–277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). A seventy-year history of trends in Yellowstone's northern elk herd. 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marian celesnikj	All of it	Yes	---removal of numeric wolf population goal, ---redrawing of wolf management zone, ---buffer zones around tribal reservations,	---need specific descriptions of how each zone will be managed to acheive the plan's goals need process to ensure enough licenses are issued in any wolf hunt so thta quotas can be met before wolf breeding season, need to limit dog training to only times when wolf hunting or trapping is open in the particular zone. need a specific time;ling for implementation and outlin eof how each zone will be manged to achieve plan's goals. ---include a plan to solve problem of disposal of livestock carcasses ---to prevent wolf /farm conflict. need harvest registration within 8 hours. ----Recreational hunting as a way to reduce conflict has no scientific basis.	7	---Ideally there would be no hunting of wolves in the buffer zones. ----Need significant number of scientists and tribal representativeson wolf advisory board ----Need a timeline for implementation of plan ----build in review of plan by wolf biologists at five year intervals ----The plan is a big improvement over the existing plan, but will all of it's goals actually be acheived. Keep listening to the wolf biologists.
Zach Brahan	All of it	Yes	That they realize there is a problem with the numbers and management is needed	Didn't like that there is mostly pro wolf studies used. The word depredation is used often. These pets and animals are killed by the wolf don't have to class it up.	3	If a wolf management plan would be put into place I feel most people wouldn't hate them anymore but would get excited for the chance to hunt them. The whole attitude would change if people knew there was a hunting season for them instead of being told they are on your landscape and there is nothing you can do to control it. Also the coyote fox and hare studies with wolves present is also trying to paint a nice picture of the wolf just being around to help those animals. While they are kill two to three times as many pounds of animals daily. Thanks

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Not much. This supposed to be a draft plan on how to manage wolves. 250 pages ??? You talk about what wolves eat and how they mate ect ect it's more like a biology course on wolves.	You don't have a grasp on the devastation wolves cause. Northern Idaho was wiped out of game and currently has four bounty areas for wolves $2000 , $1500,$1,000 and $500. The wolf estimate for Montana , Idaho, Wyoming was I believe 1,600 at delisting but now after years of hunting and trapping is 2,600. Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan have a very low super conservative estimate of 4,500 wolves while having 59,000 square miles less land mass and 21 million more people than the 3 western states yet our wolves which number almost double are on the endangered spices list. This is not acceptable. Our deer in Douglas county are disappearing. Mature bucks are becoming rare and I can't remember the last good rub I've seen. A wildlife biologist on tv talking about Idaho said wolves are sanitizers and that is the true history of wolves as well documented in Alaska and Idaho and if not managed Northern Wisconsin will be a disaster. Originally 80 was the states number to manage then it was raised to 350 snd now in reality it's probably 3,000 they are literally everywhere. I'm done buying a license in Wisconsin as are many of my friends We sit all season and rarely see a deer. I've hunted here for 50 years we're we enjoyed world class deer hunting, now it's all but gone and for what? What I dislike about your draft is there is no aggressive management plan for wolves and it looks more like an endorsement for ever increasing wolves because that's what will happen without a far more liberal quota and season than you will ever propose.	1	I wish you would come up North and see what wolves have done to ruin what we love
	All of it	Yes	none	there must be a population goal of 250-350 wolves that is a healthy and sustainable population. wolf counting is not properly conducted. No lone wolfs counted?	1	Deer season in hayward was the best week of the year for me and my friends at my dads deer shack he built in 1970 till wolfs changed that by 2005 sold shack now
Lirael Armstrong	Most of it	No	I like that the wolf management plan is trying to increase protections for wolves.	I do not think the plan goes far enough to protect our precious wolves!	5	I am in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing!
Danny Bourassa	All of it	Yes	To keep the Wolf's in a balanced number		9	All good
Danny Bourassa	All of it	Yes	Keeping a good count of the amount of wolf so we can control there numbers.	I think it's pretty good.	9	
Michelle Seaman	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate how the WMP strives to be inclusive, bringing together public input, wildlife science, tribal consultations and wolf management committee input. I recognize that this is a complex issue involving and affecting many people – Native Americans, farmers, homeowners, hunters, scientists, wildlife advocates – often with differing or conflicting ideas. I commend the DNR for working hard and with a spirit of cooperation and fairness.	I think that because Native Americans have the longest historical relationship with wolves, tribal ecological knowledge should be even more respected and applied. This plan already "recognizes the valuable contributions over the years to wolf recovery and management by the tribes including data collection, information sharing and financial contributions." Why not learn even more from tribal experts? To move "from wolf recovery to long-term stewardship," I believe we should prioritize indigenous knowledge. Regarding wolves, tribal members are our best teachers.	7	I am the daughter of a hunter, and while my family only had a modest acre, our neighbors were farmers. My brothers and I roamed hundreds of acres, thanks to their trust and generosity. It is for this reason that after years away from Wisconsin (for job opportunities mostly), I came home. I know we can respect one another. I humbly ask that we do what's right for indigenous people and wolves.
Joe Rising	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The detail understanding the ecology of wolves.	So many problems involve hunting dogs going after black bears. I am 100% against the present practice of using dogs to hunt bears, wolves and other species. M sure you are aware of the reasons for this. It is inhuman to the dogs and their prey. It is not hunting in my book. It is a sad sport, that has no place on public lands. Given the technical advances with gps, four wheelers and "goats." The advancement of rifles and scopes… I suggest not licensing the use of dogs for hunting bears, wolves and other animals. This whole area of sport hunting needs to be revisioned. Bloodlust is what we saw in the last wolf hunt. The Overkill, by out of state oriole/groups abusing Wisconsins natural abundance and taking advantage of Wisconsin's public lands. Please remove this opportunity from the licensing. No dogs, no off-road vehicles, no hunting parties, no out of State licensing for killing wolves. Thanks.	2	I see nature from a kinship point of view. We are all relatives. These species are not "resources". They don't need to be "managed". Wolves need to be respected and human community needs to be integrated with them. Thanks
	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
	All of it	No	I am glad wolves living in the state of Wisconsin will no longer be limited to 350 individuals as that is not a genetically healthy population. I appreciate your recognition of the critical role this keystone native carnivore has in healthy ecosystems, noting increasingly positive views of wolves by the population as a whole, whose knowledge of wolf ecology has finally outpaced irrational fear. This has brought out more and more opposition to the cruel, hideous and unnecessary methods of wolf removal. I am especially glad there will be buffer	I don't like that the current draft seems to be missing close to eighty studies on wolf behavior and social dynamics, conscious intelligence, and ecological evolution. You have also forgotten to mention that lethal intervention fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf-livestock conflict and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal management practices. This results in biased plan that runs contrary to more recent scientific evidence. Furthermore, wolf hunting by hounds should be illegal as it is a disgusting practice, extremely cruel to wolves and dogs alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the public. It remains an anachronism from past centuries that should have been long abolished, like cockfighting, dog fighting, and fur trapping. We should be protecting, not harming, one of the most magnificent and useful animal species that has shared a long and mutually beneficial history with humankind.	4	Although significant improvements have been made, this plan needs to be more transparent regarding what we know of wolf behavior and agency, current public opinion, and not continue to promogulate centuries of abusive human transgressions against this most noble species.

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			zones around tribal reservations, where the understanding is that wolves are family.			
	Most of it	Yes	None of it	Bring numbers down to 350 like we were told. Hunters, farmers and landowners have not been represented!	1	Not accurate wolf population numbers and no plan to reduce numbers for northern Wisconsin! The animal rights people that don't even live here are listened to more than the people that live here. You work for us that reside here not those that don't. Please remember that!
Charles Ajer Sr	Most of it	Yes	None of it	It looks one sided for the wolf lovers and not enough consideration take for farmers, hunters and land owners in the north. No goal numbers. We were scammed when this first came out that 80 would be good. Then 350 to be regulated. We were lied to and the animal rights people got there way instead of Wisconsin DNR regulating them. It's a disaster in Douglas Cty and the deer herd is shambles because the DNR bowed to these crazy people. Now our deer herd is suffering andproperty is worth less because of people that won't stand up and do the right thing. Shamefull!! The team should focus on caring capacity like all the other animals and set a goal of 350 like we were told in the beginning. DO YOUR JOB we pay you for. You work for Wisconsin not people that don't even live here.	1	Please do this right Wolves have a place just regulate them like any other resource. Bring numbers down to 350 like we were promised! It's sad to say but it looks like common sense is even gone from DNR!
Eric Rempala	All of it	Yes	Using a more scientific based quota as opposed to an arbitrary number. Better focus on Wolf ecological benefits. Taking in tribal input and lowering quota near tribal lands.	Lack of oversight of hound hound training and hunting. Lack of plan for future review.	8	
Wendy Dreskin	Most of it	No	Pursue options to minimize human/wolf conflicts Include the overall ecosystem health and sustainability of the wolf population as a stated goal of the Wolf Management Plan	I do not support any hunting or trapping	3	Compensation for pets should not be given if pet owners allowed pets to roam freely. I do not support any sport killing of wolves.
	Most of it	Yes	I support regulated hunting, trapping, and lethal control of wolves.	I support a wolf population closer to 350, not 1000.	5	
Matt	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed	4	

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				predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Shawn	Most of it	Yes	None. Our ancestors eliminated wolves for a reason. Wisconsin is better off without them.	The whole draft	0	I work to hard raising beef on pasture to have an unnecessary threat like wolves added to the equation. The coyotes are bad enough harassing my cattle.

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Michael A Morack	All of it	Yes	Objective B: Address and Reduce Wolf-Related Conflict	1. Failure to hold to the 1999 plan of 350 +-10% 2. Taking of a 6 mile area around Indian Reservations 3. Failure to actually look at the wolf impact following 2000 was the 1999 plan threshold was met and exceeded 4. Couching the impacts in what can best be referred to as romantic notions regarding wolves 5. Looking at the potential of wolf habitat without regard to the impact 6. Lack of understanding the impact on the people of Wisconsin and having more empathy for the wolf than the people	0	Wolf Management Plan Comments Why 350 made sense Between 2002 an 2003 the estimated over winter wolf population exceeded the 1999 plan of 350. The number was developed through careful deliberation considering the wolf's impact on environment, social interactions, and sustaining a wolf population within the state. Sustaining a wolf population according to the USFWS Endangered Species Act requires the wolf population reach and hold a population of 100 animals for five years. There is sufficient evidence that the population of 350 is spot on and that the number exceeding that is creating intolerable conditions within the state. By looking at the impact the wolf has had on the state once 350 was approached and then exceeded it is clear that the state has been forced into a downward spiral that no longer has an upside. Ignoring the impact the wolf has had or attempting to minimize the impact through distractions such as there are plenty of deer in the state; or livestock depredation is isolated to a few farms; or forest improvements are simply painting over the problems with rose colored glasses. As stated in the WOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 9/10/2014 "There was an agreement between the DNR and sportsman in the 1980s to help fund the restoration of wolves in the state; sportsman provided $1 million and were promised that 80 wolves would be sustainable." Between 1980 and 1995 the number of wolves was revised to 100, and in 1995 after careful consideration of scientific, environmental and social impacts, Federal and State regulations and goals, along with carrying capacities was set at 350. This was revised in 1999 to a plus or minus 10% of 350 as the overwinter goal as more reasonable to maintain. That 1999 plan remains in place as the 2022 Plan is under consideration. Since the wolf population eclipsed the 1999 plan we have considerable data to consider if a revision from that plan is warranted. We have personal experiences, testimonies, depredation claims, deer harvest records, and elk reintroduction population tallies before and after up to the current estimated overwinter population of 1,034-1,057 in 2022. There has been extensive work and analysis to determine the wolf's tendencies, needs, and abilities to survive by L. David Mech, Dr. David Mladenoff, Sarah Pratt, Dr. James C. Kroll, Adrian P. Weydeven, Teb B.Lyon & Will N Graves, and Paul Swanland who I rely upon considerably to understand wolf dispersal, colonizing, and optimal survival conditions. Initial studies led to the conclusion that wolves need prime territory, avoidance of roads, and people. More recent studies support a wider area of Wisconsin suitable for wolf distribution based substantially upon prey availability – deer, elk, and beaver (one study included turkeys) as well as avoidance to people and roads. It is these revised studies that support the 2022 plan without a prescribed population. My personal theory is the availability of prey is the only limiting factor to wolf distribution. Being an apex predator puts them in the highest category to adapt to a complex mix of environments as we are seeing their dispersal support that conclusion. "Wolves present such challenges because they adapt to many human land uses (Blanco et al. 1992, Fuller et al. 1992, Thiel et al. 1998)." My first consideration why the 1995 & 1999 plans are well thought out population goals regards the impact of wolves on deer and elk. Elk were introduced in 1995, areas already habituated by wolves. As the wolf population grew to and eclipsed the 350 one of the first casualties was elk recruitment. Recruitment of elk was zero for many years. When I addressed this with WDNR personnel I was informed it was primarily bear and coyotes. I rejected this opinion as they existed prior to wolves and recruitment was never zero. Not until a bull elk was killed by wolves along with Kentucky concerned about providing more elk did the WDNR consider lethal action required to support the elk introduction. When I look at the deer harvest in wolf territories, we see a similar correlation. Beginning in 2003 as wolf numbers climbed, deer harvest declined and has steadily diminished. Hunters who hunted the north have reported seeing wolves and no deer. In Vilas County I hunted there since I was 16 years of age. My father and I would count shots in the fist hour. Our count was usually around 35. This last season I counted 3 shots for the four days I hunted. In the presence of wolves all CDAC's voted for growth in deer herds. When I bring this subject up to WDNR personnel I was told I am not considering bad winters and winter kill. I consider it however scouting in April in the area we hunt found a deer yard where the evidence of over 40 deer could be counted killed and completely consumed. We simply no longer see deer tracks, but plenty of wolf tracks. Yes this is anecdotal evidence. Many see wolves as a method to reduce deer costs. This argument reminds me of the same argument why we should allow recreational pot because alcohol is worse. So we compound the problem by having two expenses on the books rather than one and even if marginally successful and the deer herd is drastically reduced the 600,000 hunters no longer participate. As compiled by Welcome To Hunting Works For Wisconsin Economic Data HUNTING IS PART OF WISCONSIN'S CULTURE •

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
						895,000 people hunt in Wisconsin each year. • 12 million days are spent hunting in Wisconsin. HUNTING SUPPORTS WISCONSIN'S ECONOMY • Hunters support over 34,000 jobs in Wisconsin. • Hunting generates $1 billion in salaries and wages. • Yearly spending by hunters in Wisconsin is $2.6 billion. • The average Wisconsin hunter spends $2,800 each year. HUNTING IS A KEY SOURCE OF TAX REVENUE • Hunters generate $228 million in taxes for the state of Wisconsin. • Wisconsin hunters pay $263 million in federal taxes. WISCONSIN HUNTING: THE BOTTOM LINE • The total ripple effect from hunting in Wisconsin is $4 BILLION. The next area of consideration looks at depredation. This chart can be located at https://p.widencdn.net/7o52me/WolfDamagePayments Depredation reimbursement started in 1982. Not until 2001 do we see an uptick in depredation, especially in livestock, but we also see this in regard to dogs. As reported in Wolf depredation on domestic animals in Wisconsin, 1916-2000, Adrian 'lkeues, Rarldle X..Jurcwicz. Lisa .\Talrglzton -Treues,Robert A. Rose, Robert C. CFTllging, and Adrian P. Weydeven "In Wisconsin, USA, over the past 2 5 years, wolves have recolonized mixed forest-agriculture habitats range beyond public lands and recolonize agriculture and now number approximately 250 animals. Human-wolf conflict has resurfaced as a result." Population size, pack size, normalization to people, and greater opportunity provide the axis for greater and greater depredation. These costs can be minimized if insufficient revenues from harvest sales occur however intolerance to wolves will accelerate and could provide impetus for lawsuits that in turn would be more costly to the state. In the last few years we had a wolf visit our farm in Waukesha for approximately 18 months. She had three pups, reared them and I watched how she weaned them. She brought them to the edge of our hayfield and proceeded to cross over the middle. The pups would not follow. Within 30 days of that act one pup was hit and killed by a car and was confirmed 100% wolf. I reported this to the WDNR who scoffed, claimed they were coyotes until I described the size, then coydogs, and then wanted to know where I was trained in wolf identification at which point I suggested they come and observe from our dining room window as she was a frequent visitor. I heard laughter as they hung up. Recently 2022-2023 we heard a wolf howl. Wolves follow the deer not the boundaries we place upon them and if unchecked or managed will adapt to every condition of the state. As more and more packs develop, individuals move to avoid conflict and will establish new ranges and to adapt to them. (Adrian P. Weydeven) The desire by some is to repopulate the entire historical range of the wolf. Why is depredation and dispersal important? Wisconsin's primary business is agriculture and livestock, both beef and dairy. Farms Operations† Farm Operations - Area Operated, Measured in Acres / Operation 222 Farm Operations - Number of Operations 64,100 Farm Operations - Acres Operated 14,200,000 A study conduct by UW Madison: "Wisconsin's farms and agricultural businesses generate $104.8 billion in economic activity and 437,700 jobs, based on data for 2017, according to a new study from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. This is an increase from a 2012 study that found agriculture generated $88.3 billion in economic activity and 413,500 jobs in the state." Our dairy industry Wisconsin's namesake: "What percentage of Wisconsin's Agricultural receipts are dairy products? Dairy products account for over 1/2 (54%) of Wisconsin's total agricultural receipts earning the state the #2 position among the states behind California for the production of dairy products." Milk Production † Milk - Production, Measured in Lb / Head 24,884 Milk - Production, Measured in $ 5,959,976,000 Milk - Production, Measured in Lb 31,702,000,000 Stress in dairy herds will stop milk production and create conditions where cows will not impregnate. Loss of milk production will impact our cheese industry as well. "The stress of predation by wolves can cause cows to lose pregnancies, lower milk production and lead to smaller weight gains, said Mattias Gugel, Tiffany's Livestock Inventory † Cattle, Cows, Beef - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022) 295,000 Cattle, Cows, Milk - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022) 1,275,000 Cattle, Incl Calves - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022) 3,500,000 Cattle, On Feed - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022) 270,000 Goats, Milk - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022) 74,000 Sheep, Incl Lambs - Inventory (First of Jan. 2022) 82,000 Hogs - Inventory (First of Dec. 2021) 365,000 Chickens, Broilers - Production, Measured in Head 55,900,000 Wolf population increase by nature increases complaints, depredation, and intolerance. Final Environmental Assessment For The Management of Wolf Conflicts and Depredating Wolves in Wisconsin, April 2006 Considering that the wolves inhabit approximately 25% of the state in 2022 and we see the cost in depredation accelerating as they expand is not a smart plan for Wisconsin or the wolf as they move deeper into more intensive agricultural areas. Other positives I have heard regarding the wolf regard tourism where people will flock to hear wolves howling or perhaps even see a wolf. These are a few

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						testimonials I have captured from people living in wolf country. One 64 year old woman jogging in white shorts and a white tank top had a revolver strapped to her waist. Not usually what one sees in jogger attire. I stopped to talk with her to learn why. She has a regular run she does everyday of nice weather. This particular day he caught movement coming through the woods right toward her and thought at first a deer. When she saw it her next thought was a dog but then realized it was a wolf. A neighbor who just happened by right then saw what was happening and had her get in their car. The wolf stopped and watched them for 20 minutes before heading off. She does not know what would have happened but carries the sidearm ever since. Land o Lakes has invested in a bike path. A man was surveying it for a ride with his kids that afternoon when he saw three wolves heading right toward him. He accelerated and as he said fortunately he was faster on the bike. He did not return with his kids. A bow hunter was preparing for the afternoon hunt. His last act of preparation was strapping a holster and pistol on his waist. Thinking he was not aware I suggested he not take the gun as the DNR will ticket him for carrying it while bow hunting. His response, "I don't give a F#&* what the DNR think. I have had so many issues with wolves I plan on always carrying. This is the third spot I have hunted to get away from them and they are everywhere." In 1997 or 98 I saw my first wolf while deer hunting. It ran up and stopped 10 yards from me. We stood and assessed each other for a few minutes and then it left. A big beautiful grey. The next day my dad had it run up within 5 yards. He turned hearing it running thinking it was a deer upon which it pulled up short. My recent experiences 2018-2021 have not been as wonderful. Walking to a stand one morning I saw three wolves coming toward me. I got to a clearing and watched as they circled. I could only see shadows in the moonlight. They finally departed and when I could no longer hear them proceeded toward my stand. I could hear them returning. I climbed the ladder and had them with me until 10:30 that morning. I left the woods when they departed. The last encounter left me more rattled. As I still hunted to a location I knew about I saw 5 distinct wolf tracks in the sand. They were moving ahead of me. I got to where I wanted to sit and they were still moving along the road away to the west. I eased up along a ridge and was about to sit when a wolf west howled. This was answered to the east, north, and south in close proximity. I worked back to the road and headed to a knoll that provided good visibility. 20 minutes after taking up this position I watched a grey and a black walk through the marsh. I left the woods. We saw no deer for the fifth year in a row. These are not events that improve tourism. Many hunters I knew have gone south to hunt. My goal is not to eliminate wolves in the state but to place them in a manageable number minimizing conflict. I am concerned that what we will see are more wolf attacks as experienced by Ray Calaway, Wood County having lost three guard dogs and 13 sheep. As a livestock seed stock producer whose primary job is care, husbandry, and protection of our animals the idea of watching wolves tear into them and not allowed to do anything but watch is abhorrent as it would be to anyone. Reimbursement of loss of any one would be insufficient for the loss in genetic gain and uniqueness of 25 years of careful breeding. With the uncontrolled population of wolves on the Indian reservation, 350 wolves to plan would provide all the benefits but minimize the damages and conflict. The idea that the state is even considering a taking of 6 miles around the Indian Reservation is baffling. The wolves like Yellowstone would have the protection of the Reservation. Should they move out of the reservation for some reason they become wards of the state and subject to the states rules. I suppose Indians could claim ceded rights but that involves harvest not mandating protection of certain species. There are many reasons the state should abide by the 1999 plan of 350 plus or minus 10%. First, improve the opportunity of elk introduction. Second, restore conditions so that deer can recover and build the herds as CDAC's are working toward. Third, eliminate the threat to agriculture and livestock farmers and preserve the economic stability and ability to the state. Improve conditions for hunting not only for deer but all species such as Grouse that many who used to hunt in the state refuse to risk their dogs. It will allow tourism in the north as they work very hard to create economic opportunity to residents. And last it will reduce intolerance for wolves providing a successful path toward introduction. The WDNR posts areas of the state that should be avoided because of wolf issues. Various surveys show that although most Americans value wolves, they do not do so to the exclusion of important human needs (Kellert 1986, 1987, 1999; Tucker and Pletscher 1989, Thompson and Gasson 1991, Wolstenholme 1996). Wolves Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation, Page 296. Respectfully Submitted, Michael A Morack [redacted] Waukesha, WI 53189-7965 [redacted]

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Megan D	All of it	Yes	Nothing!!	The total amount of desired wolves in Wisconsin is way too high	0	The total number of wolves in Wisconsin is wayyyy underestimated The total population goal in Wisconsin should be less than 200 The depredations of dogs/livestock etc Is far too high and too costly for the state Wolf hunting with dogs SHOULD always be allowed
	All of it	Yes	Having a wolf hunting season as a management tool and to provide a consumptive benefit to the citizens of Wisconsin.		8	
	Most of it	Yes	Management flexibility. Public education.	No particular dislike.	10	Comprehensive plan.
Duane Harpster	All of it	Yes	That you finally got one done, even if it is poorly done.	Zone sizes,are to large do not allow problem areas to be properly address. Volunteer track counts are ridiculous, the DNR has the personnel and equipment to do comprehesive accurate counts. Numbers are necessary to have public trust and to satisfy the feds.	1	There is no public confidence in the DNR here in wolf country.
Carol Eloranta	All of it	Yes	Excellent job in presenting wolf biology information. Education in key!	I understand wolf behavior, as a predator, is very different than deer, and that successful hunting is carried out differently. Yet, baiting, chasing with dogs and trapping wolves or other game, are ways to kill that give great advantage to the hunter. These are very effective methods to use for extermination. If less effective methods are used (like deer hunting archery and gun) maybe population dynamics would be more stable? Rather than exceeding targets so quickly. I dislike the trapping of animals with non-lethal restraints. the restraint creates extreme stress, before it is shot. Non-lethal wounding with gun happens too, but the animal is less stressed when free to flee, than when restrained.	9	Well written, readable and informative presentation of info. More education and familiarity of wolf behavior can improve acceptance of wolves on the landscape. Flood the media with info! There is high density of deer where I live in Clark Co. I would like to know how a few resident wolves affect the deer population and deer behavior. Research findings may inform farmers who fear livestock losses of possible positive effects overall...less loss from deer due to crop damage. especially along woodlot edges. Do they keep the deer moving? I agree with tribal comments that our future is connected to wolves and environment overall. Makes so much sense. Thank you for all the effort put into this plan!
Barbara Bernhardt	Most of it	Yes	I like that it is science-based and will be managed by wildlife biologists.I like that it prioritizes the health of the wolf population and not politics or the influence of out-of-state hunting groups. I like that there is not a numeric population goal.	I don't like that trapping is allowed, as personally think it is cruel and inhumane.	9	Thank you for this well-reasoned, science-based management plan. I like that there is also an education component to help people understand the role of wolves in the ecosystem. I agree that there should be some compensation for livestock depredation. However, I think that concerning wolves and training of hunting dogs, that more responsibility should be put on the dog owners to avoid those areas where wolves are known to live, breed, raise their pups, and hunt. I personally disagree with the practice of hunting with dogs, except to retrieve game birds and waterfowl

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Margaret Gompper	All of it	Yes	First and foremost, I appreciate the time and energy put forth in creating a new and revised Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. It removes the arbitrary and dated wolf population goal and numeric population strategy used in the past. It allows for science-based adaptability based on environmental changes and low-quota sub zones that create a buffer around Tribal lands. Additionally, I appreciate the commitment to rely on science, continued research and educating the public that wolves are "keystone species" that play an essential role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. I highly value the mission statement especially the assurance that all people will have the opportunity to use and enjoy our natural resources. Thank you for allowing public input which is vital in understanding future management practices. I live in zone 2 and have additional comments where requested.	I strongly recommend hounding on wolves be illegal in the state of WI. I have specifically described in the comment section below.	6	1) Noted on page 127 of the draft plan re: wolf hunting with hounds. I do not support training and hunting wolves with hounds. As you know WI is the only state that legalizes the hunting of wolves with dogs. This is exceedingly cruel and inhumane to both hounds and wolves. It is unsportsmanlike and has no ecological or scientific rationality. This practice is not supported by the majority of ethical hunters or the broader public (Bradshaw et al 2022). WI Act 169 of 2011 allows pursuit of hound hunting on wolves and should be either revised or removed. I realize the WDNR cannot regulate statutory legislation but this act is contrary to any definition of wolf stewardship. My pets and I have encountered many negative situations during bear training and hunting season with hounds on my property not to mention the depredations and cost incurred especially in wolf caution areas. Additionally, hunting wolves with hounds should not be allowed in sub zone areas. Unsupervised hounds do not know borders. 2) Also noted on page 27 of the draft plan is a proposal to create a designated hound training period on wolves to begin after the deer gun season ends and end in all zones only when the final wolf harvest zone closes. If any single wolf harvest zone remains open longer than any other, hound training can continue everywhere. Hound training should end in all zones at the same time. 3) The hound training period is proposed to take place during wolf breeding season (Mech 2002). This timing destroys pair bonding, breeding and territorial defense and is not ecologically sound. There is a lack of data collection from the February 2021 WI wolf hunt which took place during the wolf breeding season to substantiate the impact to specific local packs and much more. 4) The hound training period suggested will also disrupt winter wolf tracking surveys. 5) Noted on page 164 of the Proposed Wolf Management Plan is a map portraying subzone 2B. It designates Hwy 64 as the northern most boundary which in a sense, acts as a buffer for Tribal lands where wolves are protected. The subzones proposed will reflect a reduction in wolf harvest quotas. Large agricultural lands are located north of Hwy 64 and most importantly, 1000's of acres of Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest lands have been heavily logged due to the catastrophic storms in 2019. Fuel breaks have been created and logging unrelated to the storms have been ongoing since 2019 leaving reducing the forest lands to 1-tree/acre especially north of Silver Birch Road and continuing to Lily and Pickerel. I recommend a reduction in quotas north of Hwy 64 since the habitat has been decimated and is no longer heavily forested with likely a major decline in wolf population. Since there are no primary highways heading west from Hwy 52 to Hwy 32, I recommend a reduction in quotas be considered north of Hwy 64 in the township of Wolf River for at least a period of 5-years or until the forest can recuperate. 6) The mission statement says, "To ensure the right of all people to use and enjoy these resources in their work and leisure. To work with people to understand each other's views and to carry out the public will." With the existing hunting seasons and a proposed training and wolf hunting season, there doesn't seem to be a safe place to hike, walk a dog, photograph wildlife or collect data for Cornell for ornithological collection as I do. I personally was shot at while hunters were chasing deer on my property. US Forest Service and the sheriff were notified. My land abuts national forest. I and many others feel we cannot safely enjoy the outdoors or even work outdoors during hunting seasons which continue to evolve. I would be more than happy to purchase a license to use and enjoy our natural resources. I have that right on paper but not in reality. I hope you will understand my view as many others feel the same. 7) I reiterate, I strongly recommend hounding on wolves be illegal in the state of WI for the reasons listed.
George Mason	All of it	Yes	Monitoring and public awareness goals.	The 2021 harvest numbers show a massive disconnect between quotas and permits. I do not see anything in this plan that would prevent that from happening again.	4	2021 was a disaster from a management perspective. Any plan must set stringent limits to prevent a repeat of that season.
Dewey Sebold	All of it	Yes	What is it to like?	How can you manage anything without a goal? 350 or less would gain much support for the plan.	1	The plan should be written by county officials not state DNR bureaucrats. Each county should decide the population. Decision should come from those most affected.
Jim Winkler	Most of it	Yes	The statements that the harvest of wolves in Wisconsin seems to have had no impact on wolf populations.	The millions of dollars spent on depredation over the years. Couldn't this money be spent on habitat for all critters.	1	As a 50 year resident of central Wisconsin I have watched the deer herd dwindle the point that deer hunting is a waste of time. As a trapper the wolves have figured out how to catch the beaver, again to the point that it is a labor of love to even find a beaver. Same with rabbits and hare. Lots of cut overs and regrowth but no game. where did it all go? Friend have found lots of wolf kills. You know that 3 R's you like to promote, forget it kids need to see lots to be interested. Not seeing any or few deer for a few days of deer season means that will not remain a hunter for long. Who pays the bills? Wolf watchers or deer hunters. Don't shoot yourself in the foot yet another time. Us old farts are getting fed up and are less and less willing to put up with more nonsense. I have a degree in Biology and understand the Science, but which animals have a higher priority? Your decision. Hope you go with common sense and not politics.

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	Most of it	Yes	None of it because your numbers don't add up properly	Again your numbers are so far off!!	0	Keep the wolves at 350 like the plan first called for! You people really need to learn how to count!! The only thing you are waiting for is a human to be killed and that's terrible and shame on you!! It's very close to happening. I no longer buy a deer tag in Wisconsin because of deer numbers being so low, haven't had a deer tag for 7 years now and how much more do you plan on losing?! I do enjoy hunting other states! Are the anti's paying you? It sure looks that way. White people are paying way too much for you idiots!! Start listening to the people, which you haven't from the beginning. You should get in the woods and do your job!!!
Dan De Vries	All of it	No	Although they are not part of the plan, I like the statements submitted by the tribal representatives. I like the fact that the plan expresses at least passing affirmation of tribal values. I like the fact that the plan acknowledges the ecological value of wolves.	The fact that it advocates recreational hunting and trapping of wolves. And the fact that it refers to killing wolves as "harvesting" them. Cringe worthy.	3	In many instances, in the survey of scientific findings, academic studies that indicate the environmental and social values that wolves provide for human beings and other animals are countered with less convincing studies that undermine those findings of value. Such attempted "balancing" undermines the overall justification of the plan itself.
Thomas Windau	Most of it	Yes	Wolf management by delineated zones. Wolf management to maintain and grow wolf populations in appropriate zones while addressing conflicts.		8	
	All of it	Yes	The surveys and graphs are helpful to gauge public opinion	The glaring problem is the plan has no stated population goal of 350 wolves. Not including lone wolves contributes to underestimating the population. Buffer zones around reservations are too large. More emphasis needs to be placed on recovering the deer population	2	How can a "plan" not set a management goal? This only ensures there will be more conflict than ever regarding wolf management. This could have been a great opportunity for the dnr to spotlight and validate the North American conservation model and support the people that finance and do all the heavy lifting for the dnr and conservation. Instead they gave equal consideration to the groups that oppose sound management. The answer is simple. Re-establish a goal of 350 wolves and set the harvest to achieve that goal. Conflicts will decrease substantially and more people will appreciate wolves for the amazing creatures that they are.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Thorough. Appears recommendations are science based.		8	
Jill Edwards	All of it	Yes	Zone system, scientific evaluation of wolf numbers, not setting a "number," respect for the tribes, 8 hour and in-person reporting system, using Wolf Advisory Committee (and proposed makeup of committee members), and educational goals.	While I have a background in science and science writing, some of the graphs/charts were confusing. Page 68 representing the percent of wolves killed in Table 11 as a decimal instead of whole number will be confusing to regular readers, e.g., Winter of 2013-2014 44% of wolf death was human caused. Showing it 0.44 makes it look like a very small number to those with no science background. Whole numbers would be better.	9	It is shame the DNR cannot control hunting methods. Hunting with dogs, traps, baits, and snares is a big reason why so many object to the wolf hunt. Not sportsman-like methods and not real hunting. Lazy people driving vehicles instead of walking and tracking and learning about their prey.
Doug Middleton	Most of it	Yes	1. The plan removes a numeric population goal. 2. The plan honors Tribal requests for low quota zones. 3. There is an expressed commitment to science and continued research. 4. The plan includes responses from the public opinion survey.	Make sure the wording of the plan can not be twisted to allow an egregious wolf hunt like the hunt of February 2021.	9	
	All of it	Yes		Expansion of Zone 4 into Marathon County as well as the elimination of the population goal in favor of a holistic approach.	2	
	All of it	Yes	I really can't think of one my mind is clouded by all I don't like	The boundaries around tribal lands. The way the count is tallied specifically not counting lone wolves, low estimation of wolves. Low harvesting when a season is possible	0	It seems like the people in charge have no idea what's really going on in the northern part of the state where I spend most of my time I couldn't begin to estimate anything in the southern part of the state because I'm not there it just makes sense that the people that should be in charge of this and have the most input should be from the northern part of the state
Kenneth HINZPETER	Most of it	Yes	There's is nothing I like	The buffer zone is a joke, how do you dictate, on private property, that you don't pay any taxes on, in my opinion the buffer zone is only there to please the native Americans,	1	Shame on this group, contacting the humane society, this group does not like the American hunter, in fact they actually hate the hunter
Corene Martin	Most of it	Yes	I am pleased to see that the DNR has eliminated a number-based population goal and is instead focusing on the benefits the wolves serve ecologically.	It is cruel to allow for a year round training period for wolf hunting dogs, this should be much more regulated. Also there should be much more focus and support for non-lethal methods of dealing with wolf depredations.	9	Wisconsin needs a better balance between what the hunting community wants and what the rest of the state's non hunting community wants. Right now, it feels very unbalanced, and it often feels like the Wisconsin DNR acts solely in the interest of the hunters, not in the animal's best interest or the interest of our nature loving population.
Brady Zuck	Most of it	Yes	We appreciate the opportunity as cattle producers who live in wolf territory to have our voices heard.	1) No numerical population goal - how do you manage a population without a target? How can you fail the test when there is no grading rubric? 2) As cattle producers, we need more effective management tools to deal with both direct depredation and the impact that the presence of wolves have on cattle. Currently, our WI cattle producers are extremely limited on the options they have to deal with problem wolves. We are carrying the burden of wolf damage with no real way to address the issue. 3) How do we fairly compensate producers for lost production due to wolf pressure? For example, cattle that are restless, do not graze normally, break loose from fences, or see a higher abortion rate?	1	As a cattle producer, I am not advocating that we have zero wolves in Wisconsin. However, we need to have realistic management tools to use when faced with wolf issues. We need to address both direct depredation and the negative consequences cattle face when wolf pressure is high.

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	Most of it	Yes	I like how both sides were generally represented. The damage the wolves cause, and the balance they help create.	Allowing people not affected at all either way to have so much input into the outcome of the Wolf Management Plan	5	I believe we should have a plan that allows the control of the wolf population to a number that is realistic, per scientific information, while still allowing them to exist on a landscape that is able to maintain a healthy number. Too much of a good thing is never good!
	Most of it	Yes	Strategy C3, very important, Same with D	Wolves should not be hunted/trapped, and that should not be accounted for in the plan. Objective B2C is avoidable and should not be compensated for Objective C1 needs to be minimized as much as possible. Traps and Dogs should never be allowed. Strategy C3 needs to be elevated, it is very important, and most residents would benefit. The number of people who would rather see a live wolf greatly outnumbers the residents that would hunt a wolf.	6	
	All of it	Yes	I like the emphasis on science based education and action. I am pleased that the DNR is asking for public input. Your report was very informative and thorough.	I do not believe in harvesting the wolf. I agree with the native tribes about our historical and current relationship to the wolves. Wolves help our ecosystem by hunting deer. Deer cause more damage to humans and property on our roads than the wolves cause by taking a very limited number of livestock. I am opposed to hunting wolves with dogs and read in your report that most of the dogs killed by wolves were hunting them or bears. This is inhumane and unnecessary.	5	I am hesitating to support the plan wholeheartedly because of past irresponsible actHumane. the state of Wisconsin. I hope future wolf management is more scientific and humane.
	All of it	Yes	Including tribal input. Recognizing that the harvest of wolves may have little effect of established packs. Acknowledging that 29% of population could be harvested with established packs like WI has. Acknowledging that it is "increasingly difficult for hunters to limit activities to areas that are not occupied by wolves" - although impossible would be more accurate.	Although wolves may be effective at identifying weaknesses among prey that doesn't mean they don't go after the strongest especially when referring to hound depredation. It's pretty unfair for the residents who live in wolf ranges to be forced to deal with them when residents in non-wolf ranges don't really have to deal with them and if there is a "problem wolf" in their area, it gets transported to overpopulated wolf area to cause more problems. I believe regulated hunts do increase tolerance and decrease poaching. I have had a hound killed by wolves and basically blame the politicians more than the wolves. I don't want revenge - nothing will bring my hound back and that was a huge loss for myself and my family. I do want the wolf to fear me and that is not the case in northern Wisconsin. I want to be able to hunt with my hounds as I have for the past 35 years without the constant worry about wolves killing them. It was such a great experience before wolves were reintroduced now it is very stressful and getting to the point of us not letting our hounds loose. A wolf hunt makes wolves leery of us in a good way. As far as people "wanting at least as many as in 2014" is deceiving because I don't believe the state has honestly shared or even knows exactly how many wolves there are so people are "wanting as many based on a false number". Obviously, urban would be more supportive because again they don't have to deal with the threat to their pets. I disagree that most wolf attacks occur when hunters are not in close proximity to the dogs. We were 100 yards from our hound when he was killed. The same is true for many other hound hunters that I have talked with. Goal of turning now to "sustainable, long-term management" should include "with protection for residents and their pets who are now forced to share the forest". I dislike permits that are zone specific. I think it is better to shut down zones as they are filled as has been done in the past and is used out West. The problem was allowing too much time to report a harvest. I am concerned that by not listing a specific "target population" our state is not going to actually try to keep a manageable population and will let the wolf population get even higher than it already is. I am also disappointed that our state has not been able to have any say in delisting wolves as threatened. If the wolf numbers are too low in other states to delist, then Wisconsin should look at relocating wolves to those states.	5	This plan is useless without a wolf hunting season. More and more hunters are becoming discouraged - maybe that's the state's secret goal - how sad is that? Does the DNR even care about hunting traditions?
Matt Lybeck	All of it	Yes	That you are actually willing to talk about the wolf issue and not just sweep it under the rug.	Main problem is no management number. We have limits on fish, speed limits on roads, goal populations for deer, but when it comes to wolves, the sky is the limit. It makes many people lose all respect for the wolf and makes a political joke of the DNR. People take the problem into their own hands when officials refuse to be responsible. Now wolves are shot and left to go to waste. How is that helping? If there was a season, the state would make money and people would feel like something is being done to responsibly manage the wolves. This plan is ridiculous and childish as far as it ignores the wolf problem.	1	If the DNR doesn't want to put out a population goal, do an actual population count, or have a serious management plan, then why do they have all these numbers for every other animal that they attempt to manage? Your organization is a joke and I don't respect any of your political BS. Get out of the office and into the field to see what nature is really like!
Brad Kraege	All of it	Yes	I like the statistics on the wolf population history, along with data on the potential impact on the deer and elk populations.	While I fully appreciate that any specific population goal you publish will probably wind up in court, I recommend you consider a minimum, maximum and target populations. This could be percentages, such as a target of 50% of the carrying capacity. It would leave you the flexibility you want, but put some structure around it for the hunting population.	8	I think the subzones are a layer of complexity that is not necessary. I get that you are trying to create a buffer around tribal lands, but wolves within tribal areas will range well outside these boundaries, and despite your best efforts can't be protected. This is happening with the Yellowstone wolves and will happen here. Also, while your zone boundary maps copy the deer maps, I recommend you consider moving more of Adams, Wood and Portage County outside the Forest zone 5, and move them into 4. This is more farmland than forest and is an area of high wolf conflicts. I believe these conflicts stem from this being marginal wolf habitat, and they are preying on livestock because of this.

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Madeline Barone	Just the parts I am interested in	No	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves 4. The plan removes a numeric population goal 5. The plan creates low quote zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it 6. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves 7. The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey 8. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves 2. There is currently no guidance in plan for the next review or update 3. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts	9	Wolves are a keystone species and could potentially impact keeping things in ecological balance. I respect the tribes views on wolves and think that the tribes/local views are highly important.
Jacey	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that this plan focuses on the ecological benefits of wolves and recognizes that they are keystone species.	I wish that this plan focused more heavily on non-lethal ways to avoid wolf/livestock conflict.	7	Thank you for making forward progress. Wolves are intrinsically valuable and need to be protected.
Stephanie	Most of it	Yes	1. I was encouraged to see that the DNR has acknowledged the ecological benefits of wolves, and their vital importance in our ecosystem. 2. I am relieved that the DNR has taken away the numerical goal of wolves. The outdated plan had called for a population of 350 wolves. Wolves should not be managed based on a number. 3. I liked that all of the Tribes in Wisconsin were given the opportunity to share their perspectives on wolves and the cultural significance of them in the plan. 4. I oppose the lethal removal of wolves before non-lethal strategies are implemented. I liked how the plan emphasized the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflict. 5. the adaptation of buffer zones around tribal lands and making hunting licenses zone specific. Way too many wolves were killed in Feb 2021 without any of these guidelines, and this cannot happen ever again.	1. The plan should establish a zero-hunting quota. There is no need for a recreational wolf hunt. Scientific studies have shown that killing wolves results in pack members to split up and cause more damage and depredation. Intact packs overwhelmingly stay out of trouble. 2. Hound training must be stopped! Hounds harass wolves and other wildlife in the forest and stress them out. These hounds are knowingly put in harm's way, and when a wolf does kill a hound, the owners are reimbursed. This does not benefit anybody. PA 169 should be overturned. 3. Wolves should NEVER be hunted using hounds. It is legal dog fighting. 4. The plan should include a committee of biologists and professionals to act as oversight. There are too many pro-wolf hunting groups involved. This does not reflect the values of Wisconsin citizens. The majority of the people in this state do not support wolf hunting.	7	Overall, I think the DNR did a good job with this plan. I want to reinforce that recreational wolf hunting should never be a first option. Hounds should never be used to hunt wolves. The ecological importance of wolves should be shared with the public and the DNR should speak about wolves in a positive light. Coexistence and non-lethal methods should take first priority.
Pat K	Most of it	Yes	Liked: the inclusion of the Tribes' input and presence on the committee. Also links to their management plans which show how differently their cultures approach "managing" the Wolf and offer ideas for that.	Base licenses always on science, not quotas. Do similar as is done for other large game, not a quota with the goal of how much of the population can be taken before the species gets into the red zone. Quotas seem made for failure for another reason. This, because the number of licenses issued (over 1,000) vs the quotas (a couple hundred) don't seem to be realistically enforceable in the field. How do all these licensees know when the quota has been reached and they have to stop hunting/trapping/running their dogs? And how do you know they do? I may have missed it but there should be robust enforcement and penalties for people who run their dogs repeatedly in Wolf Caution map areas and repeatedly submit compensation claims for loss. This is a 'thing.' Especially when they go into known den territory. I have seen dogs that look like quilts having been stitched up so often from what seems to be deliberate running where they should not. It would be helpful to have a feed specialist on the committee when suggesting supplemental nutrition and other measures to support stressed livestock that end up being crowded or moved toward structures for protection.	9	It's a lot to digest and I had to ultimately skim some areas, but it is overall good. An improved approach with appropriate balance of areas and inclusion of Tribal stakeholders.
	All of it	Yes	I like we are talking about it	I do not agree with population goals	2	
Melanie Weberg	All of it	Yes	1. Attempts to be more balanced (consumptive vs. non-consumptive 2. Creation of tribal buffer zones 3. Removal of maximum population numbers 4. Non-lethal methods emphasized 5. Suggestions for an Increase in positive wolf social media presence to counter false propaganda Wisconsin websites such as "Wisconsin Wolf Facts".	1. Hound dog training on wolves should not be allowed. 2. Lacks emphasis on poaching in Wisconsin and ways to resolve. 3. Lacks discussion of current pack size (2.6) and importance of robust wolf packs. Both MN and MI have pack sizes between 3.6 and 5 with minimal baiting and no training - is Wisconsin a sink and what can be done? 4. Absent any mention of commitment to working with legislature to: a) remove dog depredation payments and until then no payments in previously announced caution areas; b) removal of mandatory wolf hunt 5. Too large of an emphasis on recreational wolf killing as only approximately 12% of Wisconsin residents hunt and also there is no science that supports it as a management tool. 6. Wolf Advisory Committee should have scientists and biologists from outside the state agency as well or there should be a separate committee for strictly science with outside scientists and biologists represented. 7. The Wisconsin public is	7	According to the draft, 2,041 known wolves have died from human-caused incidents. That is unacceptable - we can do better than that.

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				against trapping of wolves as was given a very small mention in the draft. Trapping should not be allowed.		
Jill Giencke	All of it	Yes	I am encouraged to see all the science-based explanations and points. There is no arbitrary numerical goal regarding wolf population. Low quota zones around Tribal lands. Recognizing the ecological--and tourist-driven economical--benefits of wolves. Acknowledgement of public support for wolves, even in counties where wolves live. Commitment to research and updating.	Does not eliminate the use of hounds when hunting wolves, an abomination. No specific date for when the plan will next be updated. While non-lethal methodologies are recognized and encouraged, they are not pushed as a priority for the DNR, when that seems a no-brainer. Overemphasis on vague "hunter satisfaction levels" without addressing hiker/photographer/recreator/etc "satisfaction levels".	9	We cannot have our wolf population managed and manipulated to suit hunters the way we currently manage and manipulate the white-tail deer population to suit this minority of Wisconsin citizens. Our wildlife does not exist for us, even if they must live at the mercy of our whims.
	Most of it	Yes	Seeking out improved methods to accurately count the population.	No specific population goal. Current law is 350 it should remain there.	2	We had a great plan, with little to no issues. The past hunts have gone off without a hitch and the populations remain stable. It's a renewable resource just manage the numbers appropriately.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	History of the wolf pack spread and overall study of predation and habits of wolves	NA	4	I believe the wolf count is understated and that the amount of deer killed is understated. A hunting season is vital to keep the numbers in check
John Herbst	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves Very beneficial to historical underrepresentation of native First Nations peoples thoughts and cultural perspectives on gray wolves in WI. As the original settlers of the areas covered in this draft proposal, their input should be pivotal to all decision-making bodies involved in this draft proposal process. The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes.The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don’t have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	It needs CONSTANT, regular intervals of scientifically and stakeholder centered review and approval both in order to be acceptable to all parties concerned, and to therefore be practicable and in agreement with best management practices of natural ecological practices in WI.

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Bryan Bruss	Most of it	Yes	I like that the health of the white-tail deer herd is part of Strategy A (specifically, Strategy A-5a).	I do not like that there is no longer a strategy that includes a number that indicates the ideal size of the wolf population. I also do not think that strategy 3C belongs in the document. There are quite a few statements/conclusions drawn in the entire document that in my opinion are biased toward a pro-wolf attitude, but I am ok with them. However, Strategy 3C is extremely exaggerated and I think it should be removed.	7	You are probably not surprised that I am (more accurately was) a deer hunter. My decision to stop deer hunting is directly related to the quality of my deer hunting experience in the area where I grew up and hunted all my life, until about 10 yrs. ago (Nicolet-Chequamegon Nat'l Forest east and northeast of Three Lakes, WI). To put it briefly, and empirically, the amount of decent sized bucks, or sign of them, had dropped to a point where hunting in the Northwoods was no longer worth it to me. I am also a big fan of the wolf population recovery. I know I am not alone as part of the deer hunting population that complains the hunting quality isn't what it used to be. The biggest problem I see is why the DNR evaluation of the deer herd does not match the general consensus of the hunters. And, unfortunately for the wolf, their growth has been inversely proportional to the deer hunters' perceived hunt quality. Specifically to the Wolf Management Plan: I would like to see Strategy A-5a be a much more prominent part of the plan. Develop a model for the deer herd that correlates to experiences in the field and make it a much more influential factor in the wolf population equation. The wolf population recovery is a great thing, but it should not come at the expense, or perceived expense, of the deer hunt. I think we can all agree that the value the deer hunt brings to this state (especially Up North where they badly need it), should take priority over any value the wolf population may bring, especially of the bequest variety.
Michelle Hayward	Most of it	No	I appreciate that the updated management plan is a vast improvement on the last one. It is clear that a lot of effort has gone into it. It is great to see the following within the plan: The scrapping of the short-sighted goal of a tiny population of 350 individual wolves. Their essential role within ecology is recognized. The presence of a social survey citing favorable opinions on wolves, recognition of their keystone species status, and opposition to the questionable motives behind the justification and methods used to kill wolves. Acknowledging the role of wolves in tribal culture and adopting the proposed buffer zones around reservations.	Q5. Overall, what elements from the draft plan do you DISLIKE? Again, being specific is most useful to our team 1. As someone who would like to see an increase in the protection of wolves via non-lethal interventions, and a complete ban on recreational killing, I deeply dislike the following assumptions and omissions: The lack of current best available science and literature on the following: Their behavior, sentience (particularly their ability to feel pain), sociability (essential when trying to expand their population and genetic diversity) and general well-being. The success rates of non-lethal interventions & how we can address any failures without immediately turning to lethal ones. The mental, physical, and social impact of widespread killing on wolves, and the downstream impacts of subsequent behavioral adaptations on the wider ecology and evolution. 2. The omission of this essential information, and the assumption that recreational killing (likely based on the historical 350 population target of previous plans) is a sustainable management strategy in its own right (where are the figures backing this up?). This means that the newer and more widespread sources of data, and its potentially huge impact on wolf management, is not even being gathered. 3. Lethal forms of wolf management should be the exception, not the rule. It should only be used in the exceptional circumstance of defending human life. There are 61 mentions of trapping in the plan. Research shows that allowing the widespread trapping and killing of wolves not only puts non-target species at risk (surely wolves should be non-target!), it also creates social confusion over what is a legal and illegal killing. It also creates an atmosphere of indifference, ultimately increasing the killing of wolves everywhere. Authorizing the use of hounding on wolves means the state is promoting and approving of dog fighting, and all the social ills that go alongside this hideous crime. Wolves and hounds suffer immensely. It is not a quick death. The majority of the public, and hunters, do not support this barbaric form of hunting. 4. The plan is still heavily weighted in favor of lethal wolf management. This is wrong. The lives of every wolf should be prioritized throughout the plan. In cases where livestock is involved, all non-lethal management of wolves should be utilized. For example, secure fencing protects and excludes if installed efficiently. Studies have shown that acting proactively with non-lethal methods, rather than reactively, is the best way to change predator behavior. If a wolf is 'just' killed, with no non-lethal deterrents used, there is no knowledge passed onto their fellow pack members of where to stay away from. The void is then filled by another wolf, who is likely to kill livestock again. If it is made difficult to obtain potential prey, they will look for more natural sources, of which there are many. There is no reason why Act 169 can't be set at a minimal quota, with restrictions on methods used, or even set at zero. 5. Any compensation plan must require evidence that every effort has been made by the claimant to non-lethally deter and minimize predation of livestock. 6. The plan largely ignores the social survey results indicating that the majority of the public cares deeply for not just the overall wolf population, but what individual wolves have to endure in the current climate of widespread killing. This goes far beyond whether the population is simply viable. The following views regarding the opposition of a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season were omitted from the plan: The widespread disgust of the public regarding hounding (64% object), trapping (70% object). Questioning whether the hunt was even needed (62%) and	4	

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				whether the hunt is culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). This should be the basis of the plan, not business as usual via policy and practices that are inhumane and unscientific. Departments should attempt to meet the expectations of the overwhelming majority - not dismiss them. The omission of scientific and social evidence results in a blinkered view of the wider wolf situation, a lack of public accountability and a lack of governmental and scientific integrity. This creates a skewed picture of the true beliefs held by the majority of survey participants, ultimately fudging the results and controlling the narrative to justify, for example, the continuation of recreational wolf killing. 7. Conflicting agency objectives is not addressed. Hunting means more pack dispersal, lost wolf knowledge when the pack patriarchy and matriarchy is destroyed, and more opportunistic behavior. Wolf predation does not drop with an increase in hunting. They are interconnected. Favoring hunting is a bias that cannot be justified. Hunting completely disregards harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment, breaching Objectives A, B, D and F. 8. The harm done to individual wolves; which you are aware that the public are deeply attuned to; is not considered. Imagine being set on by a pack of dogs or caught in a trap for hours or days! 9. The simplification of tribal beliefs regarding wolves. The mere presence of wolves in Wisconsin does not fulfill 'cultural benefits'. Each individual wolf is considered a person and relative. The reduction of pain in what should be the rare use of lethal measures, is key to sensitively respecting tribal culture. Killing for fun, rather than out of absolute life-threatening necessity, is therefore a breach of these beliefs. The plan fails to understand or acknowledge this. 10. Overall, the report is biased. Essential scientific data and detailed public opinion is intentionally missing. The report is a foregone conclusion. 11. The new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) is a reliable method of population estimation that should form the backbone of any population management plan. The unverified methods that Wisconsin has chosen to use to establish population size has resulted in a huge over-estimate of wolf abundance; completely ignoring the impact of its own widespread wolf killing (216 wolves in 2001 alone - 97 above the agreed quota!). Thus, a fictional situation is created whereby the state is overrun by wolves and their populations are healthy. The consequences of this for the remaining wolves is dire, who are already in a dire situation. This is in no way best practice. The report should be scrapped alongside all recreational hunting. Only after an independent, unbiased data gathering on true population size can a plan be put in place. The true population figure is likely to be a shock, and a sense of shame, to the majority of residents that wish to protect these beautiful, essential animals.		
Maureen McCoy	Most of it	Yes	That the plan is based on science, wolf areas, and public/tribal input	Wolf-hunting hounds in all areas for the entire season No plan for updating the plan based on data	8	Thank you for updating the antiquated plan.
Mary Wegner	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	1. The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. 2. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update 3. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	
Scott Lowery	Most of it	Yes	I really like moving away from a (necessarily arbitrary) numerical goal for wolf population and instead focusing on research related to how a healthy gray wolf population supports and benefits almost all aspects of the natural environment where they live. The plan highlights current research on the trophic cascade effect, and takes a balanced view based on science rather than pandering to popular mythology, which can run the gamut from romanticizing to demonizing this native apex predator. I also really support how reflective the plan seems to be of Tribal input, specifically creating low quota zones around Tribal lands where requested.	No complaints or reservations. Very exhaustive, great work!!	10	
Cheryl leonard	Most of it	Yes	I like limiting around tribal land as the nation's want. I like using scientific research on the wolves populations as they change. I detest hounds being used as they are victims as well.	I personally think they should declare the wolves protected.	9	Wolves population varies from year to year. If we allow them to be hunted use scientific research on it. Ask the experts who study the wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	Very well laid out. Easy to get to areas fast of specific question/concern. Like that there is no set population goal--just like the bear, deer, and other plans.	I do not like that there is any hound hunting to be allowed for wolves. State law has that there shall be no canine against canine fights and that is what happens when hounds are chasing wolves or coyotes--hound hunters instigate that behavior and allow it. Also trespass and coyotes/wolves can not get up trees or fly away like other animals chased by hounds/dogs.	9	Don't listen to the fear mongering assocations such as WWF and they were part of this whole plan making already. There is not a wolf behind every tree as most people of this uneducated people say. We live in wolf country in Bayfield county and surrounded by woods of mostly public, but some private. The ecosystem gets along by itself and we need to manage wildlife the right way, not the wrong way. Use science as well as being considerate of the tribal nations on wolf management.
Sharon	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Develop materials to assist local department and customer services staff in providing accurate and consistent information to wolf-related inquiries.	Anything that uses the term "wolf harvest". This is digusting to think of mammals that are conscious beings with thoughts and emotions as some "thing" to "Harvest" --- like a grain of wheat. All animals deserve to be left alone and deserve the innate right to live WILD AND FREE as they are BORN to be.		All wolves and animals deserve to be left alone and deserve the innate right to live WILD AND FREE as they are BORN to be. Humans shouldn't have to "Manage" wildlife. The term wild -- should mean wild. Meaning leave them alone. No harm to them. Let them be. Let them live safe and free! There are 4.9 million domestic dog bites each year.. where is the P.R. for that. Where is the education on how much harm domestic dogs do each year! Wolves do their best to stay away from humans. Tolerance, acceptance of wolves. Wolves are not a "trophy". That is SICK. I love wolves.
	Most of it	Yes	hunting will be allowed as a management tool	hunting will be very limited. It should be open all year long with unlimited tags.	1	open wolf hunting like coyote hunting. the hunters/trappers would never be able to kill enough wolves to endanger the population. there are way more wolves in WI than are counted inthe 'surveys'.
Gary Dunsmoor	All of it	Yes	Not having numeric population goals. Common sense wolf zones. Good population monitoring plans with science based management. Plan includes increased wolf education. Harvest permits going to zone specific, with timely registration and certification. The plan shows respect for Native American beliefs, and concerns regarding wolf management.	Seasons could run well into wolf breeding season. Dog training should occur only during wolf open season.	9	Overall the plan is thorough and comprehensive. The focus, as it should be, concentrates on maintaining a viable, healthy wolf population while providing various recreation. Hopefully after delisting, harvest seasons, analysis and future research, it can be shown the wolf population can be maintained at over the the 350 level that so many deer and hound hunters are obsessed over, without high conflict levels. Also, hopefully revision of this draft plan will not cater to the wishes of the segment of hunters/hound people that insist on a 350 goal.
	Most of it	Yes	That wolves have a place in Wisconsin	We should have a population goal. Previously it was set at 350. I think that would be too low. 700 would be a good goal. When I worked (retired now), it was said if you can not measure it, you can not manage it. We could have the population goal be reviewed every 5 years as part of the plan. While it recognizes that people living in wolf have less of a tolerance for wolves, I don't see where the plan gives those people any more of a voice.	5	Obviously, while the comment deadline was extended, it must not be important to DNR to update the web page.
	Most of it	Yes	This plan seems to reflect the best science and educated attitudes toward wolves and their complex relationship with land and people, including tribal preferences. Ecology and cooperation are superior to sport hunting & fear.	not qualified to say, but cooperative efforts to find alternatives to killing as a way to reducing herds might come in the next revision?	9	thank you for working so hard on this
James Juedes	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				You smart people should know, that if you don't come up with a hunting season that addresses and adequately controls the wolf population in this state and stop bowing to those stupid environmentalist and the "sacred" crap that the native Americans are constantly whining about, that we hunters and land owners will take matters into our own hands and control the population ourselves.
Carol S. Enseki	Most of it	Yes	1)The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. 2) The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. 3) The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. 4) The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. 5)There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem.”	1) The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. 2) There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don’t have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. 3) The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn’t recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	9	Thank you for your efforts in creating this draft of Wolf Management Plan for Wisconsin. Over the last 12 years I have read up on the gray wolf and what I have learned about them has engendered much respect for their species, and brought them close to my heart, e.g. 1) packs practice population control within their pack respective packs through the behavior of the alpha couple, 2) each member of the pack works awfully hard physically to hunt and provide food for the pups, and to rear the pups, and 3) they are curious, with a keen sense of playfulness, experience, grief and compassion, and an abiding love for their offspring. The books I have read include "Never Cry Wolf" by Farley Mowat, "The Wisdom of Wolves" by Jim and Jamie Dutcher about their six years of experience living with and observing wolf society in the Sawtooth Pack in the Idaho wilderness. It is unfortunate that many children, including myself, grew up with the prevalent though incorrect stereotypes of the Big Bad Wolf, and The Lone Wolf, both of which are not born out by actual historical experience. This stereotype, interestingly, is present in Russian as well as American fairy tales. Perhaps this Wolf Plan will be the beginning of dispelling these misperceptions.
Adarl Datride	All of it	Yes	I like that there is a plan to allow hunting and trapping of wolves.	I dislike that the plan is hesitant to treat wolves as a managed resource, like other wildlife. I dislike that a clear population goal is lacking.	7	I would like the Wisconsin DNR to be put in charge of Wolf Management and manage them as a resource to be hunted and trapped just like any other game species with population goals and

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Merri Ann Gonzalez RN	All of it	Yes	No 350 cap. At least mention of NON-lethal measures. Zone specific quotas and closures. No zone-hopping. Change to 8 hours to report a kill. NOT all year long training of dogs on wolves.	AFTER the listening session on Tues Feb. 8th…I have some thoughts. I live in zone 3, but I can spit into zone 1. I raise what I call "wolf tidbits" little fat French Bulldogs. At one point I had 19 of them. I live in the middle of 3 known packs of wolves, and never have I had a problem with wolves. Hounders cause me to keep my windows closed at night due to the inordinate amount of baying/howling/screaming almost every night year round. These noises come from their incessant night time hunting/training for anything that moves. What is actually going on out there is anybody's guess, because after Gov. Walker gutted the DNR there are almost no way any game warden could patrol the vast area I live in. Since I live in Burnett County…don't even suggest I call the sheriff office….that cluster is well documented. They absolutely refuse to ticket, fine, chastise these trespassing marauders. I have read the entire WOLF MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT now, and while this is eons better than the over 20 year old plan, I have some suggestions. 1. If your hound is killed in a KNOWN WOLF CONCENTRATED AREA…..only 50% of the 2,500 should be awarded. You need to take at least half of the responsibility for putting that dog in harms way. 2. The first time a farmer loses livestock he is reimbursed the full amount, but is given a document to sign stating that if happens again he must SHOW proof of implementation of at least 2 NON lethal deterrents before he is paid in full for the second depredation. 3. DNR needs to send a letter to congress requesting the MANDATORY wolf hunt after delisting be removed from act 169. Let Science and winter counts dictate when too many are too much. 4. No use of bait containing either animal products (already part of the plan) or chocolate (due to toxic chemicals in chocolate) to bait wolves. 5. Hound training on wolves in my area is 365 days a year, so restricting them to after the deer season is an improvement, but should be restricted to a 2 week period. The hounders in my area run their dogs day and night 365 days a year on "SOMETHING"…I can't sleep with my windows open, because the noise or baying hounds, screaming in the woods, and loud vehicles doing donuts on the private road wakes me up. If there is hound training on wolves it should be when other hunters are already disrupting wildlife with the deer gun season. Maybe then they will speak up about this fringe group. But especially not in February when breeding season is in full swing. This is not part of act 169 and doesn't need to be in this management plan. But I recognize that if you restrict wolf training they will just say they are training for Coyote which is incessant. 6. Any wolf removed from the landscape due to predation should count toward any future wolf hunt quota for the following legal wolf hunt. Also any dead wolf from vehicle encounter, or other wolf kill like SSS wolves found from poaching. All should be counted toward the next legal mandatory wolf hunt quota. 7. Zone specific licenses only. When your zone is closed you are done wolf hunting. This is in the plan, but we have been promised this before and it never materialized, so I am just reiterating it here. 8. 8 hours to report your wolf kill. In the new draft, just substantiating it. 9. No night time hunting at all. Already in effect in regard to hounding….expand this. 10. No use of both snowmobiles/atv's AND HOUNDS at the same time. These 2 components are mostly to blame for the severely shortened February Fiasco overkill Wolf hunt. 11. If Sheriff's office (Burnett county) refuses to fine or ticket hounders deliberately trespassing DNR should fine those involved. 12. Wolf education in schools particularly in the zones 1, 2, and 3. Can we teach something besides training serial killers? Appreciation of wildlife gets little or no attention. (serial killers all start out killing and dissecting small animals) 13. Product C2H has so many flaws it should be eliminated. There is a leash law in this state for any dog owner off their own property has to abide by…why not hounders? {get them out of their pick up trucks staring at those screens and into those woods following their hounds…..that's hunting with dogs} Right after the deer gun season wolves begin to breed. This will be disrupted. You are in fact NOT "Considering the biological impact upon wolves". The training should stop when the legal wolf hunt for that zone stops. To further harass the packs after losing various pack members may stress packs to dissolve completely. I suggest that there not be more than one tag's worth of hounds allowed to train together. i.e. 3 hunters = 18 hounds should never be allowed for any reason, both during a legal hunting season or during a legal training period. 14. Have we learned nothing from that February Fiasco Slaughter? Packs of hunters, on packs of snowmobiles, with packs of illegally loaded (on a moving machine) long guns driving packs of hounds on packs of wolves…..Dog fight in the woods. Every possible restriction on this hounding(WANTON WASTE) since it is legislatively mandated must be employed. International Notoriety for barbarism was not a good look on the face of WI. WI's legal traditionalist hunters who fill their freezers with venison every year to feed their families were disgusted by this clown-show. The enclosed survey of how	8	Please take the time to read what I have written in question 5. My research, hours and hours of being on zooms and even in person with the Spring surveys, wcc meetings, DNR meetings on zoom, NRB meetings, and reading minutes of those I didn't attend, and my heart and soul on this issues are reflected on number 5.

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				Wisconsinites use the outdoors and all that apply to them were checked. Hunting in general is down in the 20 something percent…how many are using packs of hounds? This should NOT be confused with bird dogs, who retrieve or point out prey. That is a thing of beauty. Ripping a bear cub to pieces, or a wolf by a pack of trained blood thirsty hounds isn't even in the same ballpark. THEN Kazmierski NRB suggests a quota of 500 for the 2nd hunt in the same calendar year????? Thankfully that did not take place, and cooler heads prevailed. 15. TALKING about only hunting wolves where they are a predation problem and actually doing just that seems difficult. NO HUNTING WOLVES EVER IN FEDERAL FORESTS…no training dogs there either. Non-consumptive-tax paying-goods and services user-landowners need their space too. We may not pay for hunting licenses, but WE LIVE HERE (many hounders come from out of state) WE PAY HIGH REAL ESTATE TAXES, we pay sales taxes, use local goods and services, and there are TENS OF THOUSANDS of dollars donated to the DNR each year by us non=consumptive users. Merri Ann Gonzalez RN/AKC breeder of Merit [redacted] Shell Lake WI 54871 (not California) (1 mile from Hertle Turtle Rez in Hertle) [redacted]		

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e.,Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	4	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). 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Michael Munyon	Most of it	Yes	Keeping the wolf in Wisconsin. State management of the wolf population.	No set limit of the wolf population. I think the wolf population limit should be in the 500 to 700 range. I think the Tribal input is valued more than the citizens of Wisconsin input. The 6 mile no hunting buffer zone around the Tribal Lands is just plane wrong to the individual land owners. Out of state input should be not allowed unless it is from an expert with scientific facts. Animal Rights Activists should have ZERO input. Science needs to be followed in management. WDNR needs to push for State Control.	2	The Wolf Plan was WAY past due. The WDNR dragging their feet on rolling this out puts another black eye on the Department.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Mark Zich	Most of it	Yes	The plan is outstanding in providing historical and scientifically accurate data on Wisconsin wolves. The updated wolf management plan gives those Wisconsin residents who are uneducated or are arbitrarily biased against wolves the opportunity to become better informed. The plan also adequately addresses the human-wolf interaction dynamics and dispels numerous myths regarding wolves. I've heard from so many hunters who claim to be afraid of being physically harmed by wolves while recreating in the wolves territories and your management plan specifically addresses and makes clear how wolves rarely engage or harm humans. The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem".	There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	Outstanding document and extremely necessary so that we do not repeat our country's past mismanagement and slaughter of animals that are vital to a balance, healthy ecosystem. Trophy game hunting by humans is vastly more damaging to the health of deer due to the elimination of the strongest of the herd; whereas, wolves eliminate the least strongest in the herd.
Steve Matthias	Most of it	Yes	I'm glad to see the plan doesn't see the need to set any limits to the wolf population so that nature is able to run its course. There are enough threats to their existence and they don't need an artificial numerical limit. Keep wildlife wild. It's great to see that the plan works with the Native American tribes by respecting the treaties. I especially like the increased effort to educate the public about wolves. It wasn't until I read "Of Wolves and Men" by Barry Lopez that I found out what impact the wolf has on the ecology and the benefits of having them in our fragile ecosystem. I'd like to imagine being in a classroom that was benefiting from such a lesson plan. I respect your sensitivity to public opinion and appreciate this opportunity to make comments.	I don't agree with the hunting of wolves and especially using dogs that are trained to focus on wolves. Too bad the DNR even needs to have hunting dog control added to their concern but more regulation is needed like including a greater limit on the training period for wolf-hunting dogs. There are non-lethal ways to manage the wolf if the need arises. If the concern is damage to livestock, maybe the focus should shift to preventative measures and resources to help educate the livestock grower too.	9	I'd like to see where this plan leads. If changes occur, do we get to review it again and offer our opinions? So nice to see this action being taken, it would be sad to see it created, dated and shelved without any future oversight. Hopefully your organization will continue to make the plan ongoing by continuing and regularly reevaluating it based on the latest environmental science and input from us Wisconsin residents. The plan is well done, thanks for the opportunity to comment.
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing.	Today, Wisconsin State Representative Rob Swearingen and I, along with 28 of our colleagues, submitted an official comment regarding the Department of Natural Resource's proposed Wolf Management Plan. A species management plan with no prescribed population goal is no management plan at all. All this does is open the door for lawsuit after lawsuit regarding future harvest quotas set by the Natural Resources Board. We see right through this – the whole state can see right through this. Wolves have negatively impacted families, farmers, deer hunting, tourism, property values, and communities throughout our state. We stand with the 36 counties from all across Wisconsin who have passed resolutions in favor of setting a wolf population goal of 350 or less, and request that the department take this under serious consideration prior to moving forward with this process.	1	We need to control the population of wolves. It will get worse as years go on. The time is NOW to control the situation before it's too late.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Garrett Laskowski	All of it	Yes	There is nothing I like about this plan.	There is no numeric goal or target to hold the DNR/State accountable to managing the wolf population. This plan cites narrow studies and a survey that feels slanted in its phrasing. The plan essentially gives decision making power to a wolf committee, which strips decision making from our legislative bodies and by extension, the residents of Wisconsin. One committee should not hold this much power over such a large decision. This should be made by voters and legislative representatives. This plan seems to be weighing the opinions of everyone equally, whether they are from out of state, out of wolf territory, or in wolf territory. Ultimately, the vast majority of the weight should be given to people living in those areas as it affects their day to day life. Someone from south Wisconsin, much less out of state, should not be able to have a say like the residents and landowners in wolf territory. On the topic of buffer zones, this affects residents those areas even more. That land should not be treated as an extension of the reservations, it is private property and those landowners bought that land for recreation, farming or whatever it may be. Not to be infested with wolves. At that rate, the state should have to buyout the landowner at fair market value for their property if they wish to sell, because they have diminished its value.	0	This plan is very one sided and is just sad on all fronts. The data and "science" supporting this is not good. The survey phrasing was slanted, and then when referenced in all other areas of the plan, was grossly mischaracterized to fit the narrative. And it is just very depressing to see that northern citizens are not given more weight and are not being considered while someone that does not live there is making decisions because wolves "make them feel good"
[redacted]	Most of it	Yes	I'm not sure I like any of the plan because most times it's just put out there to make everyone happy. The dnr has told us the plan for years but didn't stick to it .	My opinion I want an accurate count of the wolf population not just what it is it is . I would like to see the wolves managed to keep a population but not so many that they wipe out the prey species in the area.	1	Wolves are devastating the deer herds in the north woods . This cause a lack of revenue for the north economy and drives down property values as well as lack of opportunities for outdoorsmen. They should be managed to 350 in the state not 3500 , we have to many in my area. I've see the deer numbers drop considerably in the last 20 years .
John S Bronikowski	All of it	Yes	I like the detailed history. When charting a course for the future, it is important to remember where we have been.	I cannot believe a Management Plan would not have population goals!! I also believe it is ridiculous to continue to give 1/2 the harvest quota to the tribes when they refuse to participate in the harvest!!! That would be like sending turkey tags or antlerless deer tags to non-hunters. Quit playing political games for show. If they won't participate in the harvest, they should not share in the quota of harvest tags.	3	This is a good start, what used to be called a boilerplate document. But it is missing measurable goals - probably to avoid controversy! Without population goals and realistic harvest methods, it is an incomplete plan.
Joi Kamper	All of it	No	i like the idea of people having zone specific tags. Although I adamantly oppose the constant weight given to hunters that just want to go out and kill an animal we basically had to import from Canada after we already killed it off.	I would like to see more metrics for measuring the survival rate of wolves and that vehicle collisions be included in the count for wolves that killed. I would also like to see more efforts to avoid vehicle collisions. I also want to see more public education on the benefit that wolves provide to ecosystem and more research on this.	6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Lots of good historical data on wolf attacks and reasons for attacks.	all good		More wolves needed now that there is less of a deer hunting tradition/culture in wisconsin
	Most of it	Yes		you need a specific population goal, just saying more ,less, or stay the same means nothing depending on who you ask. 350 is good number	1	The old plans, 350 wolf population goal is reasonable both biologically and socially
Jim Greenfield	Most of it	Yes	We need to stick to the original agreement of 300 wolves and not try to welch on it.	I have gone from an advocate of wolf reintroduction to an opponent because of large number of wolves and lack of concern for deer hunters, dog owners and norther residents.	0	The most important thing is to not break the agreement for a 300 wolves. Since wolf fanciers and advocate are endorsing the DNR wolf "biologists" I have zero confidence that the DNR will look out for my interests as a property owner, lifelong deer hunter (although I did not go to lack of deer) and bird dog owner. Stick to the original agreement._
	Most of it	No			1	
Tom Chapman	All of it	Yes	I support protections and sustainability goals of wolf populations in zones 1,2 and 5	I prefer protections and sustainability goals of zone 3 and 4 be the same as described in zones 1,2 and 5 - at the very least for connectivity.	6	A thriving wolf population in as much of the state as possible is our moral responsibility
Rick Lukes	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				Issue live trapping permits to all interested trappers to stock wolves in every county in the state. Sportsmen should relocate as many wolves as possible in the Madision -Milwaukee area since people there want to see more wolves in natural habitat. Since most environmentalist believe wolves only harvest the old and sick animals this would help control the spread of CWD. Wolves have decimated the deer population in my area of Price County. Hunting isn't worth the effort particularly if you are horn hunting. The lack of game for hunting has depressed hunting land values to virtually nothing. For farmers the land was our 401K for retirement.

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	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	3	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	All of it	Yes	The fact that studies on wolves is taking place, that the reality that wolves are beneficial to the environment and an integral part of the environment	'Harvesting' is an extremely offensive term. No one eats the individuals that are murdered. The eradication of animals because they are a problem to humans. Bounty hunters. The use of canines to kill canines. Reimbursement of dog hunters for invading wolves' spaces. Using dogs for eradication of any mammal	5	Very detailed in many aspects. I actually read through many of the extensive footnotes. I totally am in agreement with the tribes, wolves are as important as we humans. Ceded territory should be much more inclusive of tribes rights. I am totally in opposition to the hunting of wolves. I sat in on most of the ZOOM meeting and callers were overwhelmingly opposed to the eradication of wolves. I have been asking people in my community if they would please respond to your survey. Orally out of 39 people, one believes wolves should be eliminated, two were neutral and 36 felt wolves should be allowed to exist and thrive. The study has shown the positives of wolves and we should build upon that

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Ed Metcalf	Most of it	Yes	It appears that it initial survey and input portion is very comprehensive, to the point of being redundant.	There seems to be a lean towards not having an actual population goal number. There also seems to be a push towards more research. There also seems to be concern about maintaining genetic diversity. The idea of hunts that have zone restricttions. The fact that (unless I missed it) there isn't a clear plan for dealing with wolves that have established livestock predation tendancies. The compensation for livestock predation needs to be clearly addressed and not dependant on a moving amount of available funds. Really, we are concerned about wildlife viewing and recreational opportunities for wolves?	2	My concern with having no population goal is, then the main force for population densities will be carrying capacities. That will increrase human/wolf conflict and people living in and around prime wolf habitat will always have wolf issues because wolves will always be at the brink of carry capacity. Researach is expensive and the wolves have been in the area for well over 20 years, if you don't know what they eat and where they live by now you have issues wth the study designs. Maintaining geneitic diversity is only going to open the whole plan up to more lawsuits from groups that want no controll over the population. They are simply going to tell you every time the wolf comes off the endangered list that you are not able to prove there is enough genetic diversity, hence you have to leave the wolves alone. I understand the arguments that genetic diversity supposedly helps prevent extinction, but i feel it is a good idea in theory but in reality it has been disproven time and time again. For example take the current wolf population, they started from a very few wolves, they seem to have managed quite well with a very small amount of genetic diversity. Another local example is the Butternut area elk herd. From my understanding, one cow went over there and had a bull calf , and the herd grew from those 2? The condors in California and the list goes on, we put more emphasis on genetic diversity that it warrants. The problem with hunt zones is simply that the wolves move depending upon available food. The pack maybe in an area when a person applies but may have exhausted available food supplies and be gone by the time the hunt actually occurs. Even if the zones are large there will be packs that live along the zone boundaries and raom between zones. In reality what is the problem with an area being over hunted? The wolves will re-establish a pack in that area as their population grows in other areas where wolves were not harvested. As we have seen the wolf population in the state is very robust and adabtable. I think that it is clear that the problem wolves can be removed and it will not affect the population as a whole. The problem wolves are a very small percentage of the whole population and removing a pack from an area will simply eliminate issues in a timely manner and decrease conflicts. I feel it is pretty clearly established that once a pack learns that livestock are much easier to kill they prefer to harvest them than natural prey. The current policy for predation compensation is flawed. First of all it is dependant upon an unkown amount. I know it is difficult to budget for an amount when there is no idea how many claims there may be but the budget has to be set high enough to accomodate that unknown. The fact that peple feel they are not correctly compensated for their losses spurs dislike for the wolves. It is much easier to live with wolves and predation problems if you are being compensated, no different that compensation for crop damage from bear and deer. Also the compensation has to take into consideration the animals potential end value, for example; most calves are killed when they are young and the compensation is based on the value at the time of death. This year I sold my 550 pound calves for $2.14 per pound. That's over $1100 per calf. Had they been killed with-in the first month of life I would have been compensated for about $300 IF there was enough money in the pot! and if I could prove that wolves actually killed it. So each wolf predation would have cost me a minimum of $800. I know the arguement that the calf may not have made it to market and all of that but the DNR has the responsibility for compensating livestock owner's like crop damage. Nobody uses the arguement that the corn may not have made it to harvest because there may have been a hail storm or wind damage etc. There are several areas that discuss managing wolves for recreational opportunities. I'm not telling you anything that you do not already know, but they are one of the most elusive animals that we live with. I have been in the area since the wolves came back and had 2 predation claims. I seriously doubt I have more than 20 actual sightings. If you are trying to manage this species for recreational opportunities you're wasting your time. The people who want to have opportunities have to do what every other person who wants recreational opportunities does, wether it is hunting or viewing. Do the leg work, find out where the animals are living and make plans accordingly. If they think they should be able to jump in their car and go for a drive and see wolves along the road and roll down their windows and hear them howling that is an unrealistic expectation. Managing wolves for their recreational value should not be a concern nor part of the plan.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	informative, a look at all opinions	no goal, open ended	4	In response to the draft wolf plan: It's too bad we can't go back and here the complaints of the people that lived in the 30s, 40s and 50s. I reminder a story of how the wolfs went into the barn and pulled out a calve when I was in grade school. The technology was not there to bring the stories for us to hear in the future. I don't believe your survey that people want more than 350 wolfs. This was the number to start with and should be kept as close as possible. I don't think anyone wants to omit them from Wisconsin, but numbers should be in kept in check with hunting (with dogs and night predator hunting and trapping used). People don't feal safe giving answers that can be logged to track them for one. Asking people that can't be traced in some way may give you their real feelings and correct answer. Education, knowledge or experience of wolfs can make judgment about wolfs. If you control the education and write the questions you control the outcome. History and experience should weigh heavily on the decisions. How is it that some one living in a city can tell someone how to live in the county that don't have the knowledge of someone living or interacting with the wolf. When a wolf season takes place, it should not be in the deer season or I should say the month of November. There is enough movement in the woods with all the other hunting season going on. I suggest a January or February hunting, trapping season for the wolf population controlled hunting season. I think more information of all animal populations could be learned from a season with out deer hunters. January would be better before any winter stress on animals. Hunting seasons could be every other year, not every year, has anyone thought about that, this was done when Minnesota had a moose season. How about dogs one year and no dogs every other year. This would help to monitor and not over harvesting. The more I read the report the more I see to keep the wolfs at 350 or as close as possible. All the data used for this report and now you don't want to use numbers? Numbers is used on every other animal. This is a tactic to change what the public was told. Wolfs must be kept in control, they are a killing machine. Objectives did not include or considered populations of people, why not? Wolfs will cleanout a territory and move to the next territory much like the natives did before the white man. This goal should be left as we were told at 350 wolfs. This number was picked to insure we had wolfs but not over run with wolfs. As a hunter of the northern part of Wisconsin I have seen number of kills, possible wolf that on those years never saw any deer. Did see eagles and scavengers around the deer kills but no deer. Could be coyotes too but your report references wolf eat and kill more deer for the eating abbots. Wolfs are on the move following there prey and the more wolfs the less deer as your charts express. (and elk) There are less and less hunters because hunters are not hunting because seeing fewer and fewer deer. Is this the goal? It looks like it could be the end game. Management plan objectives goal should be 350 wolfs. What few moose we have they will kill, is it worth having what the land can carry? They will wipe out everything and move on to anther area like the natives did. How much money spent on elk and we can't hunt any elk. Looks at time we are feeding the elk to the wolf. It's complicated but hunting is conservation. Keep the wolf numbers at 350 as a greed too. Thanks Mike
Cassidy	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed.)	However, there are some objections: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting	5	References: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320713003418?via%3Dihub https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-70837-x https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/related/acts/169 https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.2005577 https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2351989419306225?via%3Dihub https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0209716 https://widnr.widen.net/s/tsvfkqkh9w/pub_ea_017 https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09711-x https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fevo.2022.782840/full

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, andespecially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves thatpromotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
elliot isaac stokes	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1)I am siding with greater protection of our wolf population with limited culling and hunting. 2)Research and science based decision making. 3)I support the plans movement away from single numeric population goals and would prefer using the adaptive management 3 point process elucidated in the plan proposal 4)Reduction of harvest registration times and support the issuing of zone-specific wolf harvest permits to meet quota. 5)Revising wolf management zone boundaries to better reflect current and improved wolf distribution and habitat health with some consideration given for wolf predation on cattle and farm animals and its concerns and resulting issues.	Being careful with wolf culling on the side of error with more consideration for transplanting problem animals or using other control mechanisms	9	A healthy wolf predator population allows for the return to a healthy ecosystem, wildlife and plant habitat for nature and human kind alike. During a time of pandemics and disease in animals we must all be aware of the importance of controlling diseased and weak animals and wildlife to decrease exposure to us all. Healthy wildlife and ecosystem helps to advance a healthy society of man and animal, anything less is not desirable. The current Wolf Management Plan should be implemented and allow the wolf population to develop
Sara Wild	All of it	Yes	Removal of a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is absolutely essential to ensure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem“.		10	
Joanne	All of it	No	all for the compensation of farm animals if and when ... if wolves are going to be radio collard than they should not should not be SHOT DOWN !! easy lazy kill right ?	Biological Carrying Capacity.. WHAT ARE YOUR BOUNDARIES THAT YOU WANT THESE WOLVES TO ABIDE BY: KNOWING WOLVES AND WILDLIFE HAVE NO BOUNDARIES ??? due to human element population and taking land and GRAZING (ranchers) FARM ANIMALS ON PUBLIC LANDS !!! where wolves roam mostly to hunt . I must say wow there is lots of you making these rules for wolves THE COMMITTEES is more than live wolves out there.. !! thank goodness they don't read about there and death row or life what ever comes first.. take a look at your WOLF PACK STATISTICS IN BLUE, DOWN DOWN DOWN --you kill off to many wolf packs and leave lone wolves ... (this is some draft!!! its like the US government infrastructure bill of what 4,000 pages =	2	if you have a pack of wolves say 6-8.. and you start killing them off one by one. and then leave one lone wolf .. that lone wolf will need an easy kill which would be a "farm /ranch animals due to the wiping out of the WOLF PACK. Wolves hunt in a PACK AND HAVE A SYSTEM ON HOW TO .. AND THEY DO A RUNNING PLANNING HUNT IN A PACK AND ITS WILDLIFE ...(NOT FARM /RANCH ANIMALS) SO THE MORE YOU KILL OFF WOLF PACKS AND MAKE THEN LONE WOLVES THE MORE THEY WILL DO AN EASY KILL OF FARM /RANCH ANIMALS AND NOT A PACK RUN HUNT OF WILDLIFE . so again you kill off WOLVES when there are to many (whats to many ??? is always questionable in your view) and upset the packs and YOU ALL ARE THE CULPRITS participate in the lone wolf kill .. plus KEEP FARM RANCH ANIMALS OFF PUBLIC LANDS TO GRAZE ... (this is made into a zig zag draft, its all over the place, still a RED FLAG against wolf packs and pups.)
Anne-Marie Hewitt	All of it	No	The removal of a numerical target population. The inclusion of the importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and of tribal values and knowledge. The attempt to minimise the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. The Emphasis on the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	No commitment by the DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. Hound training must be stopped. The plan should have a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas of prime habitat. The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. At the very least, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and this should not be used alone to determine population sizes. The plan should include an oversight committee, made up of biologists and professionals.	7	The Committee was over-represented by hunting organisations, despite the fact that they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
	Most of it	Yes	The word Manegment, its time to manage	Reniging on the original goal of 350 animals	1	Let the Counties set the goal for their county,not outsiders that don't have to deal with the ramifications. This would be similar to the CDAC for deer management.
Elaine Becker	Just the parts I am interested in	No			2	Healthy ecosystems NEED large predators to keep prey species from overpopulating, overgrazing, causing soil erosion, widespread disease and starvation. In addition, the presence of wolves helps deter deer and other wildlife from being on roads as it is in the open. If deer avoid roads, that reduces injuries from car accidents!
	All of it	Yes	informing the public	no limit of wolves, boundaries around tribal land, sharing quotas with the tribes, listening to the large group of people that don't live in wolf territories that have no idea what the farmers and other residents have to deal with daily. Not acknowledging all the town boards of the counties if wolf country that have had resolutions. etc. etc.	2	have your listing sessions in wolf country, and get boots on the ground to talk to the farmers and sportsmen that don't have the time to go to the meetings. the squeaky wheel gets the grease, and that is the pro-wolf people.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Very little; it's too long too read all of it	There are no measurable goals - how will you know when the population is enough?	3	I don't consider myself anti-wolf, but in Oneida and Langlade counties I believe that wolves are negatively affecting deer populations. It's good to have wolves, but now there are too many. I am not a member of the WWF, but agree with most of their concerns.
Jim Johannes	All of it	Yes	see below	see below	1	Allow me to make three comments. First, I urge you to throw out the radical tails of the feedback you are receiving on this plan and focus on the comments of the more rational and balanced viewpoints you are receiving. Specifically, I urge you to reject any public comments that say we should have no wolves and to reject any comments that argue we should not hunt wolves. The latter typically come from the hypocritical fringe who view the killing of a single wolf as cruel but could care less about the cruelty of a wolf killing 20 deer a year or someone's cattle by eating them alive as they struggle for survival. Second, without putting numerical values on the number of wolves we should have in each area of the State you really do not have a plan because 1) the absence of weights on your primary objectives (• Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role • Addressing and reducing wolf-related conflict • Providing multiple benefits associated with the wolf population) and 2) measurable criteria used to evaluate each really allows you to do whatever you want to do whenever you want to do it. When I was a kid the Mickey Mouse Club TV show had a name for that kind of uncertainty. It was called anything can happen day. That is what you have here. I must note parenthetically that I am puzzled by the plan focusing on the ecological role of wolves today because for 50 years when we had no wolves nobody worried about this role as other predators on the landscape fulfilled that role. It is, therefore, quite puzzling that we now need lots of wolves for ecological purposes. Maybe in Iowa and Dane County where there are few apex predators to control CWD and control the deer that really do cause ag and property damage. Not everywhere for sure. In other words, for the Northern part of the State there is no needed ecological role and for the South, where wolves would not be tolerated, it is a moot point. In other words, this ecological role is grossly overplayed. If my second point is not clear let me state it another way. What dooms a plan? What causes plans to fail? Based on my 50 years of sitting on public and private boards and committees it is • a lack of focus • Insufficient or inaccurate data • Lack of quantifiable objectives (nobody would accept this vagueness in a compensation plan for employees for example) Your plan is plagued by all three problems. Without ex ante weights on objectives and quantifiable outcomes for objectives this plan is doomed to fail politically and operationally! Third, in the absence of quantifiable weights on your objectives and reliable data, you seem to be saying "trust us, we will get it right" But how can we trust you when you keep coming up with estimates that defy common sense and logic and with harvest goals that serve only to confuse people and provide rallying cries for the lunatics on opposite side of this debate. For example 1. If you really only want to kill 125 wolves don't issue tags to kill 250 and give half those to the tribes who you know will kill zero. How dumb is that. Issue tags for 125 and do not give the tribes any if they are not going to be used. Say what you mean, don't intentionally deceive or create political situations that only divide. The fact that you set up the last harvest in this confusing way lost you a lot of credibility with the public. Even wolf lovers were confused! 2. Why do you pretend (defend by your silence) that we killed 25% of all the wolves in Wisconsin in two days of really only hunting certain parts of the state where dogs could assist in the hunt. There is no way you will wipe out 25% of anything in two days without using nuclear weapons. 3. Don't tell us that there are only 4 wolves per pack in Wisconsin when you only survey part of the State, don't count single wolves patrolling the perimeter of the pack, when we send you pictures of 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 wolves in packs in late Fall, and when the whole wolf LOVING world like The California Wolf Center, National Wildlife Foundation and the International Wolf Center among others (see below) say the average pack is 8. That's a big C'mon Man, get real. We have 2x the wolves you say we have. Stop pretending otherwise. You only incite rage in the half you need on your side. To try to sell "only 4" in the face of all the evidence to the contrary makes you look very foolish and, worse yet, disingenuous. I am reminded of the cross examination of the witness in the movie "My Cousin Vinny" who tries to tell people that grits cook faster in his kitchen than anywhere else. Mr. Gambini: "So, Mr. Tipton, how could it take you five minutes to cook your grits when it takes the entire grit-eating world 20 minutes to cook grits?" Mr. Tipton: "I don't know. I guess I am a fast cook." Mr. Gambini: "I'm sorry, I was all the way over here. I couldn't hear you. Did you say you're a fast cook? That's it? Are we to believe that boiling water soaks into a grit faster in your kitchen than in any other place on the face of the

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
						earth? Do the laws of physics not apply in your kitchen? You seem to be acting like Mr. Tipton. So please restore some confidence in the public. Do not listen to the fringes on either side, do not support an "anything can happen plan without real focus or measurables", and please stop pulling our leg to cater to those who do not want a balanced approach to wolf management. We can live with wolves but we do not need the thousands that this plan can justify because it refuses to put weights on the different objectives that can be challenged and refuses to establish definitive, numerical population targets in different regions of the State. How big are the packs? 1. WISCONSIN GRAY WOLF MONITORING REPORT 15 APRIL 2019 THROUGH 14 APRIL 2020 "The count included 1018-1041 wolves living in 256 packs, or an average of 4.0 - 4.1 wolves per pack." 2. The studies below, mostly from very wolf friendly sources, say that the average gray wolf pack is 8.1! In other words, the DNR is underestimating the minimum number of wolves in Wisconsin by 50% . International Wolf Center Red wolf packs are generally smaller than gray wolf packs and usually have 2 to 8 members, but a pack of 12 has been observed in the wild. Wolf Haven International Average pack size 6-8 animals National Wildlife Federation Wolves live in packs. Most packs have four to nine members, but the size can range from as few as two wolves to as many as 15. Animal Start Wolves are social animals living in groups from 8 to 15 members. California Wolf Center Wolf pack size can range from 2 to 10 wolves, with the average pack size consisting of 6 wolves. PBS Nature The average size is 6 but packs exceeding 30 members have been observed. Live Science Usually, a pack will have only one male and female and their young. This usually means about 10 wolves per pack, though packs as large as 30 have been recorded. National Geographic Wolves live and hunt in packs of around six to ten animals. Journal of MammologyEstimating gray wolf pack size and family relationships using noninvasive genetic sampling at rendezvous sites We detected 65 wolves (5-20 wolves per pack) with NGS, and the pack counts from NGS were the same or higher for adults and the same or slightly lower for pups compared with the counts from observation and telemetry. (Average pack size 13) Understanding Wolf Behavior from GPS Tracking Data These packs usually consist of a group of 5–9 wolves.
Steven E. Dunphy	All of it	Yes	The thoroughness. Great maps.	No numeric cap on Wolfs. The whatever the landscape can support is an unexceptionable end.	4	Zones around the Reservations should be open to more harvest.
J. Ries	All of it	No	I like that we are talking about the wolf issue and that we have a place to share our views.	The plan is not using Scientific information, it is missing a large amount of key information, Copied and listed below... wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution	2	Thank you for having this platform open to the public
	Most of it	Yes	Science - based population estimates and appropriate harvest limits; Collaboration with tribes of Wi & universities Research on wolf predation on deer	Dog training for wolf hunting. Dogs should not be allowed to chase wolves.	9	Eliminate wolf-hunting near tribal reservations. Eliminate cruel trapping of wolves
William	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Increase in population of wolves	Having the original plan goal of 350 wolves	10	Too many deer in SE Vilas county where I live. Was a small wolf pack nearby but was eliminated a couple of years ago when over 200 were taken. I'd like to see and wolves in my area and help control the abundant deer numbers
David White	Most of it	Yes	0	The size of the so called buffer zones , doing away with numbers for harvest goals , total pop. The manner of how you are going to count the wolf pop. is totally unexcepable !!!!!! For a lack of a better word ,Stupid !! The D.N.R has lied from the beginning of this wolf story from the very start , and you still are ! question for you why in the world would you involve the humane society in this !!!	1	After going over this so called PLAN , no wonder the outdoorsmen of wisconsin and the D.N.R keep drifting farther apart year after year .
Todd Edinger Sr.	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None	All	0	The DNR SHOULD NOT!!! Be directed by anti-hunters And wolf lovers.. or The tribes on this subject… They need to decide if they want hunting dollars and all the hunting dollars generate in the state. Or if they want everyone to take there dollars to other states??? Or the people that come here and usually camp in all the free camping areas and bring granola bars and water bottles.. that they buy else where?? Your WOLF is killing businesses,clubs and life styles..We had numerous hound clubs up here in the Northwoods … there's none left the WOLF took care of that!!! You need to look at the big picture of what this animal is doing and MANAGE IT!!!! Call me [redacted] I have way more to say!!! 350 is to many because the way you guys operate it will be 35000. I think your in the 3000 now for numbers

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The emphasis on research and the balance between the ecological benefits and conflict	none	10	very Impressive
Wisconsin Bowhunters Association	All of it	Yes		No numerical population goal	2	Resolution Whereas, gray wolves are a viable wildlife species in Wisconsin, deserving to be managed in their own best interest and in the interest of those directly affected by their presence. And whereas, the objective of the Wisconsin Wolf Reintroduction Plan was to establish a sustainable wolf population in Wisconsin and the U.P., as defined by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. And whereas, that objective was reached and exceeded over 20 years ago. But due to obstructionist lawsuits by anti-hunting and animal rights groups, citing the Endangered Species Act - for a species that has never been endangered in North America – wolves have been afforded absolute protection for most of that time. And whereas; due to that protection and almost no controls or management, wolves have expanded into areas of high human density and into areas not considered good wolf habitat. In fact, the density of wolves in Wisconsin, compared to human density, is already higher than anywhere else in the country. And whereas; this expansion has resulted in continual conflicts including depredation on livestock, pets, hunting dogs and threats to human safety. And whereas: these depredations and threats have increased significantly since the statewide wolf population exceeded 350 wolves; a number established by the DNR in 1999 and reaffirmed in 2007 as an adequate and reasonable population goal. And a number that is over 3 times greater than the number defined by the experts at US Fish and Wildlife Service as necessary to maintain the population here. And whereas; Wisconsin's wolves' primary source of food is whitetail deer, and their impact on the deer herd in many areas of Wisconsin has been devastating. The high wolf densities in Northern Wisconsin and now the Central Forest Region, threaten Wisconsin's deer hunting heritage, with significant negative impacts on tourism and commerce. It is estimated that wolves, hunting 24/7/365, take more deer in several northern Wisconsin counties than deer hunters do. As we have seen in western states, smaller populations of wolves have decimated whole elk herds to the point that deer and elk seasons and quotas had to be curtailed or eliminated. And now, even with very liberal wolf harvest regulations, those states struggle to keep wolf populations under control. Therefore, be it resolved, that the board of directors of Wisconsin Bowhunters Association, on behalf of our thousands of members and hundreds of thousands of deer hunters, respectfully request that the Department of Natural Resources modify the draft wolf management plan to retain the statewide wolf population goal of 350 wolves and manage wolves to that goal through annual harvest seasons as permitted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Respectfully Submitted on this 14th day of January, 2023 Board of Directors, Wisconsin Bowhunters Association
Chris Pedone	All of it	No		None	1	
Lon Mosbrucker	Most of it	Yes	science based management. Coming to conclusions based on studies, documentation, and education.	i am against any harvesting of wolves, especially dog hunts. All dog hunting should be banned, including bear. Verification of livestock depredation would be the only reason to remove a wolf.	7	I believe wolves will manage themselves if left alone and will have a positive environmental impact for everyone, including the deer hunter. i believe taking preventative measures by livestock owners will also decrease the conflict of wolves and there animals. There is way to much paranoia about the big bad wolf. If left alone they will be fine and of little conflict to anyone. The positives out-weigh any negative impact. Lastly i urge you to consider a ban on all dog hunting of any predator animal in Wisconsin. The use of dogs to hunt what is considered a predator animal is not a sport. Thank you and i would volunteer if needed to help on the research needed on wolf.
Sandra Materi	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	• The elimination of a numerical target population • The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. • The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. • Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	, what elements from the draft plan do you Dislike? • Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training must be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. • The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	
Ben R	Most of it	No	There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves.	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	4	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Francis White	Most of it	No	Leaving out a numerical target population of wolves. The importance of wolves for a healthy environment, with positive changes already proven many years ago. Positive consultancy of tribes and their understanding of the key role that wolves play. Giving true attention to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands. Emphasizing the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	DNR should work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves, while hound training must be banned. Missing is a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat! Ban "recreational" hunting /trapping, the cruelest of all, this has no value at all to reduce "conflicts" neither! Determining wolf populations is very uncertain, other nature lovers and experts should be consulted. A committee of biologists and professionals should have a strong advisory role and influence in all of this.	6	This committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence and respect!
	Most of it	No	The review in itself.	It would appear that stakeholders who are for the hunting of the wolf were / are over represented. What about Prohibiting dogs at all for hunting wolves considering you have a good guide for domestic dogs available	7	I think the use of the word 'harvesting' is offensive. It would also appear that the plan emphasises the 'hunting', 'killing' aspect of wolves to manage rather than no lethal methods
	Most of it	Yes	Human Dimensions of Wolf Management: A Literature Review. It was interesting at the wide range of aspects that were studied in the findings of the public/ business views of the wolf.	You had studies citied that were published and reviewed by other scientists that showed the benefits of Apex predators in areas ie. Yellowstone and potions of Colorado. But after writing of their findings you interjected of it possibly being anthropomorphic which contaminates their findings. It should be viewed as the other published findings are viewed and not weakened as we know this term does of their scholarly work.	4	I believe that the solutions are from old tactics that have been used and presented for decades with highly unsatisfactory results. Whilst the hunting, ranching, and trapping industry were given a place at the discussions. Other agencies which have tirelessly studied,accomplished field work studies with biologists and scientists have been mostly ignored ie. Poject Coyote. We cannot expect to solve problems with the same mindset/ information that has created these problems.
Brian	All of it	Yes		I do not lake the fact that the plan does not manage for a specific number of wolves.	1	I am very concerned about this plan not managing for a specific number of wolves on the landscape. I spend a great deal of time in Vilas County. In that time I have seen first hand what a wolf pack can do to a local deer population. Each year we see the wolves coming closer and closer to our home. Now even in our front yard. We never saw this kind of behavior in the past. It is clear to people that have lived in this area for many years that there are too many wolves. Very few deer, many close human encounters. This plan needs to determine the number of wolves that can coexist with human beings. And then manage the wolves to that number.
Gary G Ruhser	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I am impressed with the overall length and the vast amount of detail and effort applied, especially as it relates to science and precise definition.	Not enough emphasis on the reality human/wolf interaction problems are not caused so much by wolves moving into human territory but the fact we cause problems by being in their territory.	10	I am a busy Old Guy, 78 years old, living in the country on a farm, who quit his well-paid engineering profession at age 46 to work summers in the outdoors, BWCAW rehabilitation work, Sage Grouse surveys in Colorado, Grouse surveys in Wyoming, Hacking Peregrine Falcons in the Rocky Mountain West. I am a self-published author of 4 books on Amazon. When wolves were first colonizing in Wisconsin, I volunteered with the Timber Wolf Alliance to give wolf presentations to clubs and school age children, and have met wolf research leaders like Thiel and Mech. I just wanted to let you know I fully support this plan, all the effort that went into it, and I fully support Science, facts, and data. I wish you well in the political games that will ensue, and hope Science wins out. It occurred to me recently we could eliminate all these hard-fought Wildlife Management Plans and instead have one People Management Plan - it's people and politicians causing "problems", not wildlife. Wildlife is just trying to survive, and we humans keep occupying more and more of their territory every year, every day. Best wishes to you. Love your youthful enthusiasm and application of Science to your job.
John Korth	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That science and collaboration will be used for management.	More needs to be done for citizen education about wolves. This should include more detailed statistics about human and wolf interactions, how wolves affect the environment around them, more exact habitat range and needs, carrying capacity, etc.	9	Where did the 350 management number come from? This is out there a lot, but to my knowledge no one knows from where. At least among the hunters and non hunters I know. It seems like a number that was just pulled out of a hat and it stuck. Where is the science behind it? I like that there is no population goal listed in this plan as of now, but I imagine there will have to be one once the DNR can come up with a scientifically based one that includes the myriad of factors involved. Maybe this should be addressed in the plan.
Loren A. Brumberg	Most of it	Yes	- Removing numeric goals - Redrawing wolf zones & creation of buffer zones around tribal reservations - rigorous focus on wolf population monitoring - science-based monitoring - mandatory harvest registration & in-person certification requirements - education & outreach efforts	- allowing the use of dogs to pursue wolves. If required, limit training of dogs to only the periods when wolf harvest season is open in the zone	9	- identify funding allocation & funding sourced - follow-up public attitude survey - rescind regulations under 2011 Act 169 or pursue statutory changes - include conservation science organization representation on Wolf Advisory Committee
Dale Biertzer	All of it	Yes	Wolves do need to be managed	Goals of wolf population are to high and should not be more than 700	6	Population goal of no more than 700. Ban the use of use of dogs for big game hunting. These dogs are harassing all the wildlife including wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Susan Szabo	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	• The elimination of a numerical target population • The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. • The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. •counting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training must be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. • The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence. Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	7	• Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hounds killed by wolves.
Diane Cain	All of it	Yes	I believe the 2022 Wolf Management Plan represented the sentiments of the 2022 Wolf Management Committee well and thoroughly by educating the public about the nature of wolves, their value in the ecosystem as a keystone species, wolf statistics, the generally favorable attitudes WI residents have toward wolves, livestock predation, carcass disposal issues, and the DNR goal of focussing on a holistic and pragmatic approach to wolf management, conservation and stewardship which includes no numeric population goal. The DNR recognized the necessity of educating the public regarding the role wolves play in probable CWD mitigation, in decreasing car/deer collisions and in separating disparaging fallacies regarding wolves from facts. 4. Elements I liked: a. No minimum wolf numeric population goal b. "dispersal is important for creation of new packs and for gene flow between them." c. sources of human caused mortality include being accidentally struck by vehicles, illegal poaching, legal harvest, illegal poaching, depredation removals and accidental take. d. "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem". e. "another study attributed a 24 % average reduction in county deer-vehicle collisions due to changes in deer behavior associated with the area being occupied by wolves." f. "In areas of high wolf occupancy; abundance of mice and voles were reduced. Since small mammals are the dominant reservoir hosts for Lyme disease, sufficient wolf numbers could potentially reduce the incidence of Lyme disease in human populations". g. "Wolves are known to be attracted to bear baits placed for bear hunting purposes. This could potentially increase interactions between bears and wolves in the summer and fall months, when both species may have young" h. "Only 9% of packs will breed the next year if both breeders were eliminated. When both breeders were eliminated 85% of packs were dissolved" i. The average deer density in Wisconsin's Northern Forest was 20 deer per square mile in 2021. Average deer density in the Central Forest averaged 29 deer per square mile in 2021-very little difference since 2011. j. Across 9 statements about wolves, the majority of Wisconsinites responded in a way that reflected favorable attitudes toward wolves" k. "while modifications to question design between 2014 and 2022 limited statistical	5. Elements of the Wolf Management Plan I Dislike: a." However they noted that breeder pack mortality and pack dissolution had no effect on either immediate or longer term population dynamics" b. "The presence of wolves near cattle can invoke a fear response in cattle" c. "this plan recognizes the value and biologically recovered status of gray wolves in WI"	9	However the 2022 Wolf Management Plan will be the play book for wolf management for the next 10 years and these are ideas I have for embellishing upon the Plan. 1. The 2022 WI public wolf survey generally reflected a decreasing appetite for recreational wolf hunting. The term "recreational hunt" would be more aptly classified as a "zone specific selective cull" using the criteria of the DNR. The term "recreational hunt" sends a message which diminishes the value of the wolf as a keystone species. 2. Hopefully the Wolf Advisory Committee will include scientific and logical thinkers who might consider the following factors. a. In 2021 around 210 farmers were issued permits for deer agricultural damage-many in the locales where wolves live. Perhaps farmers could look to predators as a means of dealing with the overpopulation of deer. b. Wolf hunting in marginal territories targets dispersing animals and stifles the creation of new packs with genetic diversity. 10-15 % of wolves are lone wolves or dispersers. 3. Studies show a wolf in WI is 34-45 % more likely to die of poaching than any other cause, in particular when snow and hunting periods overlap from late fall to early winter. Perhaps coyote hunting should not be allowed during the 9-day deer hunt to help to mitigate the issue of killing wolves inadvertently. 4. WI DNR reports from 4/2019-4/2020 show 7 % of wolves were killed by vehicle collisions. As humans continue to encroach on wildlife habitat the problem will escalate. A bipartisan senate bill is being hammered out in Congress which includes $350 million dollars for wildlife crossings and corridors. Wildlife corridors would prevent accidents, decrease poaching and promote genetic diversity of wolves and all wildlife. 5. The issue of wolves feeding at bear bait is problematic for wolves and bear hounds. The problem could be mitigated through common sense measures. WI is the only state which allows bear hound training after bears and wolves have been acclimated to bait sites since April 15th of each year. Curtail bear baiting to 2 weeks before the hunt as in most of the other states. 6. Funding for non-lethal preventive measures to deter predators should be made readily available to all farmers to prevent predator habituation.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			comparisons, informal comparisons suggest statewide support for a wolf hunting and trapping season has declined over the last 8 years.' 11 1. " research has shown wolves will utilize livestock carcass dumps, including altering their diet" m. "several preventative options exist which may reduce conflict potential. These include maintaining healthy, well-fed animals, conducting calving/lambing activity near a barnyard and proper livestock carcass disposal." n. no longer allowing training hounds on wolves year round. changes authorize the training of dogs the Monday following the closure of the regular gun deer season and concluding when the wolf harvest season closes. o. "recent scientific studies and experiences reveal the pervasiveness and impact of misinformation, sensationalism and rumors which may be generated among those across the full spectrum of stakeholders and the public" p. "Public outreach and educational activities are an integral part of wolf recovery success in the Upper Great Lakes region."			
Maria Novotny	All of it	Yes	I really appreciate the scientific research and longitudal data that informs much of this approach. It reassures me that the approach is based on best practices. I also greatly appreciate how tribal perspectives and history is incorporated. As someone who is not native but recognizes the colonial history of WI, I think it is really important to offer a plan that considers science and history.	I am concerned about the communication approach. I believe as outlined in this plan that the public debates over wolves relates to public misperceptions about wolves. For instance, I split my time between Milwaukee and Phillips Wi. And as the report indicates there are two varying perspectives for people who live in rural areas with wolves (like Phillips) versus more urban areas like Milwaukee. Changing public perception depends on communication about wolves. Yet there is such little engagement in the rural areas like Phillips with wolves. Plus there are literacy issues with how information gets shared. I'd like a more thought out plan with how communication and public engagement may be structured and supported in this.	7	I appreciate this being circulated to the public for feedback. That said, and this relates to my comment above, the only way that I knew about this plan is because I subscribe to a Lac Du Flambeau tribal newsletter. They encouraged participation. I say this because I worry that many other key stakeholders who live in wolf populated areas and are not tribal members may not be participating in this survey. I want to encourage communication approaches that may better engage all stakeholders. That only helps ensure the successfulness of this plan.
	Most of it	No	I appreciate that the plan has dropped the old numerical goal of 350 wolves and the inclusion of buffer zones around reservations.	I greatly object to the failure to prioritize or even consider the avoidance of cruelty in the plan. Allowing horrendously cruel activities such as hunting, trophy hunting, allowing dogs to hunt down and dismember individual wolves, trapping, and the reliance on lethal control measures over non-lethal methods means that the team ignored scientific findings regarding wolf ethology, sentience, and well-being - and ethics. There is tremendous suffering masked behind such euphemisms as "wolf harvest," "wolf over-harvest," "recreational", "dog training." and "outdoor opportunities." Dog hunting and trapping should be stopped immediately - I cannot believe that the team even considered allowing such cruel activities to continue. Hunting of all predators including wolves should be banned outright or at least phased out as quickly as possible while educating the public about the cruelty of hunting these wonderful animals. If phasing out is the decision, the season should be reduced to a very short time period and a limited number of permits awarded by lottery. Also, lethal control measures should be made the very last resort. The plan should explicitly emphasize the use of scientifically based, non-lethal interventions and population self-management. I beg the team to reconsider its proposals to allow such unnecessary and horrendous cruelty to continue to cause such unimaginable suffering and to revise the plan so that it is as much wolf-centered as people-centered.	0	Please ban hunting, trapping, and lethal wolf interventions. Base your decisions on avoiding suffering and unnecessary cruelty and not on what has been done in the past nor on the demands of a few who claim that inflicting suffering and killing is a recreation.
Christa Hoffman	Most of it	Yes		1) I Oppose the creation of Buffer Zones surrounding reservations that would take away the rights of private landowners. I also oppose giving away wildlife management authority. (Pg 106) b. The department excludes 'reservation wolves' from harvest consideration when developing wolf harvest quotas. Creation of subzones around tribal lands increases the wolves that can be exclude from population estimates. (C1d) • Lack of numerical population goal; and resources are needed to ensure that current plans can be managed. • Lack of long-term solutions for preventing wolf depredation beyond permanent fencing. (Objective B1d) • Expansion of DNR authority into animal husbandry practices. (Objective B1e) • Development of wolf-related tourism- as most wolf habitat is on private property.	7	My home is within the boundaries of wolf habitat. I respect these animals and appreciate cultural significance to my tribal neighbors. As a business and private property owner, ensuring that those who live closest to these animals have a voice in how this plan is executed and enforced before over population occurs in our zone is critical.
	Most of it	Yes	Very comprehensive study but should have been about 20 pages.	I did not anything that actually is a proposal as to how you are going to address the problem that wolves causing to our other species of wildlife, i.e deer, rabbits, grouse.	1	Do not let the public that doesn't actually live in the area affected have so much say in the actual quotas.

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Thomas Lochner	Most of it	Yes			7	I live in northern Price Co. in the middle of wolf country. I supported the wolf re-introduction and believe wolves should remain a part of the ecosystem in WI. That being said I think the plan should have a numeric goal. Many hunters and farmers want a goal so the DNR can be held accountable. From the report, I found it interesting that taking an alpha male or female from a pack will lead to their replacement in the pack. Each pack normally only raises one litter of pups/season. Eventually when setting harvest goals, it should be taken into account that removing one wolf is only that, your not removing future pups from the pack. Bear dog hunters took a beating at the public listening session. As long as bear hunting remains legal, hunters should continue to compensated for wolf/dog encounters. I am a very active outdoor person (hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, xc skiing, snowshoeing, berry picking, etc). I've seen about a dozen wolves and have never had a negative encounter. It seems like the carrying capacity for wolves in my area has been reached as the population seems to be pretty stable for 10 or more years. Reducing the population in my area by 25% or so would be a good thing. Thanks and good luck. The DNR is in a tough position as both sides have opposing objectives and are extremely passionate. Hopefully the plan and it's implementation will at least partially satisfy all sides.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The continued focus on science based infomation and involvement of a wide ranging groups and stakeholders		9	
Mary Anne Ericson	All of it	No	1. The dropping of a numeric population goal, as these are arbitrary and scientifically unsupported. 2. The recognition that wolves are ecologically important and that they belong in Wisconsin. 3. The commitment to ongoing scientific research and education.	The excellent publication on Wolf Conservation Planning that was put out by the Endangered Species Coalition a few years ago identified three crucial values that should be the bedrock of any wolf management plan. Plans should be based on science, they should be inclusive of all citizens, and they should be grounded in ethical principles. In my view, Wisconsin's new plan falls short especially when it comes to incorporating ethical principles. Here are a few examples of how ethics gets short shrift. 1. Out of 297 entries in Literature Cited at the end of the plan, I believe only two of them specifically address the ethical dimensions of wildlife management. There are great resources out there that are highly relevant to wildlife management that should be included in any wildlife policy discussions, such as G. A. Bradshaw's Carnivore Minds, and especially Martha C. Nussbaum's book Justice for Animals: Our Collective Responsibility. 2. It is telling that in the identification of the four stakeholder groups who merit consideration in the wolf planning process -- hunters/trappers, farmers/ranchers, wolf advocates, and unaffiliated citizens -- only wolf advocates are said to have as their mission the humane ethical treatment of all wildlife. Should that not be the overriding concern of all stakeholders? 3. Missing from the plan is any discussion of the interests of wolves themselves. "Hunter satisfaction" is repeatedly recognized as an important value, but how can that possibly take precedence over the interests of wolves themselves -- in living, reproducing, maintaining intact families, being free to traverse their territory, and not being tortured? Ethically, there is simply no equivalence. As intelligent, sentient, highly social animals, wolves have compelling interests of their own which merit respect and protection. Wolves do not exist only as populations to be managed, or as animals either useful or problematic for humans, but as individual beings with standing in the moral universe. A wolf conservation plan grounded in ethics could not support any form of "recreational" hunting and would commit itself to its elimination by one means or another.	4	Some additional comments: 1. The disclaimer at the beginning of the plan regarding the language used in the plan does not justify or excuse the continued use of such language. Terms like "harvest," "take," "lethal control," and even "management" obscure the reality of the killing (and even assassination) of wolves. "Harvest" in particular evokes images of "bringing in the sheaves," and is entirely inappropriate and misleading to the lay reader, whether or not it accords with the "prevailing" terminology. One would have hoped that a brand new wolf plan would aim for greater honesty and transparency in the language it employs. 2. Allowing hunting and trapping as a tool of conflict mitigation is entirely wrong-headed and does not accord with what I understand to be the best available science. Hunting and trapping kill indiscriminately rather than focusing on specific wolves who may have engaged in chronic livestock predation. Hunting and trapping, especially where one or both of the breeding pair are killed, usually results in breaking up families and forcing younger, less experienced wolves, to turn to predation on vulnerable livestock rather than on wild ungulates. This perpetuates or even promotes conflicts rather than reducing them. 3. Although the plan doesn't dispute that wolves may have a role in controlling CWD in the deer population, and calls for more research in this area, it doesn't go far enough in recognizing and valuing wolves for their tremendous potential in increasing biosecurity. We face dire threats from climate change, loss of biodiversity, and zoonotic disease, which makes it even more imperative that our keystone species, including our apex predators, be protected and helped to flourish, so that they can do their work to keep our natural systems healthy and in balance.
Bruce	All of it	Yes	There are no elements from the draft plan for anyone living in the northern Wisconsin wolf management area to like.	I dislike all DNR wolf management plans in Wisconsins north woods. Our wild deer herd has been decimated. While there are deer in most of northern Wisconsin neighborhoods, deer numbers in the big woods are extremely low. While I understand wolves are not the only deer predators, they are the most efficient winter predators. There’s very few fawns in the National and State forests in northern Wisconsin. DNR wolf numbers are very flawed in northern Wisconsins big woodlands. Boots on the ground wolf counters can easily see how large the wolf numbers are in the big woods during a drive after fresh snow in the big woods. People living the so called wolf management area should not be subjected to these extreme wolf numbers. Not only is the deer herd being destroyed, our pets and animals are at high risk. As the wolf numbers increase, the wolves are encroaching our neighborhoods. Wolf numbers would be more accurately counted using a system like our sex,age, kills numbers used to manage the deer herd. Having a wolf plan without a wolf number plan is absolutely ridiculous. That number should be 350. Maybe the only way Wisconsin deer hunters can have a much input in getting a manageable wolf number is to not buy deer licenses.	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes			1	
Paola	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well-being, social dynamics, ecological relationships, and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous, and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, have found that policies allowing the liberalized killing of wolves results in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which is akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protection and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management might be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as the majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to the principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts are contrary to most objectives relevant to harm mitigation, the the well-being of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D, and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature,	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan, and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific, and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	Yes	Overall, the data was very detailed however the feeling of looking out for the wolves to ensure their future in Wisconsin was best takeaway from the draft.	Dislike trying to allow the wolves to be viewed as a nuisance that should be controlled. Disagree with hunting wolves.	5	The DNR needs to protect the wolves to ensure their future. The benefits to the environment that they provide is well documented.
	Most of it	Yes	The identifying the different management zones in the state is a good start.	It does not reduce the population in the northern part of the state to a reasonable level. The sub zones need to be eliminated. Having these sub zones is forcing unfair problems with the wolf onto the landowners outside of the tribal lands.	2	Until a real meaningful hunting/trapping season can be had to help reduce the gross over population of the wolf in the northern part of the state, the state should relocate large numbers of them to the southern part of the state. The landowners in the northern part of the state should not be unfairly forced to bare the blunt of the wolf problems.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	none of it	one of the most important parts of this wolf plan should have been setting a realistic population goal. clearly that was not addressed We need to set the population goal at 350 as was written in the previous plan.	1	I live and hunt in the central forest region we are over run with wolves instead of sitting behind your desks go out and look and talk to the people in that region they will tell you we desperately need to reduce the population there and the northern counties
Janice Kimmet	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Respect for Tribal Reservation Traditions	No quota, Not enough input from those affected by Wolf depredation.	2	As a sheep farmer along with my son , we have seen first hand the devastation that wolves can bring. No one, who has seen the battle field, after 13 ewes have been torn apart, would think of the wolf as a warm, fuzzy, sweet animal. Wolves are smarter than most men and know when to attack. The pack came twice during thunderstorms when the dogs would be seeking shelter. Since the initial attack in 2019, my son has lost one at a time, instead of a dozen at a time. His farm is near Pittsville where the most notorious pack roams. He had two donkeys and beef cattle at the time of the attack but the wolves attacked during thunderstorms when the dogs were seeking shelter. I have been raising sheep since 1975. Sheep have a complicated family structure in a herd as well as wolves. Multi generation families are what create the healthiest flocks where the older matriarchs teach the younger sheep the right plants to eat, how to react to the sheep dogs and how to raise and nuture their lambs. No farmer replaces his ewe population every year, but when wolves attack those key matriarchs are lost. The trauma from the attacks prevent the survivors from ever thriving again. The trauma to my son's 8 children from seeing their pet sheep destroyed carcasses within feet of their playground will never be erased.
Irene Ellis	All of it	No	Buffer zones to protect Native reservations Recognition of ecological importance of wolves	Too much emphasis on hunting and lethal management.	6	Thank you for a better plan than previously existed. Still needs improvements
William Ulferts	All of it	No	Lifting the numerical cap Attempting to prevent the travesty that occurred in the last wolf hunt Buffer zones	Hound hunting is very barbaric. How is it different than dog fighting? No night hunting.	7	Too much emphasis on hunting and not enough on protection. No more national disgrace wolf hunts.
Jim Ellis	All of it	Yes	Removal of numerical number Recognition of importance of wolves	Dog hunting - very barbaric traps very unfair Too much emphasis on lethal management	6	Save this keystone species - we should recognize how much like us they are!
Ashley Ulferts	All of it	No	Lifting the wolf 350 cap Recognition of importance of wolves to the ecosystem	Dog hunting is sick Night hunting is unethical Trapping is inhumane Too much emphasis on hunting and lethal management	5	Please review the Minnesota plan which is much better than this one. But thank you for your work on this.
Nick Ulferts	All of it	No	Buffer zones - recognition that wolves have cultural significance to Native Americans	Hunting by hounds - very barbaric. How is this different than dog fighting?	6	We must never see the state overhunt as occurred last year. It was a travesty and an insult to all Native Americans
Christina Diane Ulferts	All of it	No	Lifting the population number Buffer zones	Allowing hound hunting, night hunting, and traps. We need to focus more on protection and non lethal management	7	Thank you for your work on this. The public overwhelmingly wants to protect wolves and recognizes that they are a keystone species. Protect brother wolf!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Donald Furo	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	none.	Not setting any quota.	1	need to set a 350 max. quota.
Phyllis	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The stated goals continuing with scientific research on wolves.	I have strong objections to the failure to outlaw hunting, lethal population control, hounding, and trapping of wolves. This implies a continued failure of agencies and the public to consider the cruelty of actions taken against fellow sentient creatures as a guiding principle for wildlife conservation and management plans. Such plans should make the avoidance of cruelty a top priority and should recognize that other species are sentient and can suffer just like humans. These plans should be wildlife-centered and seek to support other species' well-being and happiness.	1	The plan is not really an improvement at all - it continues horrendously cruel actions against wolves.
Christina K	Most of it	No	I like that wolf populations in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. I also like the inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. Finally, I appreciate the addition of buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. In addition: Hounding or hound training should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.	3	Please consider adjusting your plan by considering more scientific research findings as listed below: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. Thank you for your consideration.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I would like a desired wolf population number with a plan to manage to keep at that number.	1	
Dr. Tammy Cloutier	Most of it	No	I appreciate that attempts are being made to update wolf management, including not using the old goal of 350 wolves, the recognition that wolves have an important ecological role, the use of social survey that shows increased positive views of wolves, and adopting proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Despite the efforts presented to "update" wolf management, there is still much work to be done. Elements that need improvement are: including the best available science (a substantial amount of information is missing), decreasing the bias of this plan (it stills leans in favor of recreational killing and consumptive users), curtailing lethal management wolves (with rare exceptions relating to immediate defense of life), prioritizing wolf protections and taking action for coexistence rather than offering the appearance of coexisting, requiring implementation of abatement measures and non-lethal techniques in order to receive CONFIRMED predation compensation, revising the plan to coincide with public values toward wolves rather than supporting the views of a few that oppose wolves, resolving conflicting agency objectives (all should work toward coexistence), increasing understanding of tribal views of wolves, and increasing consideration for individual wolves. Policy objectives, politics, and lack of scientific literature all have a negative impact on this current proposed plan. You can and must do better.	4	Wolves are not the enemy. The actions and voices of a few have vilified them and silenced the voices of those who wish to coexist with this important species. A responsible and responsive plan can and should address the items noted in the DISLIKE comments. Thank you for your time and consideration.
RICHARD BAUDHUIN	All of it	Yes	HAVING A HARVEST SEASON	NO NUMBER TO MANAGE FOR	4	
	All of it	Yes	I like the facet that you are going to make it a structured project and not a free for all everything have a time and a place	No comment	10	The only other issue I see with creating this plan is there's gonna be a lot of backlash from Antey hunting groups. There's a lot of backlash ready from groups such as wolf patrol harassing hound hunters running in the national forest land even if they are not doing anything wrong there's already been talk on social media by people, saying how hounds have no place in national forest land there is no reason to have hunting or any of that it disturbs ecosystem in the wolves but on the same time, the number of wolves is what is disturbing the ecosystem not just the hounds, running in the woods or anything like that I would like to see more people understanding that's aspect of it all an in hopes the hunter harassment will decrease
Ken Liebenstein	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			1	After Getting feedback from organizations like Wisconsin wildlife federation, Wisconsin Bowhunters Association and other outdoor organizations and listening to their comments I am unable to support the plan as written
Smoke	All of it	Yes	None of it…. You need a new team	I don't think you all realize the damage you're doing….	0	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Maintaining and managing a wolf population in Wisconsin while allowing hunters and trappers to aid in population and conflict management by taking some of the harvestable surplus.	Setting the population goal to a specific number when it is difficult to impossible to get an exact population count with the current estimation methods. Allowing everyone in Wisconsin an equal say in wolf management when everyone does not equally have to live with them.	5	I hope the DNR can lead us on the correct path of wolf population management using scientific data and not emotional decision making. I like having wolves in the state but having more opinions from places with a higher population of people like Dane county who don't have to live with wolves should not overshadow the opinions of the people who do have to live with them. If the native tribes don't want to participate in the states management plan then they should not have say in the rest of the state. I do not want to see wolves eradicated from the state, but if we are in this as a state then everyone in the state should have to deal with the pros and cons of living amongst wolves. If the wolf population is not controlled and managed the DNR will be missing out on revenue from license sales, and when they begin to negatively affect the deer population the DNR will miss out on the revenue generated from those license sales. Ultimately leaving the DNR unable to fund projects and improvements that they can do to help maintain the wildlife of Wisconsin. Such as the money spent to re-establish an elk population in the state, of which I also support. I stand behind the DNR but not the special interest groups that seem determined to steer the decisions they make.
	Most of it	Yes		How can the State of Wisconsin decide a wolf management plan without input from animal welfare organizations input, wolf advocate organizations and scientists and veterinary experts?? Why does the bear Hunters Association have a say and not these important contributors.	0	How can the State of Wisconsin decide a wolf management plan without input from animal welfare organizations input, wolf advocate organizations and scientists and veterinary experts?? Why does the bear Hunters Association have a say and not these important contributors.
Deb Wills	Most of it	No	Conceptually, I like the Wolf Management Plan Goal Statement as presented in the Executive Summary.	The current draft is missing a substantial amount of current scientific literature, including consideration of at least 9 scientific papers published within the last 5 years.	2	Neither science nor "management" of wolves justify trophy hunting of wolves, regardless of how many times you repeat the term "Ensure a Healthy and Sustainable Wolf Population to Fulfill its Ecological Role." Lethal "management" should be utilized only in the most dire of life-threatening circumstances. Regardless of the data provided in the plan, wolves have survived thousands of years without human management of their populations. Humans have co-existed. Presentation of data about the acceptable "take" level is simply rationalization for support of trophy hunting that offers no actual benefits to the wolf population or the ecological community as a whole. Recreational killing is clearly the main management strategy. Reports from state wildlife agencies indicate that herbivore populations are growing in wolf territory, so the claim that hunting is required to avoid decimation of prey species is in question. (Additionally, the USDA reports wolves are responsible for < 0.1% of livestock deaths.) I'm pleased that "In recognition of tribal sovereignty, to respect tribal values associated with wolves, and" (probably most importantly) "to avoid potential jurisdictional confusion regarding management and enforcement…" the "federally recognized tribes in Wisconsin" are allowed to disallow wolf hunts on their territory. Wolf hunts should be disallowed. This Draft plan is biased toward trophy hunting, runs contrary to *current* scientific evidence and is most definitely not about stewardship.
Stacy Gilson	All of it	Yes	I believe a property owner should be allowed to protect their livestock but they need to be educated in non lethal methods and money should be raised to help keep dead farm animals disposed of properly so not to draw predators in. I think better science for determining the population needs to be initiated by involving people to become engaged with the counts and observations. I would love our Great Lakes region to develop more wild life observation points.	Holding wolf hunts should not be the goal to take down wolves for no reason. The wolves number has stabilize and depredations are down when the packs are not killed. Research has shown packs mourn and disband when they lose the elders who teach them to avoid humans, hunt native prey and stay together. Zero is a number. Methods used to take wolves during a hunt should NOT BE DONE WITH THE USE OF DOGS. NO NIGHT HUNTING AND NO USE OF DISTRESS CALLS. NO BAITING NO TRAPS. Taking wolves with the use of dozens of dogs is not a hunt it's a slaughter. It's a dog fight it's not a sport and it's not done for a no other purpose but the thrill of killing.	3	Although parts of this plan start out in the positive side about our wolves and stating their importance to a healthy ecosytem it quickly turns into a frenzy for advocating a killing sport. I have nothing against hunters who take animals for food but killing out of hate for an animal, myths about a species and holding no respect for an animals existence is not conservation . Every single time Wisconsin holds a wolf hunt these people take more than what's allowed. EVERY SINGLE TIME. There is no mention on how you would stop VIOLATIONS or enforce punishment for violating rules, trespassing and cruelty of using dogs to maul and rip them apart. past hunts show there is no stopping the cruelty being done to our wolves and no regard for what happens to packs when broken apart. These wolves belong to all of us. I do not support a wolf hunt .
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Thank you for your efforts in reviewing and updating the state's wolf management plan. I like the recognition of wolves important role in the ecosystem. I also think that it makes sense to propose buffer zones around tribal reservations.	I would like the plan to focus on protecting wolves and non-lethal wolf management. Lethal management practices should be ended, and lethal force should only be considered justified in the event of immediate life preservation. The plan should not promote recreational killing as a management strategy, and hounding should be banned. Scientific research does not support these practices. The current draft should include more review of pertinent, current scientific literature. Also, the plan should require that farmers/ranchers implement abatement measures and non-lethal conflict minimization techniques to qualify for compensation related to predation. The plan should support and reflect the public's strong valuation of wolves as a species rather than look at wolves as a problem that needs to be solved.	4	Thank you for considering my comments.
Michael Hinz	Most of it	Yes		The Wisc plan needs a wolf management goal or limit of the amount of wolves. The 350 limit originally proposed seems reasonable as the estimated number of wolves have exploded and are causing tremendous harm to farmer's animals, pets, and other wildlife	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dylan Hughes	All of it	Yes	Focusing on science and removing the population goal numbers. Factoring in ecological benefits and that there are benefits to having a healthy wolf population in the state.	Better regulations on hound training. Develop a more future proof plans for how new wolf plans will be developed and how to incorporate new science and research into decisions.	9	I really appreciate all the hard work people have put into this plan. It's a great draft and will benefit the state
Katarina Lang	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
	All of it	Yes	Plan appears to be more science based than previous approach. Like some of the more protectionary measures in place to help protect wolves and monitor populations.	The data included in the report and on which the draft plan is based fails to include any updates from 2021. On Page 68, the wolf harvest management is based on 2011-2020 data, despite the serious and damaging issues that took place during the February 2021 cull. The plan doesn't properly address the significant overharvest above the quota counts, does not address the dangers posed by allowing the hunting of wolves with dogs, and does not address or identify additional research needed after a winter hunt during mating season and the drastic population impact and on-going issues that resulted. The previous plan had suggested a late winter management goal of 350 wolves. This number was weaponized during the wolf cull hunting arguments to suggest this was the ideal population and exterminating 70-80% of the wolves in Wisconsin was ok because it would still leave the population above this number. This draft plan on page 111 does not go far enough to dispute the way that number can be read, and in fact suggests 250 to be the minimum threshold. This number should be updated to more accurately reflect the updated carrying capacity numbers found elsewhere in the plan, since that number has increased from 500 previously to more than 1,300 in this plan.	6	20 of the "wolves" killed during the February harvest were just puppies, it is a poor reflection on our sporting heritage when 10% of the hunt is dedicated to unsustainable killing of baby animals. Had a second hunt been conducted in Wisconsin in the same manner as the first, it would have lead to a nearly 56% reduction in the state wolf population. This level of slaughter would have had significant knock-on effects for which we don't have good data and which could have permanently threatened the wolf population in the state. More work needs to be done within this plan to provide additional protections in the case of another delisting of federal protection for wolves.
Rob Hemenway	Most of it	Yes	I glad we have a population of wolves in the state and are working to keep them.	I completely disagree with a non numerical goal. How do you hit a target if you have no idea what you are aiming for. 350 is a good number, let's stick with that.	1	
Juliann Rule	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I like the following improvements to the plan: 1. Wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be managed by use of the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. 2. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves 3. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves 4. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations where previously no buffer zones existed	I dislike the following parts of the plan: 1. The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on such as: Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well being Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution 2. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. I can see no reason why someone should be allowed to kill wolves for fun. 3. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. There is a substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidenceof illegal killings. I believe hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and the hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. 4. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Even with Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. 5. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. 6. The plan is contrary to public values towards wolves and omits mention of such majority values from the plan, despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). 7. Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). 8. There is a large lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) 9. There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. 10. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 11. The Wisconsin method of estimating numbers of wolves would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins.		
Jack Johnson	Most of it	Yes	Addressing conflicts of livestock, including depredation of killing and harassment and long term damage.	Not having a numeric goal. Specifically 350 maximum.	3	Delete the buffer area around reservations.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Brett Bockhop	Most of it	Yes	Elimination of a numerical population goal; though it appears a comprehensive population viability analysis hasn't been completed for the state or region, such an analysis would give managers an idea of what the population needs to be for this important keystone species to persist as a contributor to a healthy intact ecosystem. I worked for WDNR when the 350 number was set, and know how it was arbitrarily established as a number "WDNR thought the citizens would accept" when the original number proposed was much higher. We can never again have population numbers be political footballs. We need solid scientifically established goals to maintain a healthy viable population. Better recognition of the importance of the ecological role of the wolf, though much more work needs to be done by WDNR to educate the Wisconsin citizenry on this subject. I also like the social survey which notes the positive view most people have for wolves. The discussion about and some emphasis on nonlethal methods to reduce conflict. Nonlethal interventions can be much more effective than lethal methods and should be emphasized. The importance of having tribal values and goals considered in management decisions.	I do not like that the committee is stacked with hunting groups. These groups represent a minority of Wisconsin citizens but they have a disproportionate say about how our resources are managed. This continues a disturbing trend amplified by Walker and Stepp, making resource management a political game. I don't agree that the objectives listed don't "indicate a level of importance" and that they are all equal priorities. The #1 objective of this plan should be to maintain this keystone species as an important part of repairing and maintaining healthy intact ecosystems, which provide a host of benefits to the state. All other objectives are secondary. Hunting should be nothing more than a management tool to achieve this, but with this plan hunting is a main management strategy. I think the WDNR is underestimating the number wolves illegally killed every year, or don't want to know what that number is. WDNR needs to acknowledge this is happening and to what extent. I have talked to WDNR field biologists who think this number is considerable. When hunting begins again, WDNR needs to take into consideration the illegal kill along with legally killed wolves. Those numbers combined certainly disrupts the wolves social dynamics. I don't agree the plan should be adaptable to "changing public preferences". It should only adapt to ensure the wolves role as a keystone species and part of a healthy sustainable ecosystem.	7	Thanks for your hard work putting the plan together. Not an easy task in this day and age. I appreciate the social survey being included. WDNR needs to fully recognize peoples increasing acceptance of wolves on the landscape and the role they play in nature. While possibly beyond the scope of this plan, but since it is a "hunting" method used as part of wolf management, something needs to be done about hound hunting. This sub group of hunters is aggressive, doesn't respect private property and their threats to people are well documented. I have had my share of run-ins with them here in N. WI. Unfortunately this group has a disproportionately large say in wildlife management matters. Also beyond the scope of this plan and in the hands of corrupt politicians, but I would like to mention it: we need to eliminate payments for depredation. Deer cause exponentially more damage than wolves, but I can't collect for the damage deer cause to my land (or vehicles).
Christine Mechenich	Most of it	Yes	Removing outdated numeric goals; respecting wishes of tribes; using a science-based approach; acknowledging the need for public education; recognizing the ecological value of wolves; some recognition of the intrinsic value of wolves.	Hunting wolves with dogs should be outlawed (which I realize is outside the jurisdiction of the plan), but at a minimum, dog training on wolves should be limited to times when the specific zone is open for wolf hunting.	9	Thank you for this thorough and thoughtful approach and the long-awaited updates. Also, in agreement with a Wisconsin's Green Fire recommendation, the number of licenses should be adequate to meet the harvest goals without a prolonged hunting season that could disrupt normal pack activities.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Carolita	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ●Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public	4	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and

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						peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing	4	

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				that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
bob noffs	Most of it	Yes	not much	quota, allowing tribes an allocation if they are not going to use it. this is about wildlife management, not about exercising your ancestoral beliefs	2	20 yrs ago the wi dnr was a leader in wolf research. herd size for the state was determined to be 350. what happened to that?
Logan Huse	All of it	Yes	The non-numeric population goal.	The plan doesn't outline what the forest health currently is or what the deer carrying capacity is for the northern counties. This information needs to be readily available. The plan also needs to clearly state that if there is a wolf hunt that 50% of the tags go to the tribes.	7	The draft also needs to include the deer vehicle collisions and crop damage within wolf territory. Both prior to recovery and current damage.

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John Ziebell	Most of it	Yes	None, your plans do not take care of now and always kick the can down the road	the whole thing, maybe you should release 40 in Madison for pest control?	0	I have had them in my yard eating my pets! what's next a family member? take them off the list now. I do not believe they are pure wolf and have a lot of dog in them, they are to brave
Byron Froelich	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The portions about the interaction with the elk herds in the state, and the parts on the percentages of their diet that has been determined to be whitetail deer. The numbers showing the loss of livestock. The type of fencing that appears to work best for keeping wolves away from livestock. How the disposal methods of livestock carcasses can determine how likely it is to attract wolf predation.		6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The fact that a plan is finally being updated.	Your plan allows for too many wolves in Wisconsin.	5	Make sure you are counting the wolves in farm country. If a farmer sees a wolf attacking their cattle they should be able to shoot it. With so many effective hunters and trappers willing to take care of issues, the government shouldn't normally have to pay government hunters or trappers to resolve a conflict. Allow larger traps like MB750s to be used prior to 12/1. Allow wolves to be night hunted. Increase the harvest quota in areas where the department is trying to get elk to thrive. Allow stronger breakaway devices to be used for cable restraints by wolf trappers. Do a more accurate count. Currently you have the population underestimated by too much. You should do listening sessions around the area in wolf country. Wolves have decimated the deer population in some areas to the point that it isn't worth buying a deer license for many. Don't allow a group like the Wolf Patrol on your committee. Past harvest quotas by the DNR for wolf seasons have not been high enough. They didn't put enough of a dent in the wolf population. WDNR needs to take a more firm stance against the antis. DNR higher ups should come to the areas where too much wolf depredation is occurring and discuss first hand so they can get a better feel for what is going on. The state should charge more for wolf preference points.
Yvonne Besyk	Most of it	Yes	I most like the creation of low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it - and that they were consulted. These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. This is important to me. Ideally, the plan would expand low quota zones beyond the few that are listed. I appreciate that the plan eliminates a numeric population goal, which was arbitrary. It is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable so they can incorporate best-available science and ecological changes. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan reflects public opinions per the survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”. The iconic film about how wolves in Yellowstone restored balance should be viewed by all.	Would prefer a specific update timeframe.	10	The last wolf hunt was tragic. I pray it never happens again. Such an embarrassing thing in WI's history is extremely unfortunate. I'm encourage, however, by the draft wolf management plan.
Mary Mullen	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like it when wolves are left alone to multiply and live in peace away from human trapping and shooting	I prefer there were no management zones at all. It needs to go back to total natural	1	I really hate when my dogs are trapped in wolf traps. Twice now this has happened.
	Most of it	Yes	the plan seems very comprehensive covering all aspects of wolf management; environmental effects, effects on prey, domestic animal effects, etc as well as implications to the overall health and well being of the wolves themselves.	I am vehemently against trapping. If wolves need to be eliminated, I believe out right shooting them is a much more humane way to eliminate them.	8	please consider doing away with the trapping of wolves altogether. You wouldn't want to subject your dog to a trap. Wolves etc experience the same amount of pain
Sherry weiland	Most of it	No	Proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations, recognition of the wolves ecological roles and no numerical goal of 350 wolves	Plan does not prioritize non-lethal management, does not stop hounding, does not require abatement measures and use of non-lethal conflict mimimization.	2	Please prioritize non-lethal management except in rare cases of self defense

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neil messerschmidt	All of it	Yes	Please see entry in other comments section.	Please see entry in other comments section.	1	To Whom it may concern, I have held a Wisconsin bowhunting license for 57 years and hope that my dedication and years of experience give weight to the opinions I am about to share about Wisconsin's Wolf Management Plan and wolves in general. I spent a great deal of time over several days reading the plan and taking notes in order to make an educated assessment of it. I hope what I am writing is read and not just filed or discarded. In case you don't get past the first page, I am posting my basic message here and will also repeat it at the end. We have too many wolves the State needs to seek to manage their numbers as close to the 350-animal social carrying capacity number which was originally "sold to" sportsmen as the plan! The following are my comments and opinions regarding items as referenced by page number from the plan. Page19, Impacts of Human-mortality Several studies were cited and summarized as follows; "current research suggests as much as 24-29% of a wolf population can be removed via human-sourced mortality before populations begin to decline". By the State's own conservative estimates, we have over 1,100 wolves minimum which means up to 319 could be harvested annually before the overall population would go into decline. Page 20, Impacts of Regulated Harvests on Wolf Dynamics A 26-year study of collared wolves in Alaska (Borg et al. 2015) revealed that "breeder mortality and pack dissolution had no significant effects on either immediate or longer-term population dynamics in their study area, indicating that strong compensatory mechanisms may be able to reduce the negative impacts of breeder loss at the population level scale". This indicates that the argument of loss of the alpha male or female and possible dissolution of packs should not be considered as reason to prohibit hunting and trapping. Page 36, 2022 Wolf Attitudes Study (item5) Wolf hunting has the support of 46% of the public to 29% opposed. Hunting and trapping should be scheduled yearly once the federal protection is removed. Page 38, Wisconsin's Tribal Perspectives and Cultural Significance The State of Wisconsin asked for a written narrative on the cultural significance of wolves from the eleven tribes within the State as well as the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Only the Commission and 3 of the eleven tribes responded. With all due respect to the tribes and their rights under the treaties signed by their ancestors, I don't think that with only 27% of the tribes responding we should be held hostage to not having a wolf season. In addition, since they claim the wolf is their sacred brother who they will not kill, when a season is again instituted and a quota set there should not be 50% allocated to the tribes unless the desired harvest number is automatically doubled to compensate for that. Otherwise, the wolf population will continue to explode until it reaches the biological carrying capacity which will be a continuing source of ire to deer hunters. We don't allow deer to reach the habitat's carrying capacity nor should we let the wolves. Page 46, Gray Wolves in Wisconsin The State has maintained that the re-introduction of wolves happened naturally. The last paragraph on page 46, however, reveals that the State did in fact assist in their expansion by relocating problem wolves to other counties within the State. Pages 47 & 48, Wolf Population Depictions by the Decades The depictions show that Wisconsin's wolf population grew from an estimate of 25 in 1980 to 1034 in 2020. Of particular note is the fact that in the span from 2010 to 2015 the population increased 6% while sustaining hunting losses during three consecutive years. By DNR accounting it went from 704 to 746. Interestingly that 746 is the same number of animals harvested by hunters during those three seasons (from page 52 of the report). This should give rise to a conclusion that either wolves are reproducing at an amazing rate, or the population estimate is far below reality. Page 50, Wisconsin Grey Wolf Population from 2000-2021 For the year 2020 the chart lists two sets of numbers for both pack numbers and total population. The population change went from 1,034 to 1195, an increase of 161 animals while the pack count went from 256 to 316, an increase of 60. It has been the DNR's claim that packs average 4 in number. With the new estimate of 60 additional packs at 4 per pack the increase in overall population should have been plus 240 animals not the 161 listed which would push the population total to 1,274 not 1,195. For those of us who pay attention to detail this only adds to the suspicion we are being deceived by the department. Page 52, Mortality of Wolves in Wisconsin Studies referenced on this page mention that mortality caused by hunting is partially offset by a reduction in natural mortality, in other words compensatory. The DNR justifies higher antlerless deer quotas to offset what would otherwise be compensatory losses. This adds support to having a sustained harvest of wolves in the State. Page 54, Biological Carrying Capacity The 2015 IBSE model referenced on this page (Stenglein et al.2015) predicted the "Wisconsin wolf population, without harvest, stabilize around 1,242 wolves (SD) after 50 years". From page 50 of this report there were estimated to be 746 wolves in 2015 and as I mentioned 2 paragraphs back was already probably 1,274 by 2020.

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						So according to the study the wolves have reached their biological carrying capacity in only 5 years, 1/10th of the time it was estimated to take. Once again it shows the need to hold regular hunting and trapping seasons to control the population. Pages 62 & 63, Wisconsin Gray Wolf Expenditures Wisconsin reached the original goal of 350 wolves by 2004 when the Stated estimate was 373. In that year the State's wolf program costs were $195,646 of which $76,867 was depredation compensation payments. By 2020 the estimated population has risen to 1,242 with yearly costs to the State reaching $315,266 and depredation compensation $242,528. That means that we spent $522 per wolf in 2004 compared to $253 per wolf today. That is an improvement, but I can't help but think of the uproar if the State had to spend an equivalent amount of money to maintain the deer herd. If the herd is 1.5 million, that cost would be $380,000,000. In 2020 the State paid out $760,000 for deer damage. That is $2 per deer, which is .8% of what costs were per wolf. The short of it is the State is spending too much money for merely the frivolity of having wolves on the landscape and not incorporating a hunting season with it. I say this while pointing out the hypocrisy of promoting the presence of wolves on the landscape of the north to try and appease the wolf-favoring population in the south who would not tolerate them in their urban setting. Page 125, Product C2c Zone Specific Harvest Tags The proposal to go to zone specific harvest tags to reduce the possibility of overharvest in an individual zone is an unnecessary step which will exacerbate an already unfair system which gives the advantage to trappers and hound hunters over those using predator calls. I speak from experience having drawn a harvest tag in 2013 intending to hunt zone 1 only to have it close in three days leaving me no alternative but to go to another zone to even have a chance. A better change would be to allocate method specific tags. We are never going to know what the sustainable wolf harvest is until we have regular seasons which are based on the rise or fall of animals taken from year to year. That system has worked for deer management. With that said, if over 600,000 deer hunters across all the seasons spanning 4 months, only harvest approximately 25% of the 1.5 million deer in the State, how can anyone realistically think hunters took out 25% of the wolf population in 2 days during the 2022 hunt? Either wolves are the dumbest animal on four legs or there are far more wolves than we are led to believe. CLOSING STATEMENT It would seem that money is no object with the DNR when it comes to wolf management so as an avid hunter I would like to see the State actively pursuing the de-listing of wolves in the courts as opposed to waiting for the federal government to move on it. Once de-listing happens, schedule hunting and trapping seasons with a balanced allocation of harvest tags made available to accommodate callers, trappers and hound hunters. Set the harvest goal at 29% of the estimated fall population yearly until the over-winter population estimate nears 350 animals which was the social carrying capacity number sold to the public when the wolf re-introduction got started.
Sue	All of it	Yes	I love the holistic and science based approach!! I love that our tribes along with other interests groups will have their say in this decision making process!!	I do not like anything to do with hounds hunting wolves or any other animal for that matter. What happened in the last wolf hunt was not ethical at all! Hounds should not be allowed to harass our wildlife.	7	I can't agree with hounds hunting wolves.
Catherine G. LeMay-Brown	All of it	Yes	1. The gray wolf has federally protected status, and thus, it deserves to have that protection in Wisconsin. 2. "keystone species, such as wolves, are an important component of a healthy eco-system." (pg. 13) 3. "They are highly effective at identifying weaknesses in their prey." (pg. 6) and thus, they could suppress or even eliminate CWD. They target sick individuals. (pg. 15-16.) 4. I appreciate the inclusion of our Native, First Nation people, and the fact, that for them, the wolf is sacred, it has cultural significance, and is part of their creation story. 5. we must continue to promote co-existence. (The wolf was here before humans.) 6. With the exception of the Gray Wolf population in the NW states, the Gray Wolf survives only in NE MN, N. WI and the UP. We must protect the Gray Wolf, for now, for the future. 7. The maintenance of The Pack, is essential for acquisition of food and survival of the pups. (pg. 20)	I do not DISLIKE any aspect of the 139 page long draft. This is an excellent document, for which I thank the DNR. However, I will maintain my firm stance, that the Gray Wolf must be protected, and not again become a game species.	9	I would like to see a strong and healthy wolf presence in Wisconsin, for now, and for the future, and for all days to come. Please continue the often difficult and frustration task of educating the public, as we must move away from the "Little Red Riding Hood" story, where the wolf is a rapacious beast. The story is an allegory, wherein little girls are warned of rapacious men. It is not the wolf who is rapacious. It is we humans, who are the rapacious beasts. Please continue to keep the Gray Wolf under protected status. It is the right thing to do. Thank you.
Thomas Klopf	Most of it	Yes	Plan considers the ecological value of wolves in controlling deer overpopulation. It also prevents the decimation of wolf pack numbers so that individual surviving wolves are not left to starve.	Killing of wolves by sportsmen has no value for meat.	10	It would be a tragedy to allow another slaughter of wolves to pacify a small number of sportsmen to the detriment of the ecological value of controlling deer numbers.

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	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
Ron Weber	Most of it	Yes	No numeric goal as is used with most other big game species. Absolutely no scientific reason to manage to 350, 600, 1,000, whatever. Liked the framework for zones for future harvest seasons which hopefully are coming soon so wolves can finally be managed like all other big game animals and stop being a pawn in a political game.	Liked most of what I read, other than reimbursement for depredation to hunting dogs but the legislature has caudified that.	9	
maurice	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	the effort that was put in to making this document deserves much credit, just does nothing in getting the wolf population under control.	most of those in memo's from Conservation Congress and the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, CDAC 's in northern Wisconsin	1	I've known Dick (Scatman) Theil for 45 years and appreciate all the early work that he did for the DNR in the early years of wolf study. We have to many wolves now and need to control their population through hunting and trapping. We also need to take into account that the First Nation tribes will not participate in regulating wolf numbers.
A. Bassett	Most of it	No	There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations, where there were no buffer zones before. Wolves in WI will no longer be managed to reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves.	The current draft does not reflect the available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing - effectiveness of Non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones - the impact of widespread killing of wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of Sustainable Recreational Killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger interference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing of legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on Non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a pro-active Non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to Non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functional effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than Non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of Non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to Public Values towards Wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreements with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killings, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That	2	None.

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				culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their Non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider Each Individual Wolf as a Person and Relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns For Wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology - From a recent critique: The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Avila, 2023).		
	All of it	Yes	The three goals of the plan, the zones, the idea of managing for objectives rather than for a number of animals	Must stop compensation for hunting dogs	10	
Golec	Most of it	Yes	All that PROTECT wolves. Public education is a plus since most wolf haters are "bar stool educated" about them.	I oppose any "harvesting" or hunting/trapping of wolves. I oppose reimbursing for killed or injured hunting dogs. A responsible pet owner wouldn't allow their precious pets to be put in a situation where injury is possible. Hunting with dogs is barbaric.	3	1.Possession of a wolf or wolf hybrid should be 100 percent illegal- no exceptions. 2. Hunting/trapping of wolves should NOT be allowed. The only exception should be IF a wolf attacks livestock within fenced property , or a pet/person in the immediate area of a home. In either case , the owner should immediately contact the DNR and leave the animals right where they were killed until a warden arrives to investigate. If the state is responsible for reimbursing hunters for the death or injury of their dogs in wolf territories, then it would make sense to reimburse car owners for wild animals that run out in front of them and cause damage to their vehicles. Why does mankind feel they have to interfere with nature? Nature takes care of itself. Finally - PLEASE stop referring to hunting animals as "harvesting". We don't farm/grow them like plants.
John Mundahl	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The goals are reasonable and science based.	Don't understand how wolves know the difference or boundaries between protected areas on reservations and other areas where they could be hunted.	7	I did not see restrictions for hunting during the winter when wolves are giving birth and raising pups. I did not see penalties for poisons being used and collateral damage to non targeted species. I would like to mention that I would appreciate these issues being mentioned. I would agree that a goal should be education to improve awareness of the role that wolves play in maintaining a healthy ecosystem and deer herd and that there should be a sustainable wolf population in this state. The hunting by dogs during the breeding season and poisoning of wolves is antithetical to both of those objectives and to the objectives mentioned about the humane treatment of wildlife. Speaking as a veterinarian I beleive that using dog hunting on any species is antithetical to both the humane treatment of the wildlife species and the humane treatment of the dogs.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Chris Albert	All of it	No	NOT having an population cap Emphasis on intrinsic value of wolves Inclusion of tribal viewpoints Suggestion of buffer zones around tribal lands Emphasis on non-lethal deterrents	There should be some areas with 0 hunting quota Hound training should be stopped The absolute ban on rehabbing wolves - some instances would prove possible. Recreational hunting and trapping to stop conflicts has no scientific basis- call it what it is - simply recreational An oversight committee consisting of biologists and professionals would be a good addition.	7	Although they in the minority, hunting and trapping interests are still overrepresented. I would like to see the plan called a coexistence plan, not a management plan.
Jim Servi	All of it	Yes	The biggest thing I appreciate is there appears to be a commitment to keeping wolves off the ESL and under state management with a regular plan wolf harvest season.	With a species as iconic and sensitive as wolves, I feel it's important to have a population goal. While I understand this will likely make no one happy, no matter what the number, I think it's important for effective management and to ensure that the great wolves do not go back on the ESL and avoid future lawsuits (I personally think these have been a waste of money that could have gone to other species that are actually endangered). That could even be a range and I would recommend 350-500. Another concern is that it seems this plan leans towards those that are more concerned about protecting all wolves than creating a balance, especially with those that live in wolf country. I live in wolf country that previously would not have been considered suitable habitat yet we have wolves on our farm on a regular basis. So frequently in fact, that our 12 year old chocolate lab, Maple, was killed in our front yard by a wolf. It was a horrible day. I think more consideration needs to be given to those that live and interact with wolves.	3	There will likely be a outcry of public opinion during this feedback window and I hope you show the flexibility to adjust the plan based on that feedback. Please don't stay rigid with a plan that does not have the support of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (which I am a representative), the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation (which I am a member), and most other outdoor organizations. They are the ones most vested in conserving and balancing our natural resources because they utilize them often as part of their way of life.
Nina Perino	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	5	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. I am in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.
	All of it	No	My understanding is that with the elimination of a statewide population goal, the DNR will be in charge of determining whether the wolf populations should be increased, decreased or remain the same, which seems like a move in the right direction but without evidence to back up that these populations will not continue to be slaughtered even under a new plan, it is fair to say that I'm skeptical.	I read that the new plan will work towards producing a wolf population that is sustainable to meeting harvest quotas. After hearing of the immense over slaughter of wolves in Wisconsin last year, my native state, I was disappointed to hear something along those lines. 218 wolves were killed over the span of four days, a number that is both unfathomable and a true atrocity. Stricter enforcement of poaching laws and lower quotas should both a consequence of prior behavior and a must to make it clear that this behavior is unacceptable.	5	I am a Wisconsin native with a masters in conservation biology and an avid conservationist. What happened last year in Wisconsin was heartbreaking and I found myself no longer desiring to be associated with such inhumane cruelty. Wolves are a keystone species and we have them to thank for the healthy ecosystem and animal populations that Wisconsiners enjoy so much. Their contribution to our planet and our surroundings is unparalleled and my hope with this long overdue revision, though far from perfect, is that we move in the right direction to protect them. I hope that this plan is a stepping stone to further improvement backed by science and research and fact.
Patrick Pergolsi	Most of it	Yes	Do whatever you can to save the wolves	Nothing	10	Whatever you can do to save the wolves as a plus for the state of Wisconsin

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jensen Fiskin	Most of it	No	I'd like to start by acknowledging all the hard work of all WDNR personnel who have been instrumental in revising the wolf management plan for the state. As a college student looking to go into conservation, the work put into this plan is inspiring. Although I think updates to the plan are needed (as discussed in the following section), I can not turn a blind eye to the progress made in this plan. Specifically, advancements include: The previous target of 350 wolves as the desired population is no longer the guiding principle for managing wolves in Wisconsin. A heightened understanding of the crucial role wolves play in the ecosystem has been established. A social survey has been incorporated, which highlights the growing positive attitudes towards wolves, the greater awareness of their ecological significance, and a decrease in support for the reasons and methods used to kill them. Protective buffer zones around tribal reservations have been established for the first time, where none existed previously. It's crucial that the WDNR build off of progress like this to protect biodiversity and enable safe human-wildlife coexistence.	In general, the plan doesn't reflect the best available science. It is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf population abundance, ethology, and wellbeing; effectiveness of non-lethal interventions; and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' ecological relationships and well-being. This scientific omission leads to a biased plan in favor of lethal, recreational management. More specifically, the plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances. The department can legally do this by by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods, which still complies with Act 169. This is necessary due to a growing body of research, such as the work done by Francisco J. Santiago-Ávila, Richard J. Chappell & Adrian Treves that has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding is one example, which is especially cruel and has fallen out of public favor. Lastly, and most importantly, a growing body of research shows that lethal wolf management may be less effective at mitigating livestock loss than non-lethal options. Lethal management has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. So, the plan should require the implementation of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for them to receive compensation, as well as abatement measures. As I mentioned before, the department surveys were helpful, indicating that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of hunting, the department must note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). This data shows the public is at odds with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR. Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence are contrary to principles of scientific integrity as well as ethics. This is a major fault of the plan. Lastly, there is a clear lack of proper consideration for individual wolf well-being, as well as indigenous connections to wolves. Tribal worldviews predominantly consider each individual wolf as a valuable relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, are at odds with lethal measures (especially the pathetic recreational killing) promoted in the plan. This plan is biased and misconstrued due to the omission of current scientific literature, the omission of survey data done by the department, and the general disregard for wolf well-being. It bows at the foot of old policy that is out of touch with public opinion and best practices. Again, the effort put into this plan was inspiring. However, it can be improved greatly by considering the most recent, and numerous scientific studies. Once that is done, I think it will be found that non-lethal management must take precedence. The wolves, greater biodiversity, and people of Wisconsin are counting on you to make this plan as scientifically rigorous as possible. Please do so.	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Ana-Paula Martins-Fernandes	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	4	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Linda Serfass	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy. Wolves should not be viewed as a recreational opportunity for the minority who like to kill them. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment. There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence. Wolves deserve consideration of their individual right to live and should not be viewed as a collective mass, just as we (hopefully) view people. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	1	
	All of it	Yes	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. Greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. Inclusion of a social survey, which notes positive views of wolves and increased opposition to the motives & methods for killing wolves. Adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Current draft doesn't reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ecology, sentience, sapience, sociability. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions. The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, & social dynamics. These science omissions combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy results in a biased plan running contrary to scientific evidence. The plan should curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances.	2	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, prioritization of policy objectives, rhetoric of the plan and dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves.
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	Lack of scientific data, recreational killing. Lack of considering individual wolves.	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	It is a shame there wasn't a plan done before the reintroduction of the wolf but that would have been managing verses reacting to the human perspective.	The zones 1b are insane. So if I live next to a reservation boundary I have different rules. The zoning portion of your plan should be in the section 2 not section 4. You apparently have not listen to anyone one that helps pay your salaries. To limit a tax paying person the right to regulate them on their own lands is just insane. Either it is state regulated lands or tribal regulated lands. Anyone in those zones should pay the tribe the taxes if they have all the power on private lands it is apparent the DNR doesn't. Such a shame you at one time cared about the wildlife not the politics.	0	Maybe look at another close states wolf plan, maybe they could help you on the right path. Or at least much closer than this.
Melissa	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolf research and that residents are mostly favorable toward protecting a very healthy wolf population there.		5	Definitely I'd recommend lots of public education about the value of wolves, both on their own and in relationships with the environment and people. Please ensure wolves can be safe and plentiful. Thank you.
	All of it	Yes	A simple "goal number" doesn't work well and more location-specific measures, often on private land, may be necessary to deal with issues, while leaving the population in public areas largely untouched. Sport hunting should not be a control element. Use DNR hunters and trappers instead. The plan doesn't demand a kill to destroy the wolves to a certain cap level.	I live in the far north, and there really aren't many wolves creating problems and few to be seen with any regularity. The plan doesn't limit control measures to hotspots with problems. Wildlife control personnel should be in charge of regulating numbers, rather than sport hunters. Acts of the legislature can also distort any plan, which is and has been a problem. Keep the legislature out of the implementation, though I don't know how that could be accomplished.	6	Though I live in the north (Price County), I've sighted as many moose over the years as I have wolves.Never forget that they are partners in our environment and belong here. They are not numerous and serve to eliminate rodents and may be one reason we haven't had CWD reported here. The limits of the plan to not force anyone or anything to not distort or violate principles and goals.
P.Y	All of it	No	That you for conducting the updated public survey of 2022. Thank you for attempting to give voice to the indigenous nations within the state and their imperative relationship with the wolf species. This demonstrated the vast importance of opening our limited historical perception of this species to collaborate with nations that have the technological knowledge of thousands of years living peacefully among each other to teach and share.	Please see comments below	3	Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback via testimony on your draft edition of The Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan of 2022. From 2003-2021 the USFWS has attempted to downlist grey wolves in the DPS. At each turn, other than from 2012-2014, judges throughout US courts have ruled in favor of keeping wolves under the ESA. Throughout this time the USFWS has continued development of a new delisting rule to designate and delist the Western Great Lakes DPS. Why does the USFWS continue to attempt to wrest grey wolves from the ESA protection when statistics/surveys have shown that from 2014-2020/21 the risk of human-wolf conflict and livestock depredation have decreased and the public's opinion, in wolf range, has increased sentiment for keeping wolf populations the same? Clearly the trend in wolf recovery, and assurance of their ongoing robust population, is not in favor of delisting and open hunts by the public, in the US or in WI specifically. Why is the USFWS hell bent on delisting? Statistically this claim from the draft report does not seem possible: "The number of farms with verified wolf depredations has averaged about 30 farms from 2011-2021. The highest number of individual farms with verified wolf depredations to date occurred in 2021 with 48 farms." The one year in which open hunting was allowed for the first time since 2014, and indeed was extremely controversial, you have more farm depredation issues by wolves than in all of recorded history? Were each of these 48 depredation claims absolutely verified to be wolf related? Did that include simple sighting of wolf presence in livestock areas or were they all absolutely verified injury to actual livestock? How can it be that the first year of open hunting, in 7 years, that killed 218 wolves also coincided with the greatest number of livestock depredations? That is something that needs USFWS immediate attention and research before any plan such as is being proposed in the draft for open hunting, in lieu of ESA protection, occurs. If your theory that culling the wolf population by yearly open hunting seasons will lessen wolf conflict, your own factual statistic shows you right there that indeed would not be the case. Or perhaps under the high tensions of conflict regarding that 2021 open hunt more farmers felt inclined to demonstrate how vicious wolves are and in need of culling by increasing their reports of depredation? Why has USFWS and the DPS not allocated any funds to non-lethal methods of wolf management? Your report signifies the success of non-lethal management methods in the livestock range lands of Idaho and illustrates the types of resources used in non-lethal abatement methods available. Why have compensation moneys not been earmarked in the state wolf depredation program (s. 29.888, Wis. Stats) for hands-on education and provision of non-lethal resources for land owners in fear of livestock depredation to begin training in use, and longitudinal study of application, of these humane methods? Many of your private funders of the depredation program would be delighted to contribute to just such a fund. Why is the USFWS not pursuing such alternative possibilities in the DPS? The plan should require the implementation of abatement methods such as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners in order for the animal owners to receive compensation for confirmed predation. Under the "Wolf Related Conflicts" section how can you consider dog deaths as a reason for lethal hunting of wolves when you state clearly 85% of dogs killed are those used in hunting near wolf rendezvous sites and the majority are

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
						killed around bear baiting locations? Like the improper attendance to cattle carcasses you mention this will of course attract any predator to feed from at no fault of their own. These deaths are hugely irresponsible and inhumane human error issues, not a wolf predation issue. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings - see study https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-70837-x . Hounding or hound training should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. Lastly, why has the 2008 PDM not been updated in the last 14 years? The 2008 PDM requires relevant data to be collected by state Department of Natural Resources, tribes, and federal land management agencies in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan and provided annually to the USFWS. Since the USFWS then conducts annual reviews based upon this information to evaluate potential threats to the species, specifically wolves, then surely more current understanding of wolf dispersal and affects to pack ecology needs to be included in any monitoring program. Wolf physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution are all changing factors as more science is gathered on their species - see research https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320713003418?via%3Dihub. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on this vitally important issue of your current draft management plan. It is vital to truly address wolf recovery with the most current science not just for Wisconsin, but for the nation and wolves the world over.
Kevyn Quamme	All of it	Yes	That a plan is being developed	The lack of a measurable population goal and the inability to set and reach the science based quota. Knowing that that number that should be harvested can not be realized, mostly due to tribal policy to not participate.	1	Refer to WCC comments and WiWF comments along with actions by agencies and individuals that have to encounter the wolves daily.
Ra Szumal	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	Too many to list	4	Please revise this plan to further protect wolfs and limit the hunting and murdering of these wild animals. Please move humans away from their habitats
	Most of it	Yes	that damage payouts will continue	need a numerical population goal (350-400) surveys that are from people most affected by wolves	2	couls Wisconsin get involved in the delisting of the wolf?
	All of it	No	You dropped the goal of allowing just 350 wolves. You recognize (to a greater extent) that wolves play an crucial ecological role. You included a social survey that shows the public supports wolves and doesn't want them killed for fun or using heinous methods like hounds or traps. The inclusion of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The emphasis is still on promoting recreational killing as the main management strategy. It doesn't incorporate the best available science on wolf sentience, the importance of families, the impact of widespread killing on their social dynamics and physiology. It doesn't address the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions relative to lethal ones. Non-lethal practices work much better than lethal management, but your plan fails to address this. Lethal management should rarely be used and only for immediate defense of life. The public does NOT support the use of hounds, traps or other heinous methods.	3	The plan should prioritize wolf protection, not killing!! We want Wolves. They are important to our ecosystems. We want them to live in peace, free from the specter of constantly being hunted down. When there are conflicts with livestock, we want ranchers to use non-lethal methods. All recreational killing should be banned. The public doesn't support your plan as evidenced in your survey. The broad public actually CARES about wolves as individuals in addition to the viability of their population. They oppose a regulated hunting/trapping season, the use of hounds (64%) or traps (70%). They believe wolf hunting is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). This should obviously be seriously considered in your strategy instead of being dismissed. Tribes view individual wolves as family relatives! Act 169 mandates a wolf hunting season, but that doesn't stop you from restricting timing and lethal methods and setting a Zero Quota.
Mary Jo Harings	Most of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best available science is centered on wolf management. 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.		9	Thank you for writing a wolf management plan that centers science, public input and tribal engagement-the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve and sustain natural resources, especially gray wolves in Wisconsin.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I dont like it , I want to protect the wolves and all wildlife.in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.	they need to be protected not killed		in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.
Chuck Jesse	Just the parts I am interested in	No	1. Wolves will no longer be managed by the old goal of 350 wolves. 2. Recognition of the ecological importance of wolves. 3. Proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	1. The current proposal doesn't reflect the best science regarding wolves. 2.The use of recreational killing as a management plan. 3. The plan doesn't stop lethal management. Again, for;low the science. 4.The plan should concentrate on non-lethal management. 5. The plan doesn't consider the public concerns over the protection of wolves.	2	The WDNR should protect the state's natural resources which include wolf protection.
G. Paxton	Just the parts I am interested in	No	In favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.	Harming wolves.	5	In favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.
John Masbaum	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Taking a look at the need to reduce the wolf population--reasons for	Useing past (ancient data) to support the growth of the wolf population--as there are many more people now and domestic animals which could be harmed by wolves	3	I wonder if the board really goes out and talks to local citizens where wolves have killed their dogs, where people have concern for their own and childrens safethy
Jamie dos santoa	All of it	No	The executive summary has a tone of what's in the best interest of the animal and balance with science and humans. Unfortunately the plan does not cooperate with that tone.	Page 67, wolf harvesting… you are using graft and laws that are old. 2012, plots from 2008.the term "game" is used from an older law- why are you trying to fit in to old language and law and not trying to change the law? The gray wolf is endangered, yet you're hunting it.	5	There is an ecological balance to strive for, you say it in the executive summary but you are using old data and thinking to work towards the right protections.
carol broll	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and	4	

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				endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
	All of it	Yes			10	If a wolf trapping season takes place in the future, please schedule it for winter months, not prime grouse hunting months of October and November. My bird dog's leg was caught in a wolf trap during the first wolf trapping season a number of years ago in October. It was not a pleasant experience.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Legal hunting	Move to allow population increase	1	At the time of reintroduction you said 350 wolves. I think the people that live in high populations of wolves should have the have the final say.

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Ines Nedelcovic	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	5	Studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444
Frances Recca	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	n/a	n/a	0	
Stephanie Honore		No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public)	1	

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				as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.		
Heather Vasquez	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating. Below are elements of what I like about the plan: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing	1	Thanks in advance for your time.

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				that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. I review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. I conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. I have discussed findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
kym	Most of it	No	It's good to include tribal partners and scientific research to implement better protection for wolves.	Recreational killing needs to stop and a better solution is needed. The war on wolves must end and humans must stop pretending to be God killing at whatever is deemed inconvenient when there is a natural order in the wild that needs to be respected.	5	
David Witzlib	Most of it	Yes	None	This was all taken care of years ago and now you want to throw away everything that was agreed to	1	I know many retired people who worked for the DNR who totally disagree with the new plan

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	No			1	
lisa	Most of it	No	That wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. And the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf	2	thank you

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				as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Jon Way	Most of it	No	Not having a population cap like previously and recognizing the importance of wolves on the landscape.	Continued reliance on human hunting of an ecologically important carnivore. State wildlife agencies need to broaden their horizon to constantly catering to consumptive uses. Hunting with dogs is sickening.	6	State wildlife agencies need to broaden their horizon to constantly catering to consumptive uses. Wildlife watching users and ensuring ecologically important populations of wolves are being maintained is important and should be key tenets of the plan.
Gerald Bowman	Most of it	No	I am not in favor of any laws that harm wolves.	Trapping should be banned as well as killing wolves. They should be humanely trapped and transported to another site if that is really necessary.	1	
Kathy Marie Behl-Whiting	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				To the Editor: We can all expect to see wild animals, including coyotes, in our open spaces, parks and cities. It is now common and normal to see them during either the day or night. Coyotes are vocal when greeting family members and when reinforcing territory. Like most other wildlife, they don't vocalize when hunting so as not to attract competition. Coyotes are omnivorous, eating mostly rodents and rabbits, but also fruit, insects, vegetation, and carrion. Urban studies in both Chicago and Los Angeles show that less than 1% of a coyotes' diet is domestic cat. However, a coyote doesn't know the difference between a cat and a rabbit, so it's best to supervise pets at all times. To be 100% sure that no harm comes to our small domestic animals—from all manner of dangers, including cars, poisons, entrapment and coyotes/dogs/bobcats/owls—we need to supervise them carefully. That said, coyotes near human development are most likely encountered between dusk and early morning. Juvenile coyotes disperse in the fall (seeking mates and territory), so spotting them at any time of the day is not unusual. However, just because we don't see them often doesn't mean that they aren't around. What a coyote does best is stay out of our way. Here is the bad news: One coyote is killed every minute of every day in the U.S. What's their crime? Being seen. I think that most of us in any nature-appreciating part of the country would agree that to kill a beautiful animal because they dare to be seen is the real crime. Check out why relocating coyotes is not a viable solution (and, in fact, is illegal in many states): http://www.discoverwildcare.org/wildlife-resources/trapping-and-relocating-wildlife/). The reality is that we have wild neighbors and we need to learn how to coexist and reduce negative encounters. And there is good news: You can inform yourself about coyote biology and behavior, seasonal expectations, coyote hazing and deterrents, from Project Coyote. Find the information online at www.projectcoyote.org, and check out the Resources page: http://www.projectcoyote.org/resources/. There are numerous fact sheets and brochures that you can download and share/post in your neighborhood—including the free BE COYOTE AWARE sign (http://www.projectcoyote.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Be_Coyote_Aware_Flyer_NPS_PC.pdf)—to help raise awareness about how to reduce negative encounters with coyotes. Additional helpful information: San Francisco Animal Care and Control's Living with Coyotes PSA (http://www.sfanimalcare.org/living-with-urban-wildlife/coyote-sightings/) How to Haze a Coyote - (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0CS4_-sQDE).

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	All of it	No	I appreciate the fact that the archaic numerically based management plan is under consideration for update in the first place. It is about time. I also appreciate the fact that the draft acknowledges most people indeed understand wolves as integral to a working and healthy ecosystem. Additionally it is brought to fore that most people find the also archaic wolf trapping and killing tactics used to be repugnant, dangerous, cruel, inefficient, and untenable, regardless of how people feel about wolves in the wild. The plan also acknowledges that the public understands that wolves are a keystone large carnivore that are necessary for robust healthy ungulate populations, and are part of our rapidly declining true wildlife. Thank you for considering buffer zones, and please also consider wildlife crossings that go under or over busy roadways as necessary.	The current draft is just ok. It does not address the most recent scientific findings that clearly demonstrate non-lethal population control strategies are far more effective in the long run, require less manpower, and non-injurious to the public, or other non-target animals. Killing wolves has deleterious effects on the health and numbers of other mammal populations and even negatively effects native vegetation. Indiscriminate killing also causes negative changes in behavior as seen in coyotes and other smaller canid species. Reformulating the same old story without modernizing technique and perspective based on current high quality science is shameful, and irresponsible. be leader and not a follower, and find the better way that ultimately supports recreational hunting of healthy ungulate populations, and also acknowledges that the majority of citizens want wild wolves to remain a part of our regional wildlife. STOP KILLING WOLVES! IT DOES NOT WORK. Providing compensation, education, and opportunity for alternative anti-predatory strategies to ranchers has proven successful and reduces conflict. Normalizing lethal means of control promotes poaching, illegal killing, and accidental killing of other animals including domestic pets. Tribes do not support killing wolves. The public does not support killing wolves. It is a small, loud, brazen minority that wish to increase and participate in recreational killing of these predators. Get it together. Stop doing the wrong thing for the wrong reasons.	3	
	All of it	No	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.	0	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.
Shelley Ottenbrite	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I was pleased for the most part about the human cultural aspects of the plan. The research around deer hunter pressures as opposed to all other human beings was clear -- and it warrants targeted programing to address their perceived loss of deer harvest.	See, e.g., https://theintercept.com/2023/01/29/grizzly-bear-endangered-montana/. I believe Chris Servheen's observations about Republican lawmakers in Montana -- and how quickly extinction threats follow cannot be ignored. Ignoring such mega-threats, based on pandering rather than science, is equal to ignoring climate change -- which certainly deserved a subheading in the plan. Please create research investigations specifically for climate change, for deer hunter education/compensatory programming, and for the dangers of Republican lawmakers based on the current Montana experience.	7	The wolf's role in protecting carbon storing lands must be evaluated. Climate change is only fought by nature storing carbon. A healthy ecosystem must have predators to be its most functional. Climate change is an essential topic when considering endangered species, threats to existence and the species role in combatting carbon pollution.
Colleen Young	Most of it	No	There's not much to like. I don't see anything pro wolf. We need wolves in our eco system. We don't need cattle ranches and other giant meat producers. If you voted Dem then you voted to scale down and someday remove meat from your diet. I'm a Republican yet I am a Vegan for my health and for the animals.	It's basically biased. As usual hunters and farmers are pro killing wolves as they see them as competition plus they just enjoy killing animals.	1	People don't know enough about wildlife and wolves. People think they are coldblooded killers which they are not. Most people don't care because they believe it doesn't affect them. All nature and wildlife affects humans. The wolf management plan is just another plan to kill/cull wolves and to help cattle/meat producers which we don't need and which the Dems are planning to rid us of. People need to open their eyes and actually become aware of what's happening. We need wolves, not another cattle ranch.
	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation	2	We must increase protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.		
	All of it	No	None	All	0	You need to save wolves, not slaughter them.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Michael McFadzen	Most of it	Yes	Wolf Management Zones, Redrawing wolf zones across Wisconsin and creation of buffer zones around tribal reservations, continued use of a science-based management, and continued education and outreach efforts. Also Support rules to protect wolf den sites, Mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification requirements that should include requirements to provide biological samples as needed for monitoring and research. We also strongly support harvest registration within 8 hours.	The plan should include specific descriptions of how wolf populations in each zone will be managed to achieve goals outlined in the plan, including specific metrics to determine the health and sustainability of the population. • The plan should include a process to ensure enough licenses are issued for any legal hunt to assure quotas can be met in a reasonable time period in order to avoid overly long hunting and trapping seasons that carry into the breeding season. • The plan should limit training of dogs to only the periods when wolf hunting or trapping season is open in the zone. • The plan should include a specific timeline for implementation. • The plan should specifically identify funding allocation and funding sources. I recommend outlining how wolf populations in each zone will be managed to achieve goals outlined in the plan including defining "sustainable population," maximizing the potential for ecological benefits, and controlling the spread of diseases like Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). • We recommend identifying specific metrics that will define successful wolf management in Wisconsin. support zone specific permits, we also support adequate issuing of licenses to avoid long extended hunting and trapping seasons. Do not support using dogs to hunt wolves. it is inhumane and dangerous to dogs and wolves. Do not support using traps for wolves, it is also inhumane and dangerous to other animals	5	I urge the Department to carefully consider the composition of the Wolf Advisory Committee to ensure it is representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state, particularly tribal concerns, and adequately represent the science needed to properly manage wolves in Wisconsin. Along with listed stakeholder groups on page 137, we recommend also including a new group for Wildlife/Conservation Science organizations. Documentation of the role that wolves play in regulating the spread of CWD within Wisconsin. Establishment of a wolf science advisory committee to ensure that the best available science is being integrated into operational actions. I recommend that WDNR periodically (possibly every 5 years), convene a scientific panel of experts in the biological and social science disciplines. I recommend that educational efforts include working with science teachers to effectively convey information on Wisconsin wolves. I strongly recommend the WDNR and NRB request statutory changes in the Wisconsin wolf hunting regulations under 2011 ACT 169. These regulations limit the Department's ability to fully use an adaptive management approach to managing the state wolf population
Wisconsin Sportsman	All of it	Yes	Unfortunately none of your plan solves the average number of conflicts with wolves each year particularly with livestock.	It's not a plan it's a wish list that will never materialize the killing of livestock and pets and hunting hounds is unacceptable the lose will never be made up with your depredation payments	1	Thinking that Wisconsin has enough room for wolves is just fantasy thinking by a bunch of people who want to feel good about a cause they think there right about
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to	1	

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				principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
JOSEPHINE	Most of it	No	SAVE ALL WILDLIFES WOLVES INCLUDING THE YELLOWSTONE BORDERS	RESCUED RESULT IS QUITE SLOW	6	HOPE ALL THE TRAPS AND SNARES AND EVEN KILLINGS COMPLETELY STOP FOR LIFE
Nancy Kocbeker	Most of it	Yes	the various aspects and stakeholders included in the management plan coming together to represent all interested elements. Particularly the science and tribal consulting.	There can be no regulated hunting and trapping because the last wolf hunt showed that people will not regulate themselves and killed twice as many as allowed in an unprecedented time allotment.	10	A hunt will not be necessary since illegal killing seems to be the major control of the wolves and the kill numbers are very high.
priscilla martinez	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				Animals are God's creations, and we need to take better care of them.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Theresa Bucher	Most of it	No	Too much to list but basically it ignores current, best science.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	3	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Not setting a max number of wolves.	1	There are a overpopulation of wolves. The people counting dint do a accurate job of counting and want more wolves around. Drive any forest road in northern wi and you will see there are more then the population estimates tell uou
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The fact that you actually and finally submitted a plan	1. A complete lack of a specific target number goal of total wolves in the state. 2. Extending the "no kill" zone around the Indian Reservations which removes the ability of landowners outside of the reservations to take wolves.	1	I am amazed at the lack of science that went into this plan. Absolutely the stupidest plan I've seen come out of the DNR. Normally your science and plans on all other species is well thought out and identifies specific goals and numbers. This plan looks like a bunch of Madison lefty animal lover hunter haters wrote this crap. The original plan was much better if you would have ever managed to that plan.
Michele Hryc	All of it	No	There is greater recognition as to the ecological role and value of wolves. There is inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	3	There needs to be an increased protections for wolves, an emphasis on non-lethal methods for solving human-wolf conflicts, and totally ban recreational killing of wolves.
Charles Boley	All of it	Yes	Clearly shown that people living in Wolf Range do not have as favorable views of higher wolf populations as those who don't live in Wolf Range areas.	A population objective base line needs to be established based on current landscape carrying capacity and not based on ancestral historical ideology. The landscape has changed and evolved.	2	Ideology and Historic perceptions and emotions do not best represent how to manage a species on a modern landscape. Population levels have to be guided by science while maintaining a balanced ecosystem. Does it make sense to reduce the Deer, Elk, Rabbit,Turkey, Grouse and Beaver populations to bolster a wolf population that is ultimately unsustainable on the modern Wisconsin landscape?
Joshua Johnson	Most of it	Yes		The part where the DNR supports false narratives to help theirs. Post the actual results from the questionnaire because I don't believe that WI residents want more wolves for a second. Anti wolf hunting groups were posting that survey on their pages for non wi residents to take (wolf patrol)	1	How can the DNR tell a land owner they can't hunt wolves on their own property because they are CLOSE TO a reservation.

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Elizabeth Watts	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Lirael Armstrong	Most of it	No	I like that you are no longer using a number of 350 wolves as a goal. We need many more than 350 to have a healthy wolf population with family cohesion and a strong genetic pool. Wolves do so much to keep the entire ecosystem healthy.	There needs to be more stress on NON LETHAL means of dealing with wolves.	3	There is so much public support for wolves and this draft does not address that the majority of humans would like to protect wolves and see their numbers increase. For thousands of years before humans took their land, wolves kept the plant life and animal life healthy. Humans in 2023 know the value of wolves. This draft must reflect the values and desires of the majority of human population who want wolf protections extended and increased. Thank you for listening.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What I like: I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What I don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or	2	

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				culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science) ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values andpolicies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e.,Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.		
Eric berg	Most of it	Yes	None of it,I don't like any of it	The fact that we can't figure a legitimate number to keep the population under control enough to keep the hounds,amd peoples pets amd livestock safe	2	
Mark	All of it	Yes	That we at least have a start here, not much else.	There is no cap in your plane, thats a must. The counties must have a say in the areas of higher populations. No indian reservation should control private land owner rights. The plan contains no trigger points of when control measures begin. Anytime a trigger would be hit, set measures need to occur, control measures. Lethal control is a must have tool.	1	Every county should be a zone, monitored and managed. Counties with zero population should not impose upon counties with population that require management. thee is room for wolves on the landscape, in a managable number, in areas of true wildnerness. Wolves have never co-existed with man, there will always be conflict. They are more prolific than the DNR wants to admit.
Nicole Hoekstera	Just the parts I am interested in	No		wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution	2	
	All of it	Yes	Non-numeric population goals	Continued focus on recreational killing as a depredations "tool." It isn't.	7	•Close areas where there are rare - to - no livestock depredations exclusive of people's dogs to recreational killing; •Stop allowing hound training and hound use in known/posted wolf territory; •Stop rewarding/reimbursing hounders for being stupid, cruel and inhumane; •Stop catering to the disproven, archaic fallacy that predators "need to be managed" where "managed" = killed •Recreational killing of wild canids = game farming. This is not good, humane, ethical policy, based on the best available science.
Liz	Most of it	No				Please provide further/increased protections for wolf populations by banning recreational killing and using non-lethal conflict interventions.
Bill Rademaker	Most of it	Yes	I do like the research portions and the need to continue to do research and attempt to have a somewhat accurate count of the wolf population as well as the prey they consume, especially white tailed deer.	I do understand the reasoning behind setting quotas by zone. However, I am concerned about the lack of any hard quota numbers in the plan - That makes it very difficult to support the plan. I am concerned that the quotas will be set way to low in this scenario. I also do not like the notion of restricting hunting permits to specific zones. If there are reasonably established harvest quotas for each zone, then you could restrict hunters to an initial zone, but then allow hunters to go to any zone statewide when the quota has been reached on their initial zone. In that way, the initial hunt will be a more disbursed quality hunt, and hunters will still have an opportunity to hunt in other zones if their zone quota is filled quickly. Without this flexibility, there is a likely possibility that some zones will be under harvested.	2	I have hunted in the northern 1/2 of the state all of my life. The deer hunting experience in the big woods has become very little more than a nature walk in recent years since the wolf and bear populations have been allowed to grow to outrageous levels. The only way to see any deer numbers at all is by baiting them - a practice that should be banned.

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Mickey v. Br.	Just the parts I am interested in	No	- the former number of 350 wolves. has been dropped - better insight by recognizing the ecological role in keeping up an healthy environment by wolves - it's positive to include public surveys - stronger opposition to the massacre of these precious wildlife creatures - buffer zones, very important	- I don't see much of scientific referrals/literature about the wolf - why not refer to the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions! - wolves should be protected, NOT massacred, nor sadistically trapped! - no hounding! - no compensation for any livestock kill unless the owner can prove that he truly tried to protect his sheep/livestock!	4	I hope that respect for the wolf will be the headline. Murdering this magnificent creature is a sin
	Most of it	Yes	DNR required to have a harvest season	Population estimate is much higher than perceived, harvesting zones should be expanded, wolf-human conflicts are higher than reported, human safety not addressed enough,	1	People who have to live with wolves everyday should be given much more input into how wolves are managed than the people who are far removed from wolf occupied territory. We can live with wolves if we can manage to keep the population as originally intended at 350 wolves.
Alison James	Most of it	No	Nothing I believe.	Everything.	1	I kept thinking of the initial list of supporters of this plan. They read like a Who's Who in hunting and killing. This plan is justification for hunting and trying to exterminate wolves to the detriment of domestic livestock. Nothing more.
Evelyn McNeil Coltman	Most of it	No	Like that it recognizes ecological value of wolves and how they shape the environment as well as being shaped by the environment. Like that there will be buffer zones around tribal areas.	Did not like general acceptance that recreational killing is ok. Management should be non-lethal. Acceptance of recreational killing leads to tendency to overkill and promotes a general lack of reverence for the role of wolves. Hunting with dogs should be illegal. Indigenous people valued wolves as sacred and as individuals. Hunting wolves for sport does not. Should prioritize non-lethal approaches to wolf management with very little management expected. The public does not like hunting of wolves, and scientific evidence indicates that there is a very shallow tipping point from control to eradication when hunting wolves. Best not to do it at all. Just because I am not from Wisconsin does not mean that my comments should weigh less in the debate. Wolves belong to all of us - not just people in Wisconsin.	2	When hunting organizations pay dues for hunting that go directly to pay salaries of management entities, those management entities usually try to please the people who contribute to their salary. This arrangement is wrong. people who do not hunt or even those who do not believe at all in hunting should have an equal voice as well as an equal role in management of wildlife species - including wolves.
	All of it	No	The survival of wolves and being an important part of our ecosystem.	None	10	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Most none of it all prejudice against landowners that have to live with the problem	DNR uses based on incomplete information. Some units not even tracked and where is the lone wolf data!	2	The fact is latest wolf season closed in under two days
David	All of it	Yes			10	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None	Tools used to count wolfs	1	Not all units tracking done the same
Jared Brenner	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, Irecognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killing.	2	
Rick Mier	All of it	No	None it reads like it was drafted in the 1920s Wisconsin tourism would flourish if the whole State government wasn't so narrow minded	All of it Wisconsinettes need a updated Natural Resources	1	If Bear Hounders and Safari Int are paying for everything in Wisconsin by all means cater to them like you have been…Good Luck …
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I genuinely appreciate the great efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Still, the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), but I want to recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature concerning ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well-being; ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well-being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being	4	DON'T SLAUGHTER WOLVES!! The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on NON-LETHAL management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation, and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is

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[redacted]	Most of it	Yes	N/A	I'm not interested in all the scientific data and/or public opinions from people that don't have a clue	1	First off we need to have an idea how many an area can support and then come up with a realistic population goal before we can set up a management plan.
Irene Roos	All of it	No				please save our wildlife

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Susanna	All of it	No	It was a typical report	Though not mentioned specifically once again officials are toadying to special interest groups. Who came up with "nutshells?"	1	It looks as though there is minimal improvement, but it doesn't reflect majority public ethics. It doesn't reflect the best science with regard to management. It certainly doesn't reflect ethics - AT ALL. Clearly, you are toadying to groups who want to bring them to extinction in the wild. Also, recreational killing is a very repugnant idea.
Ron McGill	All of it	No	I appreciate that there are some improvements in protection of wolfs, but it does not go nearly far enough.	I just like that this plant does not protect wolves enough at. We need to see iincreased protections for wolves, non-lethal conflict interventions and a ban on recreational killing.	1	I write to urge increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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				benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Silamith	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating, we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Frances Goff	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Coming from Management perspective, as opposed to eradication	You can't manage wolves as you do domestic animals	5	someone who knows better has failed to define the problem
Darlene McNulty	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Like the use of science to develop and adjust the plan.	I'm really against the use of dogs to hunt any animal. It seems as though most of the dogs killed were hunting dogs, not ordinary pets. It also seems as though a very large number of dollars is paid out for the lost of a hunting dog. If hunters insist on using dogs, they should not expect any payment if a dog is killed by an animal that is protecting it's territory and pack.	8	

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	All of it	No	WI Draft WMP Talking Points What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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	Most of it	Yes	none of the plan. what has happened to " scientifically sound" management.	NO management goal of wolf numbers.	2	As a land owner in Adams county i am very disturbed by the lack of due diligence as i see on the part of the DNR to come up with a viable plan for wolf management . With all of the "scientifically sound" data you have how is it that you cannot set a management goal for wolf population? How is it that the DNR denies any sizeable numbers of wolfs in an area until the land owners send in current pictures and then you state a new designated pack name for wolves. The same with the Black bear. I as a land owner and hunter am tired of reviewing my spring/early summer game camera pictures and getting wolves carry fawns past the cameras. 3 in 2021 and 2 in 2022. I have these cameras on 40 acres, what is happening in the remaining acreage around my property. lets put a "scientifically sound" program with numbers together and actually manage our resources.

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Leonid Volovnik	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Michael Martin	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I think the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I appreciate the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. Scientifically the minimum population is suggested 500 for gene diversification. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	Parts of the "new plan" I don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal	3	

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				practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
Tracy	Most of it	No	That it recognizes the ecological importance of wolves. And there is a greater acceptance of wolves by the public	More emphasis needs to be placed on non-lethal methods of scaring away wolves. Also the barbaric practice of killing off a family member only leads to worse behavior by the remaining pack.	2	We can't keep killing these incredible predators. People spend thousands of $$$ to go to places like Yellowstone just to see them. They are a vital part of our ecosystem.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Juanita	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	It is good that some of it has improved.Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	That it continues to include killing wolves as an option and... The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	4	Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. 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Magnus Kinder	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well	2	PROTECT ESSENTIAL WOLVES at all costs. Use science based studies and NON-LETHAL methods only!

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				as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
cindy lynch	Most of it	No	There is protection but it doesn't go far enough Recreational hunting is wrong and the opposite of protection as are lethal methods	I am in favor of increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.	6	Non lethal methods need to exist and there needs to be a ban on hunting for recreational

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Arne Christian	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. 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Amy Delaney	All of it	No	Wanting to sustain the wolf population.	No non-lethal conflict intervention; does not ban recreational killing of wolves	5	Wolves have been wrongly killed for long enough. Please increase the protection given to them even more than this plan offers including bans on recreational killing and non lethal methods of conflict intervention.

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	All of it	Yes	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Serhii Pavlinski	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal	2	Let's PROTECT WOLVES because they are absolutely ESSENTIAL and VITAL to a healthy ecosystem.

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Kiril Knutson	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency	2	WOLVES are ESSENTIAL! PROTECT WOLVES now and at all costs!

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Larson Sven	All of it	Yes	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal	3	I strongly URGE Wisconsin to PROTECT our precious, iconic, ESSENTIAL WOLVES at all costs. We need to stop allow negligent ranchers and vile hunters control our agenda.

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				practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Laura Long	All of it	No	WI Draft WMP Talking Points What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	WI Draft WMP Talking Points What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	1	Wolves have an essential role in the existence of healthy ecosystems and biodiversity. Wolves also have inherent value and fundamental rights to live free of human-caused suffering and also have a right to their lives, which must only be taken in the case of EXTREME circumstances where all non-lethal methods to reduce conflict have been implemented and failed.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.	3	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.
	All of it	Yes		I agree with the regulation of hunting, but we need to have a season every year. There are may too many wolves in Northern Wisconsin. When you see more wolves than deer during the rifle season, something is really wrong.	1	The state of Wisconsins estimate to how many wolves is way off. Please reconsider opening up hunting again to help control them and bring back our deer herd
T Yazdi	Most of it	No	- That wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. - That there is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves - The inclusion of a social survey, noting the increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves - The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	- The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: - wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution - The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. - The plan should STRICTLY curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. - A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	Thank you for trying to make it possible for wolves to survive and hopefully thrive, in Wisconsin and in the entire country.

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	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Help wolves	More specific	6	Leave wolves alone
Craig D Butler	Most of it	Yes	I can't say I like any element	There needs to be a population goal stated.	3	The plan needs to be science based and not in anyway political!
	All of it	Yes	None	Wolves are not being managed in Wisconsin. There is zero trust amongst property owners and deer hunters with the WI DNR regarding wolf management.	1	We regularly have wolves at our Sawyer county hunting shack. They approach with little caution. They have approached us while hunting with no fear. They are not being managed. Instead the DNR pretend their hands are tied by Federal regulations and court rulings.
	Most of it	No	Wolves are essential to a healthy ecosystem, which was acknowledged. Overall, the general public has an affinity for wolves.	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Anything less than that is unethical, unnecessary and barbaric. Non-lethal methods should be used to deal with ALL wild animals, always.	4	My preference is that you have staff or volunteers set up outside a grocery store, Walmart/Target, or gas station and take a survey of regular people and see what the consensus is. I strongly believe that most people want to see wolves protected. There's a whole lot of folks who don't consider themselves activists or feel like "you can't fight city hall", etc so they don't take the time to do things like what I'm doing right now. This is an important issue and as such, your organization has a responsibility to find out how people truly feel instead of letting special interests (hunters, trappers) control the narrative.
Mike Reilly	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Depredation on Livestock, Domestic Pets and Hunting Dogs.	Buffer zone around Reservations No Set Number on Population	1	When The Hunters in This State Agreed to Reintroduce The Wolf We Had a Goal of 350 Because We New if you Don't We Would End up With What We have Now, Farmers,Ranchers and Property owners Loosing out
Adam Smith	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: * wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; * effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; and * the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behaviour, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution These scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan which runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should curtail strictly any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defence of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training should be illegal or, at the very least, severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g.	5	

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				such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g. present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g. disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g. optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not acknowledged and misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g. according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e. Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing) and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g. accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence). There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023).		
John Bush	All of it	Yes	The counting method would be ok if all areas were counted.	The fact that there is not a number of wolves for the management plan to aim for. The buffer zone around reservations takes up private land and is too large.	1	The plan looks like it was written by a bunch of bureaucrats that expended much effort but produced very little that farmers, land owners and hunters would like. There was a question in the draft about trusting the DNR. Since Gov Evers came into office the DNR and The Natural Resources Board along with the Conservation Congress have not been cooperating and that makes for a zero trust situation. I hate to send you all back to work if this is what will come out of it but something better needs to happen. I don't think anyone want the wolves to go away again but the state was promised a number of 350. Make it happen.
	All of it	Yes	research as related to population...backstory	most	1	I feel there should be populations to populate tribal lands. the packs that leave tribal lands should be eliminated. No reason at all to have wolves determine game populations, property valuations and recreationaly use of private and state land..As state land is the peoples
Victoria Blach	Most of it	Yes	Education on wolf population, area of population, personal preventative measures for protecting domesticated animals.	Wolf conflict section is very subjective and does not appear that there is enough data on real danger to contained domestic animals and humans.	1	The last "harvest" was a disaster. Very little control over the depopulation of the wolf and holding it at a time when females are pregnant or giving birth is ridiculous. You can not compare the population of deer, elk or even bear with a wolf population. Personal responsibility for pets should be taken seriously and using hunting dogs for other harvests such as bear only skews the data for a wolf attack.

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	Most of it	Yes	not much at all. I for one do not believe much of the statistics that are in there. Using data from foreign countries in my opinion is useless. They have an entirely different mentality on hunting and animals and in my opinion its because they rarely encounter any animals in a truly wild environment, kind of like alot of the bigger city animal activist groups	The amount of people that were surveyed about wolves. I am a hunter and have never meet a hunter who has taken a wolf survey. I dont feel like people who never encounter wildlife in the woods, or dont own land where the wolves live should have much to say about wolf populations. Has anyone ever heard someone say they bought hunting land for wolf packs? I hunt in northern Marinette county where there is an abundance of wolves, and over the last 25 years there is less and less small game, and deer on the landscape up there. The last few years even the amount of song birds seems to be dwindling. You tell me that the wolves feed on the sick and weak, well dont the rest of the predators do the same? Wolves, bear, coyotes, and bobcats or do wolves only clean up the sick and weak? Even the once abundant coyote populations seem to be less. Its rare to hear coyote packs howling in our area when the wolve numbers are higher....does that mean less coyotes now or they are getting smarter to survive? Our deer populations are extremely low so why let the apex predator run unmanaged? Lets look at the deer per square mile population, and then take into account the various predator populations in those areas, and then throw in the number of hunters per acre in that area and see how many deer are left for hunters, and viewers Every year we lose more and more land to development so how can we keep increasing the predator populations? We dont discuss the population of wolves in relation to the amount of truely suitable wolf habitat, and then include the deer population in that area. If the deer is the #1 hunted animal why aren't we spending more money to get deer populations up higher. Lets take the money spent fixing wolf issues and use it to improve whitetail habitat on public land and not rely on the private landowner to do that kind of thing? Controlled burns, better tree plantings, creation of planned types of bedding and feeding cover etc. As a person that pays for hunting and fishing priviledges I should have more say than someone who does not pay! If you dont pay the same taxes and amount of voluntary donations as I do through license fees and sporting goods taxes etc., then your opinion doesn't matter as much. Why should you not pay and I do and you get the same amount of say in the matter. As far as activists groups the same goes.....if they are not putting money in to maintain the landscape to support those types of animal and the animals themselves they should not have a say. Just because they pull on someones heartstrings and raise money for lawyers does not make it right for them to control what needs to be controlled by sound science and what people are paying for.	1	
tom savage	Most of it	Yes	Being scientific	The plan is to conveluted.It's not black or white to me	2	The draft plan is like this response format. why do have to do or say ten things before you get the crux, of it. I don't believe what I say will matter in the scheme of things. I can only imagine the amount of work that went into this.To me the plan is to watered down because I believe It tries to palcate to all stake holders. In my world there are winners and losers. Not that ,that is what the outcome of a wolf plan should be. You can study this survey and or wolf population dynamics to death. Set a goal, pick a number, see if you pass or fail. Looks like wolves are here to stay wether you like it or not. This plan does not support my political affliation, my belief of the creation story, or my belief of what's in the wolves best interest as whole moving forward. Thank-you for an opportunity to express my thoughts.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	good to curb the harms from trophy hunting & trapping wolves but the quotas in the 'subzones 1B and 2B' should be ZERO wolf numbers should be self-regulating and genetically diverse with no numerical limit. Put all info about wolves on your website, TRANSPARENCY good to manage 'chronic wolf conflicts' individually	do NOT train hounds for wolf managment, it's going to cause dogfights and social chaos for wolves. Wolves need federal protection from Endangered Species Act, NOT trophy hunts Objective C, benefits from Wolf population, should emphasize need for an APEX Predator (wolf) in the ecosystem, not trophy hunts.	1	
	Most of it	Yes			6	
Rural Resident	All of it	Yes	I am not comfortable that the plan considers rural citizens and living with wolves	I don't see that we will manage ag areas for no wolves as we did previously. We never Managed per our stated plan in the past. Constant interference from groups and individuals using the courts	2	The Conservation Congress had agreed to 350 wolves by vote of congress voters. The courts have ignored the fact that farmers and sportsman are bearing the cost and adjustments to the lives caused by the increasing wolf population.
	Most of it	Yes		Not having a measurable goal. We are currently way over the past goal of 350 and we have issues. We need a numerical goal to know where we are at.	1	We need an adopted plan in place ASAP, so that we can implement management practices as soon as they are delisted by the Federal Govt!!
Mark McGuire	Most of it	Yes		I dislike trapping and hunting of wolves for sport. As a cabin owner in Port Wing Wi, and a deer hunter, I like the ecological role that wolves play in the forest and think any hunting and trapping seasons will be heavy handed, lightly regulated and result in a reduced wolf population	2	

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James N Werner	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That there may be a hunting and trapping season in the furure. That farmers and ranchers are some what compensated for the loses of there livestock.	There are no population goal in the plan. The goal should be 350 for the state. There is to wide of a low harvest area around resverations.	3	The management plan is too vague and open to interpretation. The plan is not writen to keep wovles being managed at a reasonable level by hunting and trapping
Lee Sensenbrenner	Most of it	Yes	I thought it was interesting to see all the data on conflicts, depredation and where wolves are found -- far further south than I'd imagined. It seems like a well thought out, thorough draft that makes clear what is statutorily required and what the aims of wolf conservation are.	I don't know how you dislike information. I'd wish more people in Wisconsin would support a wolf population, but I don't like that you report what surveys show.	9	Thank you for your ongoing efforts to arrive at scientific approaches that protect the wolf population and respect the people who have varying views about the issue.
	Most of it	Yes	Removing quotas. Focus on ecological benefits of wolves, low quota zones around Tribal lands	Plan for regular plan updates is not included. DNR should prioritize non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts. DNR should regulate hound training better.	8	
Kristine Harings	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	No more quotas, lower quota zones around Tribal lands, committing to science and research	Using the word "harvest". Use the word KILLING wolves as that is what is meant by harvesting. Use hunting and trapping instead of harvesting. Trapping should be eliminated as it is cruel and inhumane. Eliminate use of hunting dogs as cruel to wolves and dogs. Stop the $2,500 compensation for hunting dog kills (that's the hunter's fault for using them).	6	I would like to reiterate ending the use of trapping as a means of "harvesting". It is cruel and inhumane.
Justin Loehrke	All of it	Yes	I personally like that the state is going away from the numeric population goal as the current model has some flaws that tend to be abused. To make sure this is not abused, I wish we had some additional criteria around the variables that are going to be used to make decision on if we have too few, too many, or the right number of wolves on the landscape.	I do not think zone 6 should have lost as much land mass as it did in this update. Zone 6 was never designed to be wolf habitat and just because we have had a few wolves take up residency, doesn't mean we should be encouraging them to stay. More importantly, this decision will impact land use in those areas impacted. The water quality side of the DNR and a host of other government agencies are spending lots of time and dollars trying to get the agriculture community to get more animals out on the landscape in these high priority watersheds. A wolf population doesn't aide in this effort. I would encourage the DNR to put back as much of the land that falls within the high priority watersheds in zone 6 to eliminate this conflict. Parts of Waupaca, Shawano, Portage, etc Improving water quality should be far more important than a token wolf population that will cause conflict to arise as the agriculture community tries to bring animals out of confinement.	9	I appreciate the state finally working to get this across the finish line. For too long, we continued to kick the can down the road instead of working through our differences.
Mary Jo Harings	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best available science is centered on Wolf management. 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.		9	Dogs being used to hunt wolves should be discontinued. It is cruel and inhumane to the dogs and wolves. Trapping should also stop. Trapping is also cruel and inhumane.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No population goal. It should be 350, which calculates to 5 per county. The plan should require relocations of excess wolves to those Wisconsin Counties that have fewer than 5.	0	
Tom	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Not having a plan for carrying capacity of wolves is irresponsible and shows the plan is not focused on actual management of wolves. It is clear the plan is focused on special interest groups and not the overall well being of Wisconsin's forests, animals and residents.	1	Scrap this draft and take the comments from Wisconsin residents to write the new plan.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No population limit. 5 wolves per county results in 350 for the entire state.	0	If the wolf count exceeds 5 in any county the excess should be relocated to southern counties that have fewer than 5. Relocations into Dane County should be first and highest priority so legislators and DNR officials see them killing pets and livestock.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. I support efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role wolves play in balancing an ecosystem. ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to killing wolves. ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to more effective conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners in order for them to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals. Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy. ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity where all relevant scientific evidence is presented to the public as well as ethics which suggest recreational wolf killing is robustly supported by science when that is not the case. ● Conflicting agency objectives (optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health, and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No population goal. It should be 350, 5 per county.	0	The plan should include relocating wolves to southern Wisconsin from northern counties. Relocations should start into Dane County first.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No population goal. It should be 350.	0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No population goal. It should be 350.	0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No population goal. It should be 350.	0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Lack of population goal.	0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		There is no population target goal. That goal should be 350.	0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		There is no population target goal. It should be 350.	0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The lack of a population target goal. The northern counties requested a 350 goal. Why are they ignored?	0	There are too many wolves in Northern Wisconsin. The plan is ignores that. It should plan to reduce the number below 350.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The plan lacks a target population goal. It should be 5 per county. When more than 5 wolves exist in a county they must be relocated to southern Wisconsin until there are 5 wolves in each Wisconsin county statewide. That is 350 wolves statewide.	0	The plan must include establishing wolves in Dane County. Then the legislators and DNR hierarchy can have a first hand view of them killing pets and livestock. Then they can also experience the fear of having children attacked in your yard or on your property.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The plan lacks a population target. It should be 350, with no more than 5 wolves per county.	0	The plan must include establishing wolves in Dane County. The state arboretum property could support three or four wolves. The plan should include establishing wolves in all State wild and scenic areas in Southern Wisconsin.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		There is no target wolf population. The target population should be 350 statewide. With 72 counties that should be no more than 5 per county.	0	There is no consideration for establishing wolves in Southern Wisconsin. The plan should include efforts to establish wolves in Dane and Milwaukee Counties, since many wolf protection organizations are in these counties they should have wolves in their counties. The people of these counties should be able to experience the thrill of having pets and livestock killed by wolves like those of northern counties.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	I like that the draft plan does include all of the background. I think the background is important when determining what the population should be.	I dislike that there is no numeric goal. I live in Northern WI where there are way too many wolves. This population needs to get under control.	2	I think the DNR sugarcoats what it is like living among wolves, that is evident in the public surveys which show the public's willingness to live among wolves. I have children and we are afraid to play outside without a pistol handy because there are wolves everywhere. The population has skyrocketed, and the numbers show that we don't have the prey to support a growing wolf population. Look at upper Michigan where wolves have absolutely decimated the deer population. This is indicative of the direction that Wisconsin is heading unless the DNR listens to science, and opens the hunting season back up.
Ned Gannon	All of it	Yes	Slowly, the plan has begun to consider citizen voices other than interested hunting groups, for example, Green Fire. But hunting groups still have an inequitable say in policy. And so do politicians and the NRB.	Allowing dogs and hounds to be used in any wolf hunt is contradictory to Objective B reducing conflicts, no? I need this explained to me in layman's terms.	6	Science needs to outweigh hunting preferences and traditions. We are in a new era and we don't even know yet what the true capacity of wolves for the state is.
Laurence Holyoak	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution	1	I have a Master's Degree in Applied Animal Behavior and Animal Welfare. I have studied these issues. Animal welfare is very important to me.
Michael Sullivan	All of it	Yes	in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the public.	1	To conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	Why isn't there any plan to introduce wolves to southern Wisconsin? Dane County and Milwaukee County should have as many wolves as any Northern County. Then those people can enjoy wolves eating their pets and killing their livestock. There should be plan provisions for releasing wolv
Joe Knight	Most of it	Yes	The history of wolves. The maps showing the number of wolf packs from 1980 to 2020 were good. The Native American creation stories were neat. The chart showing the mortality of radio-collared wolves was interesting.	The plan is a document written by biologists for biologists. The length and language are a challenge for just plain folks. The idea of managing wolves by zones is interesting, but you need to have some numeric goals. More on that later.	8	You need to provide some numbers for wolves in your various zones, with the possible exception of zone 6, where we'll assume wolves are just passing through. Without some numeric goal or statement of carrying capacity, social and biological, for each zone. Without that the default number is 350 for a statewide population That number probably doesn't meet the spirit or letter of state and federal endangered species laws. Sorry, but we're a society that likes numbers, whether it is quarterback ratings or salaries of CEOs or statewide deer kills, the length of game fish...The first goal in your plan is to "ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological roles. Don't we need to define about how many that might be? At least within a broad range? You will be issuing a specific number of wolf hunting permits. How do you know how many to issue if you don't have at least a broad population goal for each zone? You will be keeping track of the number of wolves killed each year. In-person registration would be a good idea. But again, how do you know if the wolf kill is within goals or not if you don't have a number in mind, and how do you know if too many wolves are being killed and you need to close the season early if you don't have a goal for each zone? The plan has a goal of ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role. Good. How many might that be? Does fulfilling its ecological role include taking deer with cwd? Might be something to emphasize. Good luck.
Shirley Robinson	All of it	Yes	It is very informative and accurate.	It is very long and I think that a lot of the people that hate wolves would not take the time to read all of it because their minds are already made up and nothing you say could convince them to change their way of thinking.	10	The wolf haters won't be happy until all the wolves are dead. They are the vocal ones. I have lived in wolf country for many years and have never had a problem with them. I don't agree with the hunters who want a population goal of 350 or less wolves .

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Bruce Dahl	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	No comment	No comment	5	I got a good look at a wolf trotting thru the backyard. It was much bigger than dogs they own. Black top, white below. Distinctive tracks in snow. Approx 2 mo. ago. BGDahl
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	The DNR has failed miserably in protecting the safety and rights of northern Wisconsin citizens by allowing large numbers of wolves to harm farmers, deer hunters, and rural families. As long as we do not have the ability to remove wolves from our farms and private properties to protect our pets, farm animals the DNR has failed. This plan is inadequate because it fails to provide northern property owners with relief from the curse of too many wolves.
Margaret Webster	Most of it	Yes	developing wolf conflict mitigation plan to focus on non lethal deterrent methods to mitigate the already rare conflicts with livestock is a step in right direction. limiting depradation of hunting dogs could be fixed by eliminating hunting with hounds for bear and wolves, as well as not allowing training of hounds during summer pup season. I believe increased transparency in information abut wolves is important as the mission of DNR is stated to include concerns of all citizens - not just trophy hunters and trappers.	I strongly disagree with the season for training hounds. Dog fighting is immoral and this is state sanctioned dog fighting. The plan in general puts an emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping, which does not reflect the intent of many citizens- not many of us just kill for fun or bragging rights (or to make sure there are enough other animals to kill -since many wolf hunters have stated that the reason they applied for wolf license is to make sure there are enough deer to kill - per your survey results reported in plan)	5	This plan is an improvement, but still lacking. All citizens deserve input that is actually heard- not just hunters and trappers. (and yes, I have sat in on WCC committee meetings and know my voice was not heard, or maybe heard, but just completely disregarded). There is no reason that a hunting season be mandated by state statutes. I would like to believe we have moved beyond the 1800s with state bounties. I realize that is not an issue to be addressed by this wolf plan, but I believe is a large driving force for some of your decisions. I would like to thank all the wildlife scientists who have contributed to what we know about wolves, and actually adhere to data, and not just anecdotes. I learned a lot by reading the wolf management plan.
	All of it	Yes		need greater control management numbers	1	people don't believe it
michael Schueller	Most of it	Yes	enjoyed the areaq of the history of wolves	it is over whelming. The average person is not going to read it.	5	I am opposed to the Wisconsin Wolf Plan as it currently written. We have owned property in Oneida County since 1995. We built a hunting cabin and had built a great tradition of family and friends enjoying the fall hunting seasons. Especially the bow and gun deer seasons. This heritage is about to get lost, as this past gun season, my 16 year old grandson did not want to hunt up there. He said, “There are no deer up there.” We have stopped bow hunting the property several years ago, because of lack of deer sightings. We have kept a record of the number of deer sightings during the gun deer season since 1995. Our group of 4-5 hunters, hunting 3-4 days of the season would see 60-70 deer in the late 1990’s and early 2000’s. In 2020 we saw 3, in 2021 we saw 7, in 2022 we saw 6, hunting 7 days of the nine day season. What needs changing on the plan? The plan needs a specific goal on wolf numbers. I agree with several of the conservation groups that this goal should be topped at 350 wolves. While there are other predators on the landscape that effect the recruitment of the deer herd, I believe it has been the uncontrolled growth of wolves in the last 20 years that has had the greatest impact on the reduction of the northern deer herd. I also feel that the opinions of residents, farmers, and property owners in northern Wisconsin, that are impacted the most by the growth of the wolves, should carry more weight than the individual from southern Wisconsin, who may not witnessed what has happened in the north woods. I believe that it is part of the DNR philosophy to continue the great hunting heritage that we have in Wisconsin. However, if grandson’s don’t want to hunt up north and deer camps close this great tradition is lost. So, let’s start by getting the wolf population under control. Respectfully, Mike Schueller [redacted] Wausau, WI, 54403
David Walters	All of it	Yes	Maintaining a modest wolf population in the State.	Allowing the wolf packs to grow beyond 350 animals.	4	Researchers must realize that wolves and people can not successfully co-exist. People will be hurt or worse and the wolves will need to be removed again. Let hunters and other interested parties manage the wolves and not the leftist judges in DC!
Allen	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I quote "provide your thoughts on the draft plan's content, as well as anything you believe is missing and should be included". How in the hell can you draft a wolf management plan and not have a population goal?? In a business setting, tell me how you can evaluate the success of any plan without a measurable goal? I hope you can see the frustration of having a 350 goal and then have 3 times over that in the woods.(legal proceedings being a separate issue that affects this) Leave the goal at 350 and manage to it!	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Victoria Palen	Most of it		1. More use of GPS collars. 2. More education of the public, especially OUTSIDE the wolf-occupied areas. 3. More info released to the public and media (via press releases??) but not just on web site. 4. Annual release of summaries of abundance and distribution.	1. NO actual numerical goal or even maximum or minimum numbers are given. How can you measure any progress? "Healthy and sustainable" populations are already exceeded and these words really mean nothing concrete.2. Talking about economic benefit from tourism (comparing to Yellowstone is entirely ludicrous) or other means but, at the same time, proposing fewer roads in public lands where wolves are makes no sense. 3. Why are you dropping the 350 "goal" when your quoted wolf expert says that numbers are very hard to reduce once wolves are established!! (Why should Wisconsin have more wolves than Montana which has about double the land area and lots more wilderness?) 4. How can you "continue" rigorous monitoring of populations when you have excluded lone wolves, the reservation wolves (and the sub-zones??) and those in areas where no volunteers have been found to do tracking? 5. Why are the 1B sub zones bigger in area than the reservations they surround, especially when there are known depredations in those areas? 6. I think part of the repeated depredation problem is that lethal removal is not used soon enough. If nothing bad happens to wolves attacking livestock, they will not stay away. Any dog trainer can explain this. 7.Are your phones monitored 24/7, not just "7days a week"? Reporting within 8 hours of recovery is not possible if they are not. 8. In the case of grazing animals like beef cattle or sheep, confining them near the barn for calving or lambing actually can increase problems with neonatal disease. Bringing them in every night is stressful for all. Building a fence (that would keep wolves out) around 40 or more acres of pasture would be expensive. Who pays?? Lethal control would be lots cheaper, with no maintenance costs, especially if the landowner can apply it him/her self. 9. You should be considering wolf populations in suitable habitat, not in marginal habitat and not in every place wolves occupy. Try to eliminate them from places without much suitable habitat. (This is like the people who want them restored to all their "formerly occupied territory" before delisting. It might be OK except that the homeless in D.C. would be the ones in danger, not the people proposing this.)	3	The first nearly 100 pages, before we get to the actual plan, seem to be designed to wear people down before they get to the plan. There seems to be a lot of repetition of somewhat confusing and undefined terms like "holistic and adaptive" or "scaled occupancy" or "scientific basis". Even living in wolf-occupied country I almost never see the media carry any stories about wolf depredations. I know that wolves have been in the Meadow Valley/Necedah area for years and yet people from around central Wisconsin sometimes ask how close the wolves are getting "to us" now. (They are HERE.)
Joe Y.	Most of it	No	Wolves image as being ecologically beneficial to its role in the environment and the growing majority of Americans opposed to hunting wolves.	The need to manage the wolf population. We know the real motive is to supply hunters with yet another trophy in the form of a wolf. No need for management.	5	Any person well informed or familiar with wolf ecology knows the importance of the effectiveness of the pack and when the pack is disrupted or fragmented as a result of hunting, the hierarchy is ruptured and the pack functionality and role in the nature of things is ineffective.
John Bates	All of it	Yes	that it's adaptive, scientific, collaborative, holistic, reviewable annually, and educational.	I don't like bear hunters being reimbursed for the loss of hunting dogs or for their bear costs. They understand the risks - they put their dogs in the way of those risks - they should assume the costs of those risks. The public should not pay for the risks inherent in their hunt. Period. I know this is an attempt to ward off additional poaching by buying them off - calling a spade a spade here - but I don't believe it's deserved. I understand also that this is a statute.	9	While I believe there are greater risks involved with hunting wolves due to their pack structure than there are with hunting other animals, I can live with a prescribed hunt in areas with significant farm conflicts. I don't support on open hunt everywhere. I also support not identifying a specific target number, though I'd like to see a range that will be a target to attempt to stay within - say 1,000 to 1,300. Thank you for all the ecological background information - very much appreciated. If read by those involved in the decision making, it should provide the necessary factual basis for making sane decisions. Thank you for such an informative, thorough, exhaustive plan.
Charles Cote	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				Advice...the plan is your job. Just...make sense...be fair to as many sides as possible...don't change in mid stream...be as transparent as possible. People are watching. An early goal was set years ago...it was met and far exceeded. Now it appears that the goal has shifted upward...a lot. Maybe for good, maybe not, but to many average people you are changing the game as you go. Not a great idea. Thank you for being there for us.
Megan Lankenau	Most of it	No	I appreciate that you are valuing the ecological contribution of wolves and that you are no longer capping the number at 350. I also like the buffer zones around tribal reservations	Your draft lacks inclusion of non lethal management of wolves. I disagree that recreational killing should be a main management strategy and that the science supporting this method is not included. I don't think that lethal management of wolves should be part of the plan at all. I would like the plan to focus on managing wolves humanely and eliminating the possibility, as much as possible, of illegal killings. I also do not support the inclusion of hound training as part of this plan. Again, not humane and akin to dog fighting.	4	I don't think your plan accounts for the contributions that wolves bring to the environment, the public's values towards wolves and tribal worldviews about wolves, and I don't think wolves should be hunted or trapped as part of an ecological management strategy.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the fact that wolves are being managed, However, each year shows an increased livestock kill which leads me to believe that currently there are too many wolves	I didn't see anywhere in the draft where the DNR relocated or planted wolves in various areas which I have been lead to believe. It simply shows the wolves expanded into Wisconsin from Minnesota	4	I've seen wolves while hunting deer on my property. With 292 wolf packs in the state, with each wolf taking an estimated 15-19 deer, I believe there are too many wolves and need to be drastically reduced. 20 years ago I had friends who saw more wolves than deer while hunting.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
mike kortenhof	All of it	Yes	It's a plan. We need a plan.	I feel that we need to have a count on the number of wolfs we have in the state. If you don't harvest more wolfs form the zones that they are over populated in, your doing no good. The way you have the harvest numbers set for the zones, most of the wolfs will live in a small area. So the number of wolfs we want sould be adjusted to fit that amount of land. This would be way less then 300 wolfs. The worst part about this plan is that almost every statment is left open. There is nothing that the DNR can be held accountable for. I feel that this was written by a group of attorney's that made sure that the plan will not say anything.	1	I'm sure several good people put a lot of hard work into this plan. It's sad that that it was all hacked up to say nothing.
Susan Kiser	All of it	Yes	- Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the number of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on the best available science and ecological changes. - The plan creates a low quota zones around Tribal lands where tribes requested it. This update is an important and welcome addition. Ideally, expanding the plan beyond listed zones would be great. - The plan rightly focuses on ecological benefits of wolves. - Public opinion has grown significantly more favorable towards wolves. - There is an expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners who acknowledge the importance of wolves in a healthy ecosystem. Science and continued research along with public education about wolves are key.	the indecision about lethal vs non-lethal management of wolves where humans and livestock are concerned	9	
	All of it	Yes	I like that we have an updated plan.	There is no goal for wolf numbers.	3	
Lacey Levitt	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I support the greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves and the inclusion of a social survey. I am glad that wolf management will no longer center around the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.	I am troubled by the lack of up to date scientific data included and reflected in the plan. Sadly, there is also a lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health and wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence. The plan does not reflect the diverse opinions with regard to recreational wolf hunting including the sizeable population of the country and state that oppose it. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances (i.e., immediate defense of life). The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of livestock conflicts. The plan should require that animal "owners" implement abatement measures and the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques in order for them to receive compensation for confirmed predation.		
Helen Hartman	All of it	Yes	It's thoroughness and basis in science, plus the in-depth information about wolf biology.	I do not find anything about the plan to dislike.	10	It's sensible and does a good job of balancing diverse opinions on a very controversial topic.
Kerry Gentile	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		What exactly is your number of wolves for the state. There are quotas for every game harvested in this state and how it is managed. If your goal is to have 350 wolves why are there more then 1,500 wolves here? You need to manage them just like other game harvested.	0	You need to look closer at the numbers in the northern part of this state as we are over populated with wolves and is not helping the other wildlife here. Too many changes the eco system and creates other problems!!!

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Spiros G. Villis	All of it	Yes	● The elimination of a numerical target population ● The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. ● The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. ● Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	● Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. ● Hound training must be stopped. ● The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. ● The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. ● At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. ● There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. ● The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals. On a scale from 1-10, how would you rate your overall support for the draft wolf management plan as written. (Suggested response 7) Please provide any other comments related to the current draft wolf management plan: Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. 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Kelli Villis	All of it	Yes	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. 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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). A seventy-year history of trends in Yellowstone's northern elk herd. The Journal of wildlife management, 71(2), 594-602. Edelblutte, É., Krithivasan, R., & Hayek, M. N. 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A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
						López-Bao, J. V, Shoemaker, C., Goeckner, A. R., & Bruskotter, J. T. (2015). Predators and the public trust. Biological Reviews, 92(1), 248–270. Treves, A., Krofel, M., & McManus, J. (2016). Predator control should not be a shot in the dark. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 14(7), 380–388. Treves, A., Krofel, M., Ohrens, O., & van Eeden, L. M. (2019). Predator Control Needs a Standard of Unbiased Randomized Experiments With Cross-Over Design. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, 7(December), 1–14. https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2019.00462 Treves, A., Langenberg, J. A., López-Bao, J. V., & Rabenhorst, M. F. (2017). Gray wolf mortality patterns in Wisconsin from 1979 to 2012. Journal of Mammalogy, 98(1), 17–32. https://doi.org/10.1093/jmammal/gyw145 Treves, A., Naughton-Treves, L., & Shelley, V. (2013). Longitudinal analysis of attitudes toward wolves. Conservation Biology, 27(2), 315–323. https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.12009 Treves, A., & Santiago-Ávila, F. J. (2020). Myths and assumptions about human-wildlife conflict and coexistence. Conservation Biology, 00(0), 1–8. https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13472 10 Treves, A., Santiago-Ávila, F.J. (2023). Estimating wolf abundance with unverified methods. Pre-print. http://faculty.nelson.wisc.edu/treves/CCC.php Treves, A., Santiago-Ávila, F. J., & Putrevu, K. (2021). Quantifying the effects of delisting wolves after the first state began lethal management. PeerJ, 9(e11666), 1–16. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.11666 Treves, A., Vucetich, J. A., Rabenhorst, M., Cornman, A., Indians, L. R. B. of O., & Indians, L. R. B. of O. (2013). An evaluation of localized wolf control efforts to prevent subsequent livestock depredation in Michigan. Natural Resources Report No. 2013-4. Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Trump, T., Knopff, K., Morehouse, A., & Boyce, M. S. (2022). Sustainable elk harvests in Alberta with increasing predator populations. PLOS ONE, 17(10), 1–13. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0269407 van Eeden, L. M., Crowther, M. S., Dickman, C. R., Macdonald, D. W., Ripple, W. J., Ritchie, E. G., & Newsome, T. M. (2018a) Managing conflict between large carnivores and livestock. Conservation Biology. van Eeden, L. M., Eklund, A., Miller, J. R. B., Lopez-Bao, J. V, Chapron, G., Cejtin, M. R., Crowther, M. S., Dickman, R., Frank, J., Krofel, M., Macdonald, D. W., Mcmanus, J., Meyer, T. K., Middleton, A. D., Newsome, T. M., Ripple, W. J., Ritchie, E. G., Schmitz, O. J., Stoner, K. J., & Tourani, M. (2018). Carnivore conservation needs evidence- based livestock protection. PLoS Biology, 16(9), 1–8. Vucetich, J. A. (2012). Appendix: The influence of anthropogenic mortality on wolf population dynamics with special reference to Creel & Rotella (2010) and Gude et al.(2011) in the Final peer review of four documents amending and clarifying the Wyoming gray wolf management plan. FWS-R6-ES-2011-0039; 92220-1113-0000-C6. Vucetich, J. A., Smith, D. W. & Stahler, D. R. (2005) Influence of harvest, climate and wolf predation on Yellowstone elk, 1961-2004. Oikos, 111, 259-270. Vucetich, J., & Nelson, M. P. (2014). Wolf hunting and the ethics of predator control. In L. Kalof (Ed.), The Oxford Handbook of Animal Studies. Oxford University Press. https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199927142.013.007 11 Wilmers, C. C., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., Kohl, M. T., Geremia, C., & Smith, D. W. (2020). How climate impacts the composition of wolf-killed elk in northern Yellowstone National Park. Journal of Animal Ecology, 89(6), 1511–1519. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.13200 Wallach, A. D., Izhaki, I., Toms, J. D., Ripple, W. J., & Shanas, U. (2015). What is an apex predator? Oikos, n/a-n/a. https://doi.org/10.1111/oik.01977 Wallach, A., Ritchie, E., Read, J., & O'Neill, A. (2009). More than mere numbers: The impact of lethal control on the social stability of a top-order predator. PLoS One, 4(9).
	All of it	Yes		Lack of a population goal. How can you manage the wolf population without a goal?	1	
	Most of it	Yes	Listening to the tribal input about responsibility and nonlethal methods.	Objective C: Hunting and trapping the wolves. Why not increase benefits through tourism?	2	Why are hunting and trapping groups part of the committee?
Edward F. Vlach	All of it	Yes	1. Overall history of wolves in Wi. Mgt. must now shift from recovery to sustainability. Rported wolve never re-introduced in WI, came from MN. This should be emphasized more as many folks accuse WI DNR of bringing wolves into state. Population numbers continually referred to even by USFWS. Plan mentioned 2020 -21 overwintering pop. was approx. 1,126 wolves.	1.Good explanation of tribal lands. But knowing tribal members do not hunt or trap wolves why do we give them tags. 2. Talk about population numbers throughout plan but then has a lack of specific population goals for the state. Whether 350, 450, 500 or whatever - give the public something. 3.How come no mention of beaver as also being a favored foo. Mostly mention white tail deer. 4. Should not compare WI to Yellowstone as example of non-consumptive use. Folks are not driving up from large cities in south WI to observe wolves, wolves are found mostly in large tracts of public lands where city folfs do not hang out.	7	The plan is written to be politically correct. Nothing in plan that says state will fight to de-list wolves. Even USFWS agrees our present population meets dellisdting goals.
Kathy Wendling	All of it	Yes	1. Removing the arbitrary wolf population goal and using science to guide decisions. 2. Focuses on ecological benefits, especially in core wolf areas such as zones 1, 2 & 5. 3. Creates buffer zones around reservations. 4.	Not much information about how the public will be educated about dealing with wolf damage by non-lethal means.	9	1.There needs to be a strong commitment to science and continued research. 2. There needs to be a strong commitment to local control of wolf poaching.

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			Continues emphasis on intergraded management of wolf conflicts using both lethal and non-lethal controls.			
	Most of it	Yes	The thoroughness and the basis on facts and scientific analysis. The focus on the benefits of wolves and education of the public. Removal of specific numbers of wolves to kill and instead basis on best estimate of wolf population and ability to maintain a healthy population	there needs to be more focus on non-lethal measures to respond to wolves. Loss of livestock, pets, and hunting dogs should evaluate the extent that the individual was responsible due to a failure to take adequate measures to protect the lost animals. More control of hunting with dogs and reduced or eliminated use of trapping.	9	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g.,	3	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Karen Murray	All of it	Yes	I like that there is no population number	I am highly opposed to hound hunting of bears, and wolves	6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Recognition of wolves' value and role in the ecosystem; buffer zones around tribal areas.	Allowance of recreation killing of wolves, hounding, and other lethal strategies for management.	3	Please reconsider the extent of positive public attitudes toward wolves (including regard for individual wolves, wolf intelligence, social structures, valuable role in ecosystems), and please emphasize non-lethal solutions to human-wolf conflict and benefits of wolves, such as the presence of wolves increasing deer vigilance, thereby decreasing vehicular collisions with deer and associated costs. Please do not allow recreational killing, trapping, hounding or other inhumane treatment of wolves.
MaryBeth Aldrich	Most of it	Yes	The plan acknowledges the benefits of wolves. The plan does not set a specific population goal. The plan establishes low quota zones in the area that Native Populations requested.	Personally I do not like the use of dogs for wolf hunting but I believe the process for creating the plan was a fair one.	9	
Diane	All of it	Yes	I understand the need to address human-wolf conflicts or individual wolves for those situations. Rather than issuing permits to individuals, allow the Safari Club to tactically cull.	Trapping should not be an option. It is barbaric and inhumane.	5	I hope it will reduce the likelihood of a repeat of last hunting season - totally irresponsible overharvesting and embarrassing to our the State of WI
Nathan	All of it	Yes				Open season 365 days a year each hunter gets 10 tags can apply for more. In three years we won't have a wolf problem.

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Hector	Just the parts I am interested in	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	Please consider the right of every one of God's creatures to live their lives without the fear of being hunted down by people who should know better. What happened to good Christian values of love and compassion? Thank you.

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Debra Floyd	Just the parts I am interested in	No	There is much more acknowledgement of the ecological role of wolves, and the social survey's increased opposition to the methods and motives of wolf killing.	I would like for the plan to strictly limit the lethal management of wolves to extreme circumstances, and require abatement techniques and non-lethal conflict measures. I would like for the opinion of all citizens to have equal voice and be reflected in the plan, rather than just protecting the interests of cattle ranchers.	3	I believe more, and more current science obtained from legitimate wolf research should be studied and included before this wolf plan is finalized. Thank you for what you have already accomplished on this plan, and thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments.
CJ	All of it	Yes	The facts on mortality of elk herd trying to be built	The plan needs to have a higher harvest of wolves to control population. We have family cabin in Douglas county for 25 years . We are very skilled hunters and have harvest a lot of deer in past with archery and firearm . When there are no deer to see or harvest interests are lost by all . Are kids are hunters but hard to try keep family tradition going when we may not see a deer . Has changed dramatically since wolf population has blown up . If the DNR does not act now the future of hunting will be none and DNR license revenue will be 0 . Our family is very saddened by this thought , that great north woods tradition will be gone .	1	I think wolves can coexist but need to be controlled by hunting with having no predators. The sportsman should be listened to or the future sportsman will be none . I believe the population is higher than studies are stated .
Nancy	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	Arbitrary population number. Rationale for hunting. This is a Keystone species.	9	Please consider that wolves (like the wolves of Yellowstone have proven) are a keystone species and can benefit the overall environment.

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Diane M. Kastel	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	We appreciate the efforts of, all, "WDNR" staff involved in updating the state's, wolf, management plan. Although we believe the, current, plan needs, significant, updating, we recognize the efforts, and, improvements made to the, previous, plan, including: ● Wolves in WI, will no longer be managed by reference to the, old, numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is, much, greater recognition of the, ecological, role of wolves ● The inclusion of a, social, survey, which notes, increased, positive views of wolves, knowledge of their, ecological, roles, and, increased, opposition to the motives, and, methods, for killing wolves ● The adoption of, proposed, buffer zones around, tribal, reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The, current, draft does NOT reflect the, best, available science, and, is missing a, substantial, amount of, scientific, literature on, wolf, ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, and, wellbeing ○ effectiveness of, non-lethal, interventions, especially, relative to, lethal, ones ○ the impact of, widespread, killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific, omissions, combined with the emphasis on, and, promotion of, sustainable, recreational killing, and, consumptive, users as a,, main, management strategy, results in a, biased, plan that runs contrary to, scientific, evidence despite much of this omitted, scientific, evidence being, more, recent, numerous, and of, stronger, inference. ● The plan should, strictly, curtail, any, lethal management of wolves except in, extremely, rare circumstances of, immediate, defense of life. ○ A, substantial, body of research documenting, human-caused, mortality in, North American, wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing, liberalized, killing of wolves result in a, direct, increase in the hazard, and, incidence of, illegal, killings. ○ Hounding, or, hound training, which are akin to allowing, legalized, dogfighting, should be illegal, or, severely, restricted as this practice is, extremely, cruel to wolves, and, hounds alike, and, is not supported by the majority of hunters, or, the, broad, public. ● The plan should prioritize, wolf, protections, and, concentrate, solely, on non-lethal, management of wolves in response to, livestock, conflicts to ensure, ethical, coexistence. ○ Despite "Act 169", which mandates a, wolf, hunting season, the Department can, still, restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting, minimal, quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods! ○ Several studies have proven a, proactive, non-lethal approach leads to, better, conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management fails to provide a, long-term, solution to wolf predation, and, has the, least, consistent success rates when compared to, non-lethal, practices. In addition, there is, significant, evidence showing that, lethal, wolf management may be, less, functionally effective at mitigating, subsequent, livestock losses than, non-lethal, deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of, abatement, measures as well as the use of, non-lethal, conflict, minimization, techniques by, domestic, animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for, confirmed, predation. ● The plan, also, runs contrary to, public, values towards wolves, (and, omits mention of such, majority, values from the plan), despite Department surveys evidencing that the, broad, public cares about wolves, as individuals, (and, not just for the viability of the population). Given the, recent, liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be, incredibly, informative to note, majority, support of the, following, reasons for opposing a, regulated, wolf hunting/trapping season (which are, all, omitted from the plan): opposition to, specific, methods of harvest, like hounds, (64%) or, traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%), or, culturally, offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All, such, reasons convey majority, disagreement with practices, currently, promoted, and, endorsed by the legislature, and, the "WDNR", and, such a conflict between managers and the public should, not only, be acknowledged, but, foregrounded, and, carefully, considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature, or, to downplay evidence (e.g., such as, majority, opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of, scientific, integrity (e.g., present, all, relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising, ethical, decisions, such as, recreational, wolf killing, as, robustly, supported by science). ● Conflicting, Agency, objectives (e.g., optimizing, public, hunting, and, conflict, mitigation) are, not only, not acknowledged, but, even, misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of, scientific, evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of, consumptive, values, and, policies; e.g., according to the body of, scientific, literature, use of, lethal, methods, and, especially, public, hunts, are contrary to, most, objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their, ecological, roles, and, their, non-exploitative, enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a, stark, lack of consideration for, individual, wolves, wolf, population health (including wellbeing), and, measurable, indicators for assessing, any, harms barring, disease, prevalence (e.g., accounting for, cortisol, levels, or, other, stress, hormones, measures of, pair/pack, persistence) ● There is an, inappropriate, understanding and consideration of, tribal, worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a, wolf, population, when, in fact, tribal, worldviews consider, each, individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards, such, views, shared by, many, non-tribal members, demand the, strict, mitigation of, lethal, measures, especially, recreational, killing, as opposed to their,	3	

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				current, promotion in the plan. ● In general, all, omissions of, scientific, literature, the, arbitrary, prioritization of, policy, objectives, the rhetoric of the plan, and, the dismissal of, public, values and, concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific, and, instrumental, view of wolves that promotes values contrary to, broad, public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM', wolf, estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The, new, methods sacrifice precision, but, are believed to retain, adequate, accuracy and sensitivity to, changing, conditions for, reliable, decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and, sensitivity of the, new, 'scaled occupancy model' ("SOM") applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the, Wisconsin, method would, systematically, overestimate, wolf, abundance by large, (but, currently, incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to, other, states, not only, changed to, unverified, methods, but, also, implemented, widespread, wolf, killing, shortcomings in their estimates of, wolf, abundance may have, far-reaching, consequences for, population, viability and confidence in, state, wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside, similar, findings for, other, states', occupancy, models being insensitive to, human, causes of mortality that have, recently, increased. Overall, Wisconsin's, proposed, method for estimating, wolf, abundance shows, significant, departures from, best, practices in, scientific, measurement. Verification will require, independent, replication, and, unbiased, tests at, multiple, scales in, multiple, habitats under, different, human-induced, mortality rates, and, peer review before the, new, methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing		

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				that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	Yes		Wolf hunt	5	No wolf hunt, please
kris konopacky	All of it	Yes	put the overall goal 350	to general or casual plan for management	3	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
christine travers	Most of it	No	I appreciate that you sought out a variety of opinions, particularly of the Indian tribes in the state. It is interesting to me to hear their views that we have no right to "manage" our brothers. They view each wolf as a unique individual as well as part of a family. It is rare to have a government document include such an view, so in this sense, progress has been made. It appears that the number of animals, including livestock, killed by wolves is very small and the money spend to "manage" them has grown exponentially over the years. More people are killed by domesticated dogs. The view of the people towards wolves is slowly changing as well to a more positive one, as your report notes. It is my view that the risk from wolves is very small to either people or animals. A small number of lost cattle is a small price to pay to keep a place in the world for wolves. Cattle are the animals that do not really belong on this land.	I would wish there were less lethal ways of controlling what is perceived to be the threat from wolves. I do not believe at all in hunting, especially with dogs or helicopters, trapping or poisoning them. I do support: ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What could be improved in the report: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and	5	Less killing of wolves, more conservation and support for wolf families and allowing them to occupy more space (with buffer zones). Less focus on the very few negative interactions with cattle. My goodness, people kill millions of cows per year and eat them! No recreational killing of any animals.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Rating: 4-5 Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan)		
BETH WILMOTH	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan creates low quota zones around tribal lands where the tribes requested it		9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	I do like seeing the many data charts, lists, etc. as this helps me decipher the results of the effect that wolves have on other species and livestock. This also allows me to come to the conclusion that WI has far too many wolves to have this much livestock losses, dog kills, and even the astronomically high kill rate on elk by wolves. Thank you for opening my eyes to how many elk are killed by wolves, it's laughable and sad at the very same time. Bravo!	No. 1: The DNR must have a numeric population goal. I believe the population goal should be 350 and the DNR must do everything they can to get this population down to that number. This number can be increased or decreased based upon how the population is thriving at 350, livestock depredation levels, deer population levels, etc. Also, the DNR is literally throwing away good money after bad, in regards to the northern elk herd, which is being used to feed the wolf packs in this area. By your own elk kill data, the vast majority of elk mortality is from wolves. Great job guys, some real good elk recovery efforts gone to waste here. DECREASE THE WOLF population where this northern elk want to thrive. The agency can always make population adjustments in the future. Many entities have formal positions on the goal of 350 being maintained. These include the latest vote from the Conservation Congress spring hearings, Question No. 47, "Do you support a population management goal of 350 wolves or less for the state of Wisconsin." That question was supported in 69 counties with a vote of 12,978 in favor, 6,410 opposed. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Wisconsin Farm Bureau, and the Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association all favor 350 or fewer wolves in Wisconsin. Between 2010 and 2017, 36 county boards (half of all counties) passed wolf control resolutions favoring a population goal of 350 or 350 wolves or less. In 2021-22, 16 county boards passed new wolf control resolutions, favoring 350 or 350 wolves or less, and nine counties decided to send in their previously passed resolution. Some Wisconsin towns have also passed similar resolutions. The Wisconsin wolf management plan needs a numeric population goal and 350 is where it needs to be. No. 2: Extensive expansion of primary and secondary wolf habitat designations. See draft plan Page 70 to view the previous zones. For the DNR's proposed new management zones, see pages 103 or 158. Zones 1, 2, and 5 are designated as primary wolf habitat, while zones 3 and 4 are termed "secondary" wolf habitat. Zone 6 is low priority for wolves. The new plan expands zones 1, 2, and 5 into areas that were previously considered secondary habitat, expands Zone 3 into previously designated low priority habitat, and dramatically moves Zone 4 into areas previously designated as unsuitable wolf habitat. The Zone 6 unsuitable wolf territory is considerably reduced. This leaves 36 counties completely in the unsuitable wolf habitat Zone 6, a huge reduction in where Wisconsin will discourage wolves if tools ever become available. None of these changes are based on science of where wolves can successfully live. The rationalization for these changes is that wolves are now living in these areas, so they must be suitable wolf habitat, and will be encouraged. Wolf zones should be based on an analysis of suitable wolf habitat considering biological and social analysis. No. 3: Public opinions. The DNR quietly conducted a public opinion survey in 2022, sent to 8,750 addresses, with over-sampling done for addresses in wolf-occupied areas. While this methodology is promoted as sampling residents who are familiar with wolves, most addresses in wolf country are still in villages, cities, or concentrated around lakes. Therefore, many who are not exposed to wolves in rural wolf counties would receive these surveys, and the responses reflect this bias. Also, the survey was eight pages long, provided answers in some questions that could be interpreted as favoring wolf expansion and protection, used phrases and words that are hard to define, and provided an unequal response to questions that bend the numbers towards favoring more wolves. No. 4: I am very angry with the WI DNR in that it took a lawsuit to force them to hold their last wolf hunt. This was a pathetic move by your agency so as to try and not hold a wolf hunt to appease the wolf protection supporters. I want to see the DNR schedule and hold another wolf hunt, this time with real meaningful harvest goals to reduce the population down to 350 animals, as soon as any federal de-listing occurs. When zones are closed literally 1-2 days after the wolf hunt season opens, because the reported quotas have been met, this screams to everyone that there are too many wolves in these zones and the harvest numbers must be raised. The DNR cannot hide from the fact that there aren't enough wolves on the landscape, the opposite is true.	1	Set the wolf population goal to 350 animals, hold hunts to get WI down to this goal, manage the population at this level and use additional studies to see if a good balance exists between a 350 animal wolf population with livestock kills, deer populations, dog kills, and human interactions.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Amelia Bifano	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”	n/a	10	Thank you for the time and efforts you've put in to protect Wisconsin's wolves. I feel very strongly about this initiative.
Susan Cole	Most of it	No	I like that wolves wont be managed using the old goal of 350 individuals. And it pleases me that you are recognizing the ecological role wolves play.	The plan needs to strictly limit the lethal management of wolves (except for the extremely rare instances when a true threat exists). Hounding should be banned - this is cruel to the dogs and wolves alike. The state's method for estimating wolf numbers shows alarming departures from best practices in scientific management - it is still too highly influenced by anti-wolf factions.	3	There have been numerous studies showing that wolves have only a negligible effect of livestock numbers - allow wolves to regulate themselves - in Nature, they would anyway.
Catherine Frizat	Most of it	No	No more management referencing old numerical goal of 350 wolves. Buffer zones near tribal reservations	Plan does not reflect best available science in particular on effectiveness of non lethal interventions, impact of killing of wolves on packs social dynamics, etc.	6	Plan should prohibit any lethal management of wolves except of rare circumstances of defence of life
Frank Koresh	Most of it	Yes	The historic information of the wolf in Wisconsin.	The information from the "public perception" surveys. These data points are very misleading, as the surveys themselves were designed to give the answers that the pro-wolf groups were looking for, from the way the questions and answers were worded, to the way that the respondents were selected assured that the surveys would give the results that they wanted.	0	The plan is a complete failure to the people of this state, and especially to the sportsmen and woman of this state. The number one thing that needs to change in this plan is that there MUST BE A POPULATION GOAL DETERMINED, and this population goal NEEDS TO BE 350 OR LESS wolves in this state. The overwhelming support for the number has been shown multiple times by the votes in the Conservation Congress Spring hearings. Next, the area designated for wolf habitat needs to be left the way it was in the previous plan. Just because the wolves are there now does not automatically make that area suitable wolf habitat. The wolves in this state are currently out of control, and they need to be pushed back into the area of the state that was initially designated for them. Any area that has agriculture on the landscape needs to be kept free of wolf populations. Farmers are having a hard enough time with the modern economy, the last thing they need are preventable losses perpetrated on them by a the DNR for allowing the wolves to spread into areas of the state that they have no business being in. The DNR needs to listen to the rural residents in the area of wolf populations, their opinions and feedback needs to be weighed much more heavily than those that live in cities or villages, and the people that live in the major cities of the state, or the southern third of the state should have little or no input on this issue. Set a population limit, 350 OR LESS, and stick to it.

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Brianna Hager	All of it	No	I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section). I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. Time and again 'management' via hunting has proved to be wildly unsuccessful. It generally only breeds bloodlust and overkilling. Meanwhile, 'management' via hunting is undoubtedly unnecessary. Wolf packs, as are all predators, self sustaining and limiting. The amount of wolves that an ecosystem can hold are the PROPER amount that the land itself and the surrounding prey source calls for. Thus, in my opinion, it is only the greed of humans who dictate when (quite frankly not enough) the current populace number is 'too many'. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural	4	Put plans in place to encourage the instruction of study, science, and intelligence. Break the cycle of hatred.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Patricia Juday	Most of it	Yes				For the health and benefit of wolves and the environment it is critical to incorporate the recommendations of WGF's Wildlife Work Group.
Susan Repp	All of it	No	Real education for the population on wolves as this paper shows, history, significance with regards to the environment and ecosystem. Why they are important for us to protect them	I am not native American but I understand their position on the wolves, their voices need to be heard but it appears there is little of that going to happen. The 'Harvesting' is basically killing for sport, keeping their numbers down which is not really living in mutual existence with them. People chose where they live, the land is not only for humans but for the animals	2	The majority of the population support wolves yet the plan allows special interest groups to monopolize the conversation i.e. hunters, ranchers, anti-wolf individuals. We need to reflect the majority of voices and scientific information for support of wolves not negative bias and imagined threats. Killing just to kill is not a plan.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		No joint plan between state and federal to keep politics out. How do you verify wolf numbers when not all wolfs are counted . A set number of wolfs should be at original total	2	Original plan of 350 should stand. Deer and elk recovery will never happen, because it's to late already. Sportsmen will never see game like it was 20 years ago.thats the demise of the deer camps in northern Wisconsin. Along with lost revenue to local business.the DNR let the sportsmen down by not doing something a lot earlier. Now special interest and politics are in charge of all of Wisconsin sportsmen future.
Maggie R	All of it	Yes	I like the perspectives and input of all the tribes. I agree that wolves (Mo ewe) are brothers and sisters and they do not need to be "managed" but the focus should be on stewardship and nonlethal co-existence. I am not a tribal member for transparency sake. I also like the information on Gray Wolf biology and ecology. It tells me that the WI DNR has knowledge of that science.	I dislike the section on "harvesting" wolves. I do not support harvesting of wolves but rather I support education and non lethal co - existence. Minnesota DNR has done an outstanding job of public education that Wisconsin DNR should emulate. The "Voyager Wolf Project" in Minnesota is amazing and I have learned a lot from their YouTube videos (trail cams, etc.).	1	Though reading this plan I see the Wisconsin DNR knows the intimate social structure, biology and ecology of Gray wolves and that fact makes the decision to allow a wolf hunt (Feb. 2021) which slaughtered 216 wolves in only 3 days (and the hunt had to be cut short) whereby there was almost zero accountability or proper organization absolutely disgusting and reprehensible. Needless to say, some pregnant females were killed and the social structure consequently negatively impacted. My biggest concern is the incompetence at the WI DNR which allowed such a debacle and tragedy to occur. I am embarrassed for my home state Wisconsin by the WI DNR. Needless to say, I am grateful Gray Wolves are back on the endangered species list. If for some reason they are off again, what changes and accountability and transparency have been put in place by WI DNR to Prevent another tragedy and incompetent debacle like the one that occurred in Feb. 2021?
Cheryl Mach	All of it	No	It's been updated since 2007 with an updated 2022 public survey.	This plan is still hunter-human-centric with an emphasis on wolf-negativity, predation and control; especially using barbaric, old fashioned, and cruel means...i.e. trapping and hunting with hounds. Instead of focusing on the negative, the DNR needs to take a more positive view of the role wolves play in the natural ecology, their sentience, intelligence and family dynamics, and focus instead on the non-lethal approach to managing the population. There is such a thing as non-lethal management practices that work. Wolf hunting should be the last resort and not used for "recreational" purposes....no matter how hunters try to obfuscate the real reasons why they hunt predators---it's only for enjoyment and bragging rights!	5	Let's start looking at predators as a good thing for the environment and using our brains to to get away from killing anything that moves as the first response to a situation.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
C Dahl	Most of it	Yes	There's nothing to like.	Lack of 350 population goal. Lack of reasonable hunting opportunities. No realistic plan to get the numbers of wolves in check. Excessive buffer spaces around reservations.	1	Throw it out and start over. This time listen to the hunter groups and the people that live in wolf territory instead of the Dane County liberals and the animal rights lobby. Follow the guidance of the 350 animal goal passed by multiple county boards; that is the will of the people that live in wolf territory.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Not having a set population number.		9	None
Linda Davis	All of it	No	The recognition of the ecological role of wolves.	The lethal management of wolves except in the immediate defense of life.	1	
Tia Simon	Most of it	No	Public education efforts. Let's finally actually educate the public, and hunters, that wolves are not in a "dangerous" category. They do not hunt people and do not want to hunt farm animals. I'm so tired of the myths, hype, lies, and hollywood falsities that have left wolves one of the most persecuted animals in America. Shame on us. Let's get the real science out there. The ecological role of wolves, thier passive nature with people, and their incredible sentience (they make better families than humans do) needs to be known. We have much to learn from them.	Trapping, use of dogs, and use of technology to kill wolves today is dated and unacceptable. These are gruesome, horrific, disrespectful methods that have no place in society anymore. In fact, hunting is becoming a less popular sport due in part to such unsportsmanlike and unethical methods, as we hunters hunt for food and for our health. Trapping was, a long, long, long time ago how people caught necessary food while today, at the expense of all, it is for tradition (more understandable) or sheer profit without any food from the wolf at all (completely unacceptable). We need to stop supporting old, dated methods that are torturous just because some special interest groups are loud and have money to lobby. I hope I needn't have to explain why traps, dogs and technology to kill an endangered, exploited, highly intelligent, sentient being is intolerable. Let's be enlightened and finally accept that our fellow animals are are important and necessary to Earth, America's and state's welfare and wellbeing as we are - or more so. We're in an extinction crisis, a biodiversity crash, a climate crisis and a human overpopulation crisis, and your report demonstrates out-of-control poaching and illegal killing of wolves. It does not account for uncollared poached or illegally killed wolves which we may assume are equal to or potentially a greater percent than the collared wolves. Where are these figured into the plan, as they will each and all significantly - greatly - affect wolf success? These four issues must be included to affect future outcomes. We may also assume that disease will increase, not remain the same or decrease, as ecosystem health continues to decline. Please add this factor as well. All conflict plans should be non-lethal, using only humane interventions. All of them. All recreational take should be eliminated. Wolves are not a source of American food and there is no reason beyond personal greed to allow such killing of our publicly shared wildlife, especially iconic, highly intelligent, revered and sentient wildlife. We can, as a nation and states, make far more profit from protecting wolves than killing them. The plan has but a tiny, tiny, tiny percent of land designated in full protection of wolves. Wolves, to create viable families, pass on healthy genetics and properly teach their young, as well as to balance ecosystems, must have more full-protection areas. These are the areas where we know wolves thrive, and this drives tourism, especially ecotourism, which is, and will continue to become, far, far more popular than trophy hunting.	4	Unfortunately, this plan looks like those of the past that have left our nation and our states in a wildlife crisis. Wolves balance ecosystems. To bring back ecosystem health, and thus our wealth, we must revise this plan to increase the number of wolves, and their range, significantly. I am finally saddened that this public comment period was not part of prior plan proposals. What of democracy? Thank you.
William Schroeder	Most of it	Yes		I would like to see the depredation numbers return to where they were at the turn of the century. The chart on page 74 is alarming. I would like to see the wolf population return to the original goal of 350 animals. Keep the number there for ten years and depredation at that time.	1	As the wolf population continues to increase there is going to be more and more contact with human activity. There needs to be a balance and right now that balance appears to be out of whack.
Mr and Mrs Coppola	Most of it	No	We support increasing protections for wolves, and educating people and stop with the “big bad wolf” myths	It’s difficult to believe only a few Wisconsinites support non lethal use. Please educate.	5	Ideally non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing is a must
Victoria	All of it	No			10	
Marianne Lazarus	All of it	No	There are several very positive and progressive in this plan such as, including the respect of buffer zones for tribal reservations. The increasingly more positive view of public resect and understanding of and wolves. The expanded understanding of the plan to the ecological value that wolves bring to the environment. The increased opposition by the public as to culling wolves by the number, and the methods of awareness of the motives and methods of such.	The lack of scientific data that shows that how the impact of killing of each individual corresponds to the growing awareness of wolves being creatures of sentience. Science has found that wolves are important to wolves, the public and the environment. Much more research on the effectiveness of non-lethal measures to control population and provide positive benefits to industries, sporting, the public at large and the wolves themselves. Data shows that we can live habitably with each other. There are scientific facts that prove that wolves are valuable to other wolves, to the public, the evolution of our wolf population, and the ecological stability of the forests and wilderness areas.	4	Do more scientific research. The plans does not touch hound use in management of populations. This is little more than legal dogfighting, it is cruel and does not need to be used. Public opposition to the cruel culling and methods used by the public are in the majority. Look at the data. Conflict resolution is a well know and valued resource which needs to be explored by this plan. Wolf management need to change. This plan definitely needs more scientific review on how wolf killing negatively impacts our entire system.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes		No population limits on wolf management.	1	This proposed plan is so biased toward "no wolf management". I live in eastern Oneida County and own nearly 400 acres. There are at least two (2) wolf packs in this area. I have owned and hunted this property for 49 years. Wolves are raising havoc with the deer population and has ruined my deer hunting. I have lost four deer hunters in my camp because of this wolf population. The hunting traditions are deteriorating. Wolf kills have been within 100 yards of my home on the property. I have to carry a sidearm when I am not hunting, doing forestry and land management work. I can live with the 350 wolf goal as originally proposed. What the DNR is now proposing is totally unacceptable.
	All of it	Yes			0	You have destroyed generations of family hunting traditions in the north woods with your complete lack of action and catering to the liberal wacko propagandists. It is near impossible to get kids involved with hunting when there are next to no deer because the wolves have decimated the deer herd. And for what? So an extremely small minority of liberal wackos can feel all warm and fuzzy. Quit procrastinating and do your job of managing these out of control predators. THEY ARE NOT ENDANGERED! Stop the lies. There are thousands of wolves in wild places where they belong and are thriving just fine in Canada, Alaska, etc. We do not need them murdering livestock and family pets where they do not belong. Use some common sense. Remove the "endangered" lie from the discussion already. Who cares what the historical range is. Things have changed. We cannot have them killing pets and livestock where they do not belong.
Dennis W. Holland, Ph.D.	Most of it	No	- Appreciate the proposal to include consideration of Native American perspectives, specifically the proposal to provide buffer zones around reservations. - Proposal to eliminate specific numerical management of wolves (e.g. the "350" number). - Scientific input in the plan. For example, identifying the ecological value of wolves and their importance in managing natural resources. -The more positive view of wolves found in the ""social survey" which may assist in reducing inhumane destruction of wolves and even the absurd outdated motives for wolf killing.	- The plan does not appropriately address the sentiments of society regarding the ecological value of wolves, the inhumane methods of killing wolves and their right to exist. - The plan fails to address the full body of available scientific research reflecting the damage done through inhumane and unnecessary killing of wolves. Lethal management of wolves should be should be rare and justified according to current scientific research. - Generally the plan does not go far enough to address the value of wolves, the need to maintain appropriate population, the inhumanity of the lethal wolf "management" methods. A much broader assessment and utilization of available scientific research should dominate the discussions and body of the "plan". Finally, as mentioned above, the plan does address some inclusion of Native American perspectives. However, it does not fully address the cultural aspects of the tribal relationship with wolves. More input from the tribal communities of Wisconsin is imperative.	5	Wolves are a necessary part of creation. Our Creator does NOT make mistakes! I applaud the WDNR for taking on this important task. I only ask that all available pertinent scientific research be reviewed and included in the further development of this plan.
Kathlene Henry-Gorman	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan, and the opportunity you have created to voice my opinion concerning the WWMP. I recognize several efforts and improvements made to the previous plan which include: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves in keeping ecosystems healthy. They help keep deer and elk populations in check, which can benefit many other plant and animal species. The carcasses of their prey also help to redistribute nutrients and provide food for other wildlife species, like grizzly bears and scavengers. ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing and controlling wolves. ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on the following: 1. Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, 2. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, 3. The impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. My greatest concerns comes down to what I consider the following important points: The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	5	
Dale Kluth	All of it	Yes		Lack of a population goal and expansion of wolf habitat designations	1	I object to the proposed wolf management plan because, among other things it lacks a population goal. That goal should be 350 wolves as was originally proposed when wolves were introduced to Wisconsin The reasons being; 1. A goal of 350 wolves was overwhelmingly supported by the vote count at the spring conservation congress. 2. That number was also supported by 25 county boards,Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Wisconsin wildlife federation and Wisconsin cattlemen's association. 3. The WDNR has initiated a program to open up private land for hunting and other recreation, meanwhile leaving wolves destroy the hunting on all the public lands in northern Wisconsin. 4. Wolves are NOT endangered and Wisconsin is NOT the place to have large numbers of them.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Strategy C3: Encourage non-consumptive recreational and cultural opportunities associated with wolves.	1. Doesn't specifically address solving the problem of the recent overharvest. 2. Strategy A5 Maintain sustainable populations of wolf primary prey because we already have too many deer on the landscape, if we increase deer for both humans and wolves we'll never lower deer levels in the state. 3. Providing compensation for hunting dog losses.	7	
Roberta M. Rieck	Most of it	Yes	See below	See below	1	I adopt and endorse the comments of John F. Ebbott, Jefferson County, as my own comments.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Recognition of the ecological role of wolves; social surveys	Lacking the latest available science when discussing recreational killing and other lethal means of population control.	5	
John Czyzewski	All of it	Yes	I like that The Wisconsin DNR is taking public input and want to maintain a healthy Wolf population.	I dislike the random numbers being thrown out for illegal kills and pouching. You don't know them I dislike the percentage rate you feel is allowable for a wolf hunt .much to high. If there is a hunt I dislike the minimal amount charged for a hunting permit. ridiculously low. I don't see the numbers from the last wolf hunt that was a disaster.	4	As far as trust in the DNR , look at the last disastrous hunt in Wisconsin. so not to much trust. I don't think I saw the numbers from that any where. I could be wrong.
Elizabeth Marie	All of it	Yes	Good historical information.	1. Where is the population goal. Without a goal you don't really have a plan. 2. Where is the estimated population by zone? 3. The word Holistic doesn't belong in a wolf management plan. 4. Too many anti-hunting and wolf advocates on the committee. 5. Properties adjacent to the reservation shouldn't be treated any different than all other non reservation properties. 6. Looks more like a wolf expansion plan. 7. To mention potential eco tourism because of wolfs is a joke. They aren't like Elk that are predictable. Hunting tourism lost far outweighs any pie in the sky wolf tourism. 8. Residents located in wolf territory should have most of the say in acceptable wolf levels. Don't include large cities like Wausau. 9.	1	
Michelle Talhami	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate options to reign in harms caused by trophy hunting and trapping as the following: - Creation of subzones 1B and 2B to minimize wolf harvest in areas adjacent to large tribal reservations within wolf range; however, I believe quotas in subzones should be zero to more effectively provide a buffer area for wolves who live on or adjacent to reservations. - Pursing administrative rules to reduce registration time for wolves killed by trophy hunters and trappers to eight hours (Product C2a). - Limiting wolf licenses to be valid only in a specific zone (Product C2c). The DNR was correct to remove a numerical population management goal from the plan. Wolf populations should not be managed for a specific number, but rather the goal should be for the state to have a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse population that maintains connection with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfills their ecological roles. I appreciate the commitment to making information about wolves transparent and easily accessible to the public. All information about wolf population dynamics, mortality, and conflicts should be readily accessible on the department's website. Developing wolf conflict mitigation plans focused on non-lethal deterrent methods for farms with chronic wolf problems (Product B1h) is a step in the right direction to mitigating already rare conflicts with livestock in a way that supports public values and the best available science. I also appreciate the strategies related to increasing public education related to the implementation of nonlethal conflict deterrent methods.	Establishing a season to train hounds for wolf trophy hunting is irresponsible and amounts to state-sanctioned dogfighting (Product C2h). Such a season will undoubtedly increase conflict, create social chaos among wolves, and lead to increased harassment of nontarget wildlife and trespass issues with landowners. Overall, the plan puts an alarming emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves when they are not protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act. While I understand Wisconsin law mandates the state hold such seasons when wolves are not federally protected, the plan should recommend this law be changed, similar to the way it recommends other changes to other state statutes. It is very disappointing that the majority of strategies under Objective C - Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population are related to trophy hunting and trapping. Wolves provide many benefits, particularly related to biodiversity and the ecosystem, disease reduction and preventing deer-vehicle collisions, and those ideas should be the focus of this objective. Only a very small portion of Wisconsin's population is interested in trophy hunting and trapping wolves, whereas all Wisconsinites benefit from the ecological services wolves provide. A higher emphasis should be placed on nonlethal conflict deterrence methods in Section 3 and Section 4, Objective B. Scientific studies demonstrate that killing wolves, particularly through trophy hunting and trapping, can lead to increased conflicts, while nonlethal deterrents can be highly effective at deterring conflicts when used correctly. Product B1f, to 'utilize the wolf harvest zones/subzones and public harvest season to address conflicts by directing licensed wolf hunters and trappers to areas of conflict' goes against the best available science and should be removed. Particularly in Section 1, there should be a more robust discussion of the harms killing wolves has to their social dynamics. Numerous scientific studies have demonstrated that killing a single wolf can create social chaos and rip wolf families apart, potentially leading to increased conflicts with humans. The plan seems to include irrational 'perceived' harms from wolves as potential justifications for reducing wolf numbers by killing them. Yet, wolves do not threaten human life, the livestock industry, or hunters' ability to hunt deer. Wolf attacks on humans in the lower 48 states have never been documented. Wolves take far less than 1% of Wisconsin's livestock. And, Wisconsin's deer herd is robust. Rather than using irrational fears or 'perceived' loss of deer hunting opportunities as justifications for killing, the DNR should rather focus on providing robust public education to correct such misinformation. The plan should include a provision to update it at least every five to ten years rather than being 'valid until replaced'.	5	Wisconsin has a responsibility to craft an updated wolf management plan that supports a healthy, genetically diverse, and socially stable wolf population and is rooted in the best available science and traditional ecological knowledge, ethics, and public values. As a keystone species, the benefits wolves provide ripple throughout our ecosystem and have been instrumental in restoring biological diversity. While there are many scientific studies documenting the consequences of killing wolves, there is not a single one that provides the justification for killing such intelligent and social animals who provide so many ecological and cultural benefits. This draft should be revised to meet this responsibility by: - Recommending policy changes to eliminate the mandate that Wisconsin hold a trophy hunting and trapping season on wolves when they are not federally protected. - Further discussing and emphasizing a clear prioritization of nonlethal methods for preventing conflicts with livestock. - Including a strong commitment to give all Wisconsinites a seat at the table in guiding wolf policy. Based on the 2022 public attitudes survey detailed in the wolf plan, the majority of Wisconsinites clearly value wolves and want them to thrive in Wisconsin. These values should be more proportionately represented in groups that have influence over wolf policy.
	All of it	Yes	None of it	You must have a population goal. To leave it open ended is an insult to everyone.	1	

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JCB Heffernan	All of it	Yes	Anything that has to do with the possible effect of wolves on CWD and Lyme disease and the native american view of wolves and wolf history.		9	one litle detail not mentioned is the hiostorical wipeout of the beaver population and how that may have contributed to the decline of wolves to some extent--we have decimated so many things as we have "settled" the US that it may be hard to keep track of what ways we have influenced the destruction of our natural spaces and our ecology and influenced disease in general in our human population...
Clayton King	Most of it	Yes	I don't like it at all. It is socially based not science based! We need to go back to what we were already using and follow it. And the 1st thing that needs to be done is to step up to the federal government and get them taken off of the Endangered species list.	It is social based not science based.	1	In my opinion the people that are for this protecting the wolves is trying to take away deer hunting from the people, and let the dogs eat all of them and that's gonna be very bad for our state when we lose all the money that deer hunting generates.
John Tomten	Most of it	Yes	I'm grateful that the DNR has finally released the long overdue plan... be it 2 days after the general election. I'm happy that there is finally a "plan".	Overall, the plan is politically biased! Let's remove our governors from this equation. We need common sense and responsible management by the DNR, without political influence. I believe that 95% of our DNR's employees and scientists are actual friends of the sportsmen and women of our state. But, overall, I believe that the top 5% of upper management needs a thorough house cleaning! The plan is expanding the acceptable wolf range area into areas that are inappropriate for wolves and will create more conflict. This is not fair to the wolves or our fellow citizens. Since half of the counties in our state want a 350 or less management population goal, why are you expanding the wolf range and NOT listing a number? This plan is simply ridicules and will create more future problems than it will resolve the issues of today.	3	I agree that we need a small population of wolves in Wisconsin to add to our state's diversity. But, that said, there are large areas of northern Wisconsin which may be able to handle this with controlled population, but NOT the entire state, which seems to be where this plan is eventually heading. So, what is the maximum wolf population goal??? 350, 500, 2500, or 3000 to 5000??? Without a number, how can this be considered a management plan?? Also, I do not agree with the current "scientific wolf count". There are far too many ways to influence the "occupancy modeling" system... way too many variables and outside influences. I feel that we need to return to actual snow tracking and howling methods and that they need to be fully funded so that they can actually support "on-the-ground" science. The population needs to be COUNTED versus the current guessing game with it's obvious political influences! Also, the tribes have a say in this... if they don't want to hunt wolves on their tribal lands, hey, that's okay. But, that should be the extent of it and they shouldn't be allowed to simply trash their permits if there is a hunting season. this makes no sense to me. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns.
Richard Kite	All of it	Yes	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and	5	

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				endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Mark Bullard	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	I was originally in support of having wolves return to Norther Wisconsin with the agreed quota of 350. Not sure who or why our current wildlife managers don't want to have that in this plan or even say that they support it. Our deer herd has been decimated in the wolf areas. Tourism is way down and many hunters don't even bother going to the once sacred areas of norther Wisconsin. Listen to the hunters that are out there. Obviously the wolf numbers are out of control when 216 can be shot in two days with limited amount of tags.	1	Listen to the hunters in northern Wisconsin, not anti hunting groups. Get the wolf hunt back.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				The deer population is Wisconsin is way too high. Historically, it would have never been this high. I know this is a touchy subject, and hunters want a deer every year, but I think that expectation is unrealistic. The deer population wreaks havoc on our forest health. There are plenty of examples/studies that show healthy regeneration of forest ecosystems in areas that have been fenced off for deer vs. adjacent areas that have not. Lack of that forest regeneration on a broader scale greatly affects other species. I have admittedly not read the plan. However, if it calls for reducing the wolf herd, it should then also call for greatly reducing the deer herd as well...hopefully down to pre-settlement numbers. If the latter doesn't happen with reduced predation, then the ecosystem will be even more out of whack. For the record, my son and I hunt deer so this isn't coming from a non-hunter.

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Anna Enderle	Most of it	Yes	I really like that there are refuge areas where no wolves will be harvested, and I'm glad Wisconsin's Native tribes were consulted so that tribal lands can be these refuge areas. I like that plan includes outreach and education to increase Wisconsinites' knowledge of and interest in wolves. The plan also addresses the key role that wolves play in the ecosystem and acknowledges their ecological importance. I also like that the plan acknowledges that having corridors for wolves to move between packs is key to having a healthy, sustainable population.	I might have missed it, but I didn't see any criteria that explained the harvest quotas for wolves. I think it would be beneficial to have it clearly written out what the metrics are when discussing how many wolf tags will be available.	9	Thank you for your hard work! I'm excited to see the effects of the plan in the years to come.
	Most of it	No	The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations and the plan now seems to recognize the ecological role of wolves.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and	4	

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				measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Merlin Van Buren	All of it	Yes	I like that it is adaptable to the different areas. I like that it is more based on science and not opinion or politics.	Hunting is still too high of a priority.	7	There are not too many wolves. The state can sustain a much higher population.

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S Stewart	All of it	No	- Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. - There is much greater acknowledgement of the ecological role and value of wolves - The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves - The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not seem connected to up to date and excellent available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature which is vast and well documented and easily attainable on a bunch of wolf facts (documented and documented well). Facts about wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. Facts about the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially in contrast with lethal ones. Facts about the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. Instead, there seems a bias that is oriented towards human need to kill wolves. Which simply does not make sense and is not backed but as useful for management. In fact, it never makes sense to kill wolves except when it is a (rare, to say the least) life or death situation. Any other reasons only increase violence towards wolves by illegal means as well as those deemed legal. Killing wolves, or any animal, with dog packs, is unsportsmanlike and completely unnecessary and is not approved of by the general public. It's akin to dog fighting. Which is illegal! In essence, the plan should focus on prioritizing wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. This is backed by reams of excellent science and wolf studies! Furthermore, the plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners if they are to receive compensation for confirmed predation. There is just too much bias towards hunting and trapping when this is not what the broad public wants at all. The public LIKES wolves and cares about wolves as real and valued animals. The plan keeps acting as though this is not true and as though the intent is to back up undocumented reasons why old methods of supposed wolf management (for example, hunting and trapping quotas) make sense. When they don't. The quotas could be set at zero and more up to date actual public and research data. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. We find this depressing and are also depressed by the underappreciation of the actual wolf populations and lack of care for that and the lack of understanding of Native American value of wolves. This plan needs a lot of improvement and the good news is that there are loads of studies with data for how to improve the plan!	4	Please actually do a true literature search and learn about all the many ways wolves matter and can be understood and managed in nonlethal ways. This issue is terribly handled these days in Montana, where we live, so we are delighted by your openness to hearing from people who know about and care about wolves!

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Chris Stewart	All of it	No	- Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. - There is much greater acknowledgement of the ecological role and value of wolves - The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves - The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not seem connected to up to date and excellent available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature which is vast and well documented and easily attainable on a bunch of wolf facts (documented and documented well). Facts about wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. Facts about the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially in contrast with lethal ones. Facts about the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. Instead, there seems a bias that is oriented towards human need to kill wolves. Which simply does not make sense and is not backed but as useful for management. In fact, it never makes sense to kill wolves except when it is a (rare, to say the least) life or death situation. Any other reasons only increase violence towards wolves by illegal means as well as those deemed legal. Killing wolves, or any animal, with dog packs, is unsportsmanlike and completely unnecessary and is not approved of by the general public. It's akin to dog fighting. Which is illegal! In essence, the plan should focus on prioritizing wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. This is backed by reams of excellent science and wolf studies! Furthermore, the plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners if they are to receive compensation for confirmed predation. There is just too much bias towards hunting and trapping when this is not what the broad public wants at all. The public LIKES wolves and cares about wolves as real and valued animals. The plan keeps acting as though this is not true and as though the intent is to back up undocumented reasons why old methods of supposed wolf management (for example, hunting and trapping quotas) make sense. When they don't. The quotas could be set at zero and more up to date actual public and research data. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. We find this depressing and are also depressed by the underappreciation of the actual wolf populations and lack of care for that and the lack of understanding of Native American value of wolves. This plan needs a lot of improvement and the good news is that there are loads of studies with data for how to improve the plan!	5	Please actually do a true literature search and learn about all the many ways wolves matter and can be understood and managed in nonlethal ways. This issue is terribly handled these days in Montana, where we live, so we are delighted by your openness to hearing from people who know about and care about wolves!
Linda Weitzer	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal Plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefit of wolves Plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it	DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update	9	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That the DNR would base a plan on actual wolf numbers. A plan based on "zones".	Hunting with dogs, such harassment of wildlife and is it any wonder, dogs are hurt? No to hunting with dogs, no to trapping. The deer population here in Mercer is exploding, we need the wolves.	5	My compliments, it does look extensive and well thought out. A summary would have been nice, I mean how many people are going to read 178 pages? Did I miss something...how many are you going to be allowed to be killed? So it is dependent on the Zone? The lottery?
	Most of it	No	-There is recognition of the ecological role of wolves - Inclusion of buffer zones around tribal lands	-Continues to promote recreational killing as an effective management method despite ample evidence to the contrary -Hound training? Really?? That's just barbaric and the antithesis of actual science -Plan should mandate non-lethal methods BEFORE lethal methods	4	
Jeff Craig	All of it	Yes	I like that it is extremely thorough, discussing all aspects of State management of a specific wild mammal.	I think for the general public, there needs to be a summary of the most important points of the complete report.	10	
Mickey v. Br.	Just the parts I am interested in	No			7	I urge you to support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing! Thank you
	Most of it	Yes	It has good information on range and depredation.	There should be a specific number. A season must be set. Residents in wolf country should carry the most weight.	1	The WWF position should be taken very seriously. They are right on all counts.

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	Most of it	Yes	Natural predation as a CWD control method thinks outside the box. Fairly comprehensive cites of wolf data from other states is helpful in forming opinions and viewpoints.	Elk/wolf mortality data disregards (estimated) yearly wolf and elk populations and/or herd/pack locations which likely change and have an impact on predation success. Elk herd numbers appear fairly quantifiable and historically not disputed in comparison to wolf numbers. Elk mortality relative to elk herd size on an annual basis would be helpful, as would annual wolf based elk mortality relative to individual elk herd annual recruitment estimates.	1	Hunter success rate in past wolf hunts not adequately considered as a population estimating metric. An arbitrary geographic line drawn to show historic range of any species is not relevant if historic habitat changes are not considered. Humans are here to stay (unfortunately?), so balance of wildlife populations in modern, reduced habitats as well as human activities such as whitetail deer hunting and economic impacts must be adequately balanced. Human/hunter pushback was significant at a wolf population estimate far below today's "estimate". Set Statewide wolf population goal at 350 combined count with Upper Michigan as early Federal guidance indicated.
	All of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	3	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	i liked two of the three primary objectives. have a sustainable wolf population and reduce wolf conflicts - both achievable with a much smaller population than current.	not having a specific population goal and allowing buffer zones around Indian reservations.	2	
	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones. the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	5	The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).

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Paul Moss	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	1	Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.		
Don	All of it	No	In general, a lot of good effort went into the research associated with the plan. There's acknowledgement of the importance that wolves play in the ecosystem.	The plan should not be taking into consideration fear and ignorance when it comes to science-based determination of the wolf management plan. Attitudes towards wolves can be directly attributed to the lack of education and the historical general negative consensus of the population, very much like the negative perception of sharks. Any support for killing for the sake of killing (e.g. killing to challenge one's self) should not be considered a valid reason. Trapping kills indiscriminately and can harm domesticated animals just the same. If the justification of protecting domesticated animals is sufficient to kill wolves, then the same reason can be used to eliminate trapping. Those that support culling and killing of wolves provide no peer reviewed scientific data to support their views, only unsubstantiated stories. The plan does not go far enough to support non-lethal deterrent methods which have been proven successful. Any justification to cull wolves based on hunting dog conflict should not be considered at input within the plan. Wolves are not preying on these dogs, this is an active conflict initiated by the dogs and dog owners.	4	
Paul Olson	All of it	Yes	N/A	No number for wolf harvest —need the number to be 350	1	The plan should be made with the residents that live in the wolf areas in mind—not the southern part of the State
Samantha Robbins	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the transparency to the public around wolves. I like that there is a focus on non-lethal methods for farms with wolf conflicts (B1h) and like that there are strategies for increasing public education around non-lethal methods.	I strongly disagree with having a season to train hounds for wolf trophy hunting (C2h). This is problematic for both hounds and wolves and is no better than dog fighting. There needs to be more discussion around the effects wolf trophy hunting can have on the wolf population and packs given these are pack animals with strong social dynamics. I dislike that so many strategies for Objective C are related to wolf trophy hunting and trapping. This is not something that many Wisconsinites are interested in partaking in and there are many benefits the wolf population brings to the ecosystem. I feel the focus should be less on trophy hunting and trapping wolves and more on recommending changing the law that requires this cruel and unhealthy practice to take place whenever wolves are not federally protected.	4	Wisconsin needs to create a wolf management plan that is backed by science and supports a healthy and stable wolf population. The science supports the fact that the negative consequences of killing wolves far outweigh the benefits. This plan needs to be updated to recommend to eliminate the mandatory wolf trophy hunt, increase emphasis on nonlethal methods, and better reflect how the majority of Wisconsinites feel about wolves, which is that we value them and we don't want them to be killed for sport or when nonlethal methods are sufficient.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I most dislike the fact that the DNR is attempting to remove a specific number of wolf they are trying to manage to. Every sportsperson I speak with or am aware of (including myself) fully disrespect the DNR, do not trust them, and totally are of the opinion that there are way more wolfs than the approx. 950 the state indicates there are. By eliminating the need to manage to a number the DNR can go on lying to the sportsperson that there is a lower number than actual. It is a travesty what has happened to Wisconsin and the wolf population.	0	I have been hunting the NE quarter of Wisconsin and purchased property in 1988. For the approximate first 20 years there were plenty of deer seen during a season and many opportunities for a harvest. During the last ten years or so I have hunted and most days (bow and gun season) myself and hunting partners see zero deer. During gun season I typically will be in the woods and hunt 50 - 55 hours. Total deer observed can usually be counted on one hand. Virtually every night we hear wolves and routinely see them on our cameras. As a life long hunter there is no doubt in my mind why the state is loosing young hunters (and old) - why would you hunt, go up North and/or purchase property, buy a hunting license, or manage property when you do not respect the DNR, do not believe they are honest or will be held accountable.
Collins	All of it	Yes	Better than what I expected because in the DNR zoom meetings every action, plan received opposition.	I do not support delisting the wolves of WI., the Southern Rockies. I expect non-lethal measures for management. New fencing, that reports being effective for livestock protection made available to ranchers, farmers.	3	Considering, there are wolves being relocated, released in the Colorado Southern Rockies, I believe all the surrounding states should support the effort, plan. Again, keep the wolves of the Southern Rockies under ESA protection to make the entire plan a success. I have never supported trapping, snares or hounding. In addition, perspective! hunters need to be educated on hunting, firearm safety.

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henry haas	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I don't like any of the draft plan as written	we need to manage wolf populations just like all the other species in this state in a biologically wayand not political!!!!	1	We need a number that the landscape can support
Andrea	Most of it	Yes	I like the creation of Subzones 1B and 2B. But I do think the quota in those should be set at zero. I also appreciate Product C2a, Product C2c, and Product B1h. I like the removal of a numerical population management goal from the plan. I am glad to see the commitment to making info about wolves transparent and accessible to us. We should always be able to know what is going on with every aspect of our state and state's decisions.	I do not like establishing a season to train hounds for wolf trophy hunting, Product C2h. It's irresponsible. Overall I feel it very disappointing that the plan puts an unnerving emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves, and I see this under Objective C, Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population. A tiny portion of Wisconsin's population is interested in trophy hunting. But all of us benefit from what wolves provide, such as reduction in disease and preventing collisions with deer and our cars.	2	Wisconsin has a responsibility to create a wolf management plan rooted in science, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, ethics and public values. Any of these resources will show you the benefits wolves provide. And none of them will show a good reason to justify killing these incredible animals. This draft still needs revision to gain my full support, including: eliminating WI to hold a trophy hunting and trapping season on wolves when they aren't federally protected; prioritizing nonlethal methods when there are conflicts with livestock (a cow's life is not worth more than a wolf's); and a commitment to give ALL OF US a voice in guiding wolf policy.
JOHN F OLSON	Most of it	Yes	A thoughtful, inclusive plan that brings science and human values/concerns together. Not managing by a numeric population goal. The focus of lethal & non-lethal tools to those specific areas of chronic depredations. The effort to increase public involvement in research and management (observations, cameras, tracking, and collaring of trapped incidentals). The development of a single Wolf Advisory Committee. Issue permits based on past success rates, staying away from the "circus" atmosphere of 2012-14 (and 2021), where too many permits were issued. Managing wolves by zone, not as a statewide population. Buffer zones around established reservation boundaries allows the state and tribes to work together to protect local packs while still allowing control tools where depredation occurs within these zones. Developing a more thoughtful management approach where population management will occur across most of WI while pack management may occur around established tribal reservations.	Continue to be displeased with the lack of control on the widespread use of trailing hounds and all terrain vehicles and auto vehicles in the pursuit. Need to have mandatory registration with carcass submission. Carcasses can provide important information such as: age, gender, repro status, health, contaminants, etc.	9	I was the furbearer biologist for the department for 23 years, a member of the Wolf Recovery Team, and then a member of the Wolf Science Team. Was directly involved with this species for 30 years, from 1985 to 2014 and developed the trapping regulations for wolves. A couple of reflections include: *Respect all viewpoints but remember that it's the ultimate responsibility of the department to "protect and enhance" natural resources for the state. Having said that, it's important that statewide user groups have a voice at the "table" but make it clear that the tribes are not just another user group, they truly have significant rights as a sovereign entity and will be conferred with on a continual basis. *Provide voluntary wolf trapping workshops across the state whenever a harvest is planned. At these workshops stress rules & regulations, trapper responsibilities, ethics, humane traps, and respect for others. Stress thoughtful use of social media - what you may think looks OK may be repulsive to others and impact the future of such management and the use of humane, regulated trapping. *DO NOT do what we did in 2012-2014 (and then what the DNR Board did in 2021) and issue so many permits that intense competition occurred in the field and caused harvest seasons to be shut down in days. If you manage the issuance of permits by past success rates it will reduce the "circus" atmosphere, minimize the exposure of the harvest, and provide those with permits more of a quality experience. The argument of issuing lots of permits so the season can be shut down quickly is wrong. If a reasonable number of permits are issued most of the impacts highlighted by others (pack disruption, tracking interference, etc.) will be minimal at best. With the intense drive to catch a wolf before the season was shut down (2012-14 and again in 2021), it created an atmosphere of greed and caused folks to do things they should not have (set lots of traps near roads and on trails so they could check them quickly; catch grouse hunter dogs at record levels; cause overlap and interference between harvesters, etc.). I'd consider the elk harvest model as an example of one to consider where fewer permits allow a controlled harvest and a quality experience. *Stay with a single Wolf Advisory Committee! The experience we had with having two wolf committees in the past wasn't productive as it gave those not on the Science Committee the feeling that they really were not part of the process because when we would meet with them it was always a defensive role, trying to convince user groups of what "our science says". With a single committee it does create the possibility of "grand standing" by vocal individuals, but this can be prevented in large part through the use of a third-party, trained facilitator. The Beaver Task Force was just that - a single, (large) committee with everyone at the table (agencies, statewide organizations, tribes, GLIFWC, etc.). With user groups hearing the science firsthand and having the opportunity to talk about it and ask questions, resulted in amazing compromise. But I was convinced that the key was the trained facilitator, bringing respect of each other forefront, and defusing polarized views. *Thanks for asking! Good luck.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The fact that the comment period was extended 30 days.	Only a bunch of bureaucrats could devise a plan of approximately 170 pages & expect public comment.1) no quota, 2) biased feedback 3) too much reference to " scientific data / research ", 4) expansion of primary & secondary wolf habit not understood 5) not enough sympathy for residents who ACTUALLY live in wolf areas	1	I am hopeful for a meaningful improvement in the plan. However, until the leadership in Madison changes, I have very little hope. Thank you.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	1. Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. 2. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves 3. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves 4. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	1. The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution 2. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. 3. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. 4. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. 5. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). 6. There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence).		
Jennifer Argelander	All of it	Yes	A very balanced approach; a good focus on the ecological benefits of wolves; low quota zones are tribal lands; removing an arbitrary wolf population goal; good data	That dogs are still part of the hunting plan--upsetting that as the years went by, by the last hunt 86% of the kills used dogs. A hunt should be between the hunter and the hunted. A cruel practice. And how can trapping be humane in any sense? That should be outlawed.	8	It was well written and covered a lot of information
Ross Shrago	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Abatement measures.	I can't tell whether money used for reimbursement purposes might be better used to provide abatement measures for farmers. I'm not a big fan of reimbursing hunters for injury and loss of their dogs	10	It's a good plan
	Most of it	Yes	Attention to the issues of overharvesting.	Trophy hunters of any kind, that do not hunt for subsistence, but for the shear rush of pulling the trigger and killing something, are not hunters at all, but weak individuals that do not understand the natural balance. Especially how humankind has disrupted that balance more than any other living thing.	1	We need to manage the human population. Farms with animals should be required to fence all areas that could result in a predator/prey conflict. It's not the wolf's fault that we pen animals in concentrations that encourage predation.
Barbara Dahlgren	All of it	Yes	I like that a few true conservation stakeholders were involved to ensure there was some mention of "non-consumptive users" being able to enjoy Wisconsin's wolves by having some in existence.	A lot of the plan is based on reports of wolf depredation reports that are often inaccurate and false and serve a main purpose of fearmongering against wolves. Then, there were surveys asking this public that has been made to fear wolves how they view them, which obviously leads the public (especially those in wolf country) to fear wolves and want them gone. There was also a lot of attention to wolf disease, and a short bit about how Wisconsin does not rehabilitate them, another excuse to slaughter lots of wolves. If our places were reversed, I would not like to be slaughtered for catching a disease or simply for existing. And of course, what was left unsaid was exactly what the Wolf Committee recommends, which is to kill as many wolves as possible, and to have a management goal of around 500, which is obscene. This was a long report with a lot of nebulous language to cloak the true goal of rampant killing of wolves that have every right to exist, and are a valuable part of our Wisconsin ecosystem, particularly as predators to other animals that also carry diseases and can be troublesome to humans. I implore you to reconsider this overmanagement plan, and opt for a vision that truly has conservation at the heart rather than human recreation and human caused problems with wolf eradication solutions.	1	I would like to see wolf conservation groups at the table when deciding how to handle wolves. I would like to see farmers who are very vocal about deer destruction issues at the table. When humans go hunting out in wolf territory or decide to live in the wilderness of Wisconsin, they should not be seen as supposed victims. The wolves are, especially since the massive killing spree of the last wolf hunt. Humans are part of nature, not it's overall managers. In fact, most efforts we feel confident in as managers tend to backfire on us with unintended consequences. We need to have more respect for the ecological circumstances we inhabit as a small portion of the resident life here rather than "managing" our neighbors out of existence.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	3	

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MARV GIFFEY	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	very little,173 out 176 pages of boring	any part involving politicians and no science backed special interest group	1	keep POLITICIANS out of the DNR. They are destroying this state!!!
Jeanne Bourdeau	All of it	Yes	Respect for science	Hounding wolves is inhumane and should be illegal	9	Incorporate a requirement for responsible agriculture practices that minimize depredations. Ban hounding. Eliminate bounties paid to bear hunters for dog depredations
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	not much	most. when you introduced wolves it was supposed to be 350 and no more that should not change. I have worked with Dairy Farmers in central Wisconsin for 45 years, Talking with the owners they do not wish to see the wolf population increase, Generally the farms have plenty deer. You get into the more forested areas the deer do not exist like they use to. During the 80's and 90's I trapped many beaver throughout Taylor and Prince counties. I still hunt the forest a couple days each season we see very few deer, but we like to go there as this is where we were brought up hunting. Fortunately we have land of our own now where we get our deer I do have wolves travel my property fortunately none stay. If you get back down to the 350 plan as was supposed to be maybe we can save the TAX payer 100,000 dollars a year as the last 7 years we are paying towards increasing depredation.	1	350 was the plan and still should be the only plan. Thanks for your time

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Wisconsin Conservation Congress	All of it	Yes	None; this plan is a complete do over.	The entire draft plan; this plan is a complete do over		Position of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress concerning the current Draft Wolf Management Plan January 13, 2023 Without a new Wolf Management Plan, federal law will not allow us to self-manage the state's robust, newly recovered, still growing wolf population. No meaningful controls will be put in place in Wisconsin until a plan is in place, and wolves are again delisted. Over the preceding years, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and the public which they represent have been frustrated by work stoppages and delays in the preparation of the plan. The final plan is long overdue and has been overdue for many years. The Wisconsin Conservation Congress opposes the Draft Wolf Management Plan as posted for the following reasons: Wolf population levels should be monitored, and management prescriptions should be designed to maintain a stated population ceiling. The draft plan proposes to manage wolves based upon measurable criteria reflecting important biological and social factors; a system which has become popular with wildlife managers in and outside of Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Conservation Congress believes that it is important that we track population levels, and that we apply appropriate controls before the anticipated biological and social factors become unmanageable. The committee opposes the reactive management of wolves which is proposed by the draft plan. (The Congress' historic position is that the population ceiling should be 350 wolves.) The concerns of people living within wolf range must be considered separately and with greater concern than the more idealistic concerns of their metropolitan counterparts. Whether the restored species is tigers in Nepal, elephants in Africa, or wolves in Wisconsin, the burden of restoration is born by the local rural residents, not by the distant folks in Madison, Milwaukee or Waukesha. Wisconsin can do better than that. This plan spends a lot of ink rationalizing support from wolf zone residents and itemizing the benefits already provided to them to offset wolf conflicts. Measurable, documentable thresholds must be established which trigger control actions. Local rural residents must be intimately involved in establishing and monitoring those thresholds. Areas which are not identified by the current plan as wolf range should not be classified by this plan as primary or secondary wolf habitat, even if those areas are now occupied by wolves.
Lila Zastrow and Dave Hendrickson	Most of it	Yes	Removing numeric goals Redrawing wolf zones and creating buffer zones population monitoring science-based management zone specific harvest permits, mandatory harvest registration, and in-person certification requirements, education and outreach.	It should; return wolf range in western Lincoln County zones 2 & 3 describe management of wolves in each zone to sustain a healthy population. Issue enough licenses that quotas are met in a reasonable time period that avoids breeding season. train dogs only during hunting/trapping season in each zone. specific timeline for implementation. identify funding allocation and sources.	6	Restore a standing Wolf Advisory Committee that is representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state. have a follow-up public survey after a final Plan is approved by the Natural Resources Board. continue education on the value of wolf populations Restore a standing Wolf Advisory Committee that is representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state. have a follow-up public survey after a final Plan is approved by the Natural Resources Board. continue education on the value of wolf populations tRestore a standing Wolf Advisory Committee that is representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state. have a follow-up public survey after a final Plan is approved by the Natural Resources Board. continue education on the value of wolf populations Restore a standing Wolf Advisory Committee that is representative of the broad range of wolf concerns across the state. have a follow-up public survey after a final Plan is approved by the Natural Resources Board. continue education on the value of wolf populations.
Paul Van Berkel	All of it	Yes	Science based decision making. Inclusive of urban, rural,tribal, trappers, hunters, farmers, campers, hikers, interests, concerns and views. No quotas but ongoing effort to reach and maintain a self-limiting population befitting the habitat.	None	10	
Kristine Barbieri	Just the parts I am interested in	No	- emphasis on monitoring and research - recognition of the value wolves have on the ecosystem - inclusion of surveys that reflect more positive attitudes towards wolves and higher disdain towards killing them	- Only non-lethal management methods should be considered unless someone's life is in immediate danger. Domestic animal owners should be assisted in utilizing non-lethal conflict minimization and abatement techniques and this should be a requirement for getting compensated for confirmed depredations. - Hunting wolves should not be allowed. Wolves are self-regulating in balance with their prey. The term "wolf harvest" is nonsensical - no one eats wolves, hence there is no harvest. It is just plain killing. To mitigate, Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can simply set a quota of 0 wolves.	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Bill Woodbridge	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). According to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	1	The Wisconsin SOM method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. Wisconsin occupancy models are insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Shawn Sullivan	Most of it	No	None of it as it pertains to hunting and any type of the killing of wolves	The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science	1	There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. Also, 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically over estimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable
Julia Orr	Most of it	No	I like that you took out the number of wolves to be "managed". Wolves should be able to self-regulate in order to balance the ecosystem effectively. I also appreciate your efforts to lessen the negative impact hunting and trapping has on the wolf population. Hunting and trapping do nothing to regulate wolf populations.	Creating a season to train dogs to hunt wolves is barbaric in nature and while on one hand, you are endeavoring to mitigate the issues around hunting and trapping wolves, on the other you are giving people a hall pass to do just that. Again, it seems you are kowtowing to hunters and trappers with an inordinate amount of people who hunt on your committee.	5	Provide a provision that allows all Wisconsin residents a seat at the table with a vote of some kind. Remove the mandate that calls for a hunting season on wolves. The wolves in Yellowstone clearly provide millions of dollars in tourist revenue. Wisconsin should consider a bold move forward to protect wolves and bring in tourist dollars to the area.
Michele LaPorte	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	T he current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings	4	
Tim Wycoff	All of it	Yes	The proposed education programs which focus on specific categories or groups of people. Also the inclusion of the Native Americans' perspectives and rights. The emphasis on the science and ecology.	I'm opposed to the idea of wolf hunting/trapping for recreation, although I see the need for some controls on the population. We could eliminate some of the cost of the reparations program by banning bear hunting with dogs and/or bait.	9	I'm impressed with the thoroughness given to the subject and the inclusion of a wide range of interested parties. Thank-you!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The new zone boundaries make more sense. Subzones 1B and 2B should be managed by the tribes or zero quota. Making destroying dens illegal. Reduce reporting time even further to 4 or 2 hours to prevent 2022 debacle. Cell phones make this possible.	Don't allow trapping, bait or dogs at all. It's all just cruelty unlike a clean shot from a real hunter. Bear hunters take their dogs into the woods at their own risk. They are also cruel to their own dogs. Threshold for sustainable Wolf population needs be much higher.	2	I appreciate the research and thought that was put this. I chiefly believe that the desires of wolf and bear hunters should be at the bottom of the list. A healthy sustainable wolf population benefits the entire north woods. Livestock should be protected and compensated for. People need to be smart with their pets. I live in Iron County. It's a beautiful wonderful place.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Julia Serrago	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	mount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values	4	Please do everything you can to save and protect these wolves. To keep them free and unharmed. Thank you. God bless

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				contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Richard J. Martin	Most of it	Yes	1. use of Adaptive Wildlife Management 2. Figure 33 in Section 4: Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan--The circular diagram is good. It clearly displays a continuous process 3. Table 13 in Section 4. A good concise over view of the Objectives 4. The use of the words 'collaborative and science-based management' 5. Including figures in Sections 2 from both the 2014 & 2022 public attitude surveys. 6. Inclusion of Native Nation Tribal views and desires in all sections 7. The establishment and maintenance of a Wolf Advisory Committee that meets at least annually. 8. Education at county fairs and sport shows around the state.	1. Summary Tables showing Objectives, Strategies, and Products (the information printed in bold in last part of Section 4)--one for each Objective--would be very helpful and could be formatted in educational materials. 2. Missing a product that provides an informative summary delivered during the annual Spring Hearings.	10	Well done! This is exactly the management plan Wisconsin has needed for gray wolves for at least the last 10 years. I can see dislike and conflict from many stakeholder groups such as not more aggressively removing wolves involved in domestic animal conflicts or for the products related to hunting dog conflict resolutions. That said, this proposed management plan takes a thoughtful, middle-of-the-road path.
	Most of it	Yes			10	
	Most of it	Yes			10	
Neal Steiner	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The fact that wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	That the current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	4	Thank you for considering my comments.
	All of it	Yes		Not setting a structured hunting or trapping season to regulate the wolf population to sustainable numbers.	1	The wolf and white man are one in the same. The wolf will kill everything it can to multiply. Then, it will kill more to feed the pack. It will kill until everything is dead and can no longer support the pack. The white man is the same they are greedy and kill with no thoughts of the future. That is why the DNR was created to keep the white man from killing everything. If not for regulating how the white man hunts, there would be nothing left for the future. The DNR needs to regulate the wolf in the same manner to ensure future game for the next generation.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That at least hunting and trapping is mentioned for wolf management	That hunting and trapping is not mentioned as being essential to wolf management. That wolves are underestimated. That the state's elk program has been seriously hindered by wolves. It could be a goldmine, with dozens of bull tags available annually. No reason we shouldn't have as many elk as Michigan by now, except for wolves! That "undetermined" isn't mentioned as "likely" when it comes to wolf depredation on elk. That the public isn't told how resilient wolves are, that even aggressive hunting/trapping barely keeps up with new pup recruitment. That Wisconsin's average pack size is estimated so small, a full animal less than the U.P. That so many square miles of habitat isn't surveyed and thus not included in wolf population estimates.	1	A population goal must be set. That number should not exceed what a majority of northern counties have indicated they'd support, 100-350. DNR must also let the public know that the annual "count" errs on the low end. DNR must take into account the economic value of deer and elk to Wisconsin (and the DNR budget) vs. pandering to animal activists, many who don't even live in wolf country.
	Most of it	Yes	None of it ! This is joke when there is no set population goal.	No population goal, at all ! Too much expansion of habitat designations. Taking surveys in large cities where people have had no first hand experience, other than nature shows they see on TV.	1	Instead of using the facts to set a population goal, this is based largely on appeasing the liberal public sentiment instead of managing. This is not in any way, shape or form a plan. More of a publicity stunt, since nothing has been done to date to resolve the issue.
	All of it	Yes	None	All of it	1	Stop hunting wolves. The deer heard is out of control. The American famer can not take it anymore, Deer are eating the same crop the farmer needs to feed his heard. Release more agricultural tags. Release more doe tags. Extend the gun hunting season. Get out of your office and see what realy is going on.
Keely	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood	5	Please use the best available data

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				as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Curtis Erdmann	Most of it	Yes	population of 350	tribal control of a number of tags.	4	The number of wolves should be determined by biologist not by politicians or activists that are not affected by them.
Lynn Benner	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to	1	Please keep wolves alive and natural

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				provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		

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James T Mattson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I rifle deer hunt in Douglas county, we do drives all day. The number of drives where wolf tracks are observed within our party is nearing 50%. Result; a lack of bucks. With the lack of a specific wolf population goal within this bill coupled with the fact that the actual wolf population in Wisconsin is approaching 1000, which is well over the established "goal" of 350, this bill is woefully off target and completely illogical regardless of ANY other provisions within the bill.	0	It's time that these bureaucrats writing such bills conceived by such uninformed or politically poisoned views be called out publicly and overridden.
Mark Lanser	Most of it	Yes	Very comprehensive	Lack of visual graphs in some of the human opinion data	4	I can't understand how we'll know if we fall below federal delisting limit if we don't manage to a specific population goal. Also, are there going to be opportunities for those who live and recreate in wolf country to give opinions and experiences regarding wolves in their region. Finally, I saw nothing that will reassure my family that it is safe to walk alone without a firearm in wolf country.
JJK	All of it	Yes	not much	need lessor quota for northern wi. North of US Hwy 2 the deer are getting pounded by wolves. Survival of the Deer are severely impacted by snow depths.	3	North of US Hwy 2 has to many wolves. This is reflected in Deer harvest numbers. This plan needs to take into account that deer numbers are most abundant in the farm land areas. Northern WI has more woodlands than farms. Adjust numbers for wolf reduction in the northern woodlands. more wolves than deer!
Jason Matthys	Most of it	Yes	I like how the plan uses scientific studies to come to a plan. Unfortunately scientific studies can be skewed and misleading. Look at all the research done on the effectiveness of masks in the reduction of Covid 19. After years of intense research, scientific studies came out both supporting and refuting the effectiveness of masks. I think there is plenty of science out there to both support and refute the effectiveness of a wolf hunt.	It becomes pretty evident that the plan is written by someone who wants an unlimited number of wolves in the state. Pro-hunting views in this draft are regarded with a dismissive tone. The plan should also give a higher weight to the opinions of the people who are forced to live with the wolf population.	1	Not all people who live in the area affected by the population agree. It would be interesting to survey just those people.
	All of it	No	I like that wolves will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves. I also like the buffer zone proposal. knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantialamount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing, effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones, the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. It essentially treats wolves as creatures made for our edification and management as opposed to apex predators that are ESSENTIAL to a healthy ecosystem and biodiversity - all which we as humans depend on for survival. Also, there is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	4	Please consider sound science and the state of our planet when making decisions about wolf management. For reference please see the following short video about the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park: ny.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/a58e3ca2-52ab-45f5-87ac-26ee0d681146/wolves-of-yellowstone-earth-a-new-wild/?student=true

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J. Anne Hamner	Most of it	No	I believe the current plan needs significant updating. I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Stephen W Dutschke	Just the parts I am interested in	No				The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Sandra Couch	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What I like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	5	

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I found the background information on grey wolves very helpful.	Objective C gives too much emphasis to trophy hunting and trapping.	5	The plan should include efforts to remove the mandate that Wisconsin hold a trophy hunting and trapping season on wolves when they are not federally protected. In addition, there should be more promotion of nonlethal methods for preventing conflicts with livestock.
Elizabeth	Just the parts I am interested in	No	None	Killing wolves	1	
	All of it	No	Recognizing changing attitudes towards wolves and that negative attitudes are not based in science and fact. Creating buffer zones in tribal areas.	Lethal methods instead of non-lethal methods to deal with livestock conflict. Allowing recreational hunting at all. Permitting cruel hounding and trapping methods.	5	Wolves are an important and fundamental part of the ecosystem. They should not be hunted and killed for fun.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Trapping is a terrible way to kill an animal. It should be eliminated. Killing an animal for sake of a trophy is just immature and a total disregard for the value of a life.	2	Re-introducing an endangered species or an extinct species to a particular location is irresponsible when it is known all along that it's population is going to have to be controlled unnaturally. Any idiot would know that it's all about the $.
Sandra	Just the parts I am interested in	No	That you're finally acknowledging the important role wolves play in healthy ecosystems. And that you're getting rid of the arbitrary numerical limit on how many wolves should be allowed to exist in WI.	That you plan to 'manage' the wolf population with hounding and hunting. This always results in too many licenses being issued and completely undercuts the goal of a healthy worlf population. And you need to include current science. What is the point of putting together a plan of any kind if you're just ignoring available information?!	4	Require non-lethal population management instead of turning this into a gift for hunters. And follow the [redacted] science!
Greg Rosas	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	3	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"		10	
Mary Green	All of it	Yes	The potential for ecotourism; protecting den sites, utilizing science for maintenance of wolf populations.	Increases in hunting and trapping. I believe the trapping methods allowed are very inhumane and barbaric. I also do not like dog training just prior to and during mating seasons.	4	I think there is way too much emphasis on hunting and trapping and not enough on non-lethal control methods.
Valerie Cruz	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence	4	

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				(e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Ellen Sims	Most of it	Yes	The plan addresses wolf-related conflict & resolve The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"		9	Thank you

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kim davis	Most of it	No	better recognition of the ecological role of wolves	The current draft plan does not reflect the best available science. It promotes sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy. This results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. The draft plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population).	0	Wolves have been scientifically linked to healthy ecosystems and should demand our highest protections.
	All of it	No	There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	5	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.
Paula Kleintjes Neff	Most of it	Yes	Using objective scientific methods and resulting data to inform management decisions in an ever -changing landscape. Keeping politics and science deniers out of the decision- making process. All the while, respecting humans and other species that are part of the greater ecosystems that sustain healthy wolf populations. I support the removal of the arbitrary cap of the state wolf population size.	I am not in support of public hunts but rather in support of “take” if and when justified by professionals, including tribal members. I sense often that the wolf has become the scapegoat for anti- government sentiment and individuals, despite the fact that government lands are public lands managed to be accessible to all. I’m a bit skeptical of allowing public opinion by individuals residing outside the Great Lakes DPS to influence the plan. I trust our WDNR wolf biologists and their work with scientists in MN and MI with whom wolves may cross our state borders.	9	So glad to finally see a new plan. It’s greatly needed. Now let’s just keep our anti- wolf and anti-science politicians and their cronies away from managing our precious natural heritage and resources. Leave biodiversity conservation to the experts.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I don't know, and I only know 'elements' in terms of like: Hydrogen, Helium, Lithium, or wood, metal, earth, water, fire	I don't know.	9	?
Janet Moyles	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 Wolves. Greater recognition of the ecological value of Wolves. Inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of Wolves. Adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft doesn't reflect the best available science, and is missing substantial amount of scientific literature on: Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency & wellbeing. Effectiveness of non-lethal interventions. Impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behaviour, wellbeing, & social dynamics. The scientific omissions and the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy results in a biased plan contrary to scientific evidence. The pla should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances.	2	All omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values & concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific view.
	Most of it	Yes		No quota, would like 350 or less	2	Low deer numbers in the north can't recover with such a high wolf population. I hunt Douglas, Washburn and Barron counties and have for 42 years. Even in mild winters the deer number increases are minimal. Land values are decreasing as are hunter numbers in the north due to low deer numbers. Comparing this year to last etc shows little. Compare numbers to the late 90s and early 2000s and the reduction is drastic
Courtney Roach	Most of it	Yes	I like that it appears that WDNR is trying to use science to guide the wolf management plan	I think that quotas for hunting should be solely based on science and not public opinion. I don't think people should be able to hunt wolves (or bears) with dogs, it seems both inhumane to the hunting dogs as well as the game animals. In addition, it does not seem like a fair hunt	5	We have 640 acres in Florence county and get many wolves on our trail cameras. We enjoy seeing them and think they have a net benefit on the ecosystem as we have a large over abundance of deer in our woods and agriculture crops. We did see a drastic drop in wolf numbers on camera after the most recently wolf hunting/trapping season. We are open to a wolf season if the science supports it. I don't think fear and ignorant public opinion should weigh in and pressure science.

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	All of it	No	It is good that wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 individuals. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves in the draft. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves, is good. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations where previously no buffer zones existed is good.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; on effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; and the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. 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				Regarding 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology, see this recent critique: “The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new ‘scaled occupancy model’ (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states’ occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin’s proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.” (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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s	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	4	There are many other studies that should be included in the plan: Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. 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A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		(Eds.), Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States (pp. 267–277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). A seventy-year history of trends in Yellowstone's northern elk herd. 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Michael Seidman	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed		9	

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			commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”			
sharon franco	All of it	No	I do not like the plan.	the part about killing wolves.	0	I feel that you are not understanding that you can't just decimate the wolf population. Each species is vital to our world and we have to coexist. You can't just kill off a species. You need to come up with a better plan.
	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state’s wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves’ physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of ‘0’ wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. D., Treves, A., Walsh, J. C., Paquet, P. C., & Darimont, C. T. (2018). Hallmarks of science missing from North American wildlife management. Science Advances, 4(3). http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/3/eaao0167.abstract Ausband, D. E., Mitchell, M. 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				of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." 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Jill Dione	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023		
Jamie Shields	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciate that the plan calls for a science-based management approach to wolf conservation.	I would like to see specific descriptions of how wolf populations in each zone will be managed to achieve goals outlined in the plan, including specific metrics to determine the health and sustainability of the population.	5	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Susan Everhard	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
Mark M Giese	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like reining in the harms caused by trophy hunting and trapping and efforts to be transparent.	I don't like establishing a season for training hounds for wolf trophy hunting. There is a need for a higher emphasis on nonlethal conflict deterrence methods. The plan should be updated every 5 years.	4	The goal should be a socially-stable, genetically-diverse wolf population and to allow all Wisconsinites a seat at the table in guiding wolf policy. Thank you.
Robin Van Tassell	Most of it	No		● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	
Lisa Goodrich	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Thank you for getting rid of the stupid 350 number of wolves. Thank you for the buffer zones around native lands.	The current draft doesn't include enough research and science. These are sentient creatures and this is largely ignored in this draft. There need to be better options, other than killing for conflict.	3	Project Coyote has done a wonderful writeup of this plan. It's worth reviewing. https://widnr.widen.net/s/kpfkd8nr2n/draft_wisconsin_wolf-management_plan_nov2022
Brian St. Aubin	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	History and biology of the wolf		1	I am retired and for most of the year I live in Bayfield county north of Iron River. I believe there are two many wolves. They are eating the deer to the point where it is hard to hunt and see deer anymore. This winters deep snow keeps the heard down, we don't need wolves eating them. I heard a NPR program where the moose hunters in Alaska have to cull the wolves or there wouldn't be any moose for the native Americans. We need to that here in upper WI. When I see deer tracks I see wolf tracks as well. Please remove the wolf from upper WI so that future people can see deer. Wolves are a good thing for Yellowstone park since you can't hunt elk and bison there. Wolves are destroying the hunting opportunities in WI. Thanks
Ciel Ishatova	All of it	Yes	I appreciated especially the documents submitted by the various Wisconsin tribes, and the outlook and values they represent. I think this outlook is reflected in the scientific aspects of the plan, esp. the impact of wolves on the larger ecosystem, including how humans interact with the ecosystem. The plan needs to respect Native land and wolves on/near this land, specifically no hunting on/near Native land, and using least harmful interventions when human/wolf conflicts occur (hunting/killing the least desirable means of resolving conflict). Not determining the population number of wolves, but allowing wolves to be self-sustaining, self-regulating and genetically healthy. Increased public education to inform about how wolves positively impact things like deer/car crashes and tick borne lyme disease	I don't like wolf trophy hunting or trapping wolves, and I don't like using dogs for the purpose of hunting wolves (or bears). I believe the emphasis should be on wolf impact on biodiversity and a healthy ecosystem, not on trophy hunting or trapping. I subscribe to the Native peoples attitude of not controlling or subjugating a "brother", but respecting the wolf's contribution to a healthy world for humans and other living beings.	4	Wolves do not threaten humans, livestock or deer hunting. These are irrational fears and fuel misinformation. Killing wolves has negative consequences for all aspects of the environment, and promoting this kind of killing degrades humanity and promotes unnecessary violence.
Linda Vista	All of it	Yes	Helping wolves	Killing wolves	4	I like to keep wolves alive
	All of it	Yes	1. The plan removes a numeric population goal 2. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it. 3. The plan is focused on the ecological benefits of wolves 4. The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly become more favorable. 5. There is expressed	the tribal zones are more limited than is ideal.	10	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”			
Houston Taylor	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”	The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	
amy peterson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”		9	
Sara Westerdale	Most of it	Yes	There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes.	9	I don’t think that wolves should be hunted. I agree that they should be put in a safe environment, in their natural habitat. Even though wolves may attack livestock, I think there should be other weapons used rather than some sort of gun.
	All of it	Yes			5	

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Elizabeth Watts	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. 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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). A seventy-year history of trends in Yellowstone's northern elk herd. The Journal of wildlife management, 71(2), 594-602. Edelblutte, É., Krithivasan, R., & Hayek, M. N. 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[redacted]	Most of it	Yes	I like that a comprehensive study is being performed. I also appreciate the detail provided in order for opinions to be formulated.	I am not sure of the process of decision making that will take place in order to effect the plan. If decisions are made by people living below Hwy 8, then I do not believe that the plan will have the interest of Northern Wisconsin in mind. We have the majority of the wolf population. I have them on my property on a regular basis.	4	Please overweight the opinions of Northern Wisconsin residents over those in southern Wisconsin. If you consider them equal, then let's distribute the wolf population equally around the state. I like to hunt deer but have not sighted the quality of racked bucks as we have enjoyed in the past. I do realize that there are other factors that affect deer population. Bears, automobiles, etc. However, the wolf population needs to be more controlled in the north. Please consider a weighted approach to the decision process and your Northern wisconsin residents.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan creates low quota zones around tribal lands where the tribes requested it.		9	

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Geoff Robinson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciate the attempt to plan wolf management from a scientific perspective. I am impressed by the level of detail and effort put into the plan.	There was no conclusion that would summarize the various proposals in the plan - just a lot of detailed information. I was distressed by the fact that a significant number of killings were "Illegal" rather than planned. This suggests something is not right about managing the wolf population in practice.	5	Please see above concerning illegal killings of wolves. A much better handle is needed here. Perhaps very severe penalties for those caught violating authorized wolf hunting limits.
Mike Hunter	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The state needs a wolf hunt every year, our deer herd in northern Wi is in very poor shape!	The DNR has no idea how many wolfs are in the northern zones or in the state.	0	You need to spend as much time on our deer. At one time we had 9 hunters for deer season, now its myself and my grandson, Its hard to get someone to hunt when you don't see deer!
	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	1	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.

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Janet Brandt	Most of it	Yes	Removing numeric goals. Redrawing wolf zones across Wisconsin and creation of buffer zones around tribal reservations. Rigorous focus on wolf population monitoring Use of a science-based management approach to wolf conservation. Zone specific harvest permits, mandatory harvest registration, and in-person certification requirements.	Would want the plan to include: Specific descriptions of how wolf populations in each zone will be managed to achieve goals outlined in the plan, including specific metrics. A process to ensure enough licenses are issued for any legal hunt to assure quotas can be met in a reasonable time period in order to avoid overly long hunting and trapping seasons that carry into the breeding season. Limit training of dogs to only the periods when wolf hunting or trapping season is open in the zone. Restore a standing Wolf Advisory Committee.	7	I support all the work that was done by the WGF Wildlife Work Group and recommend that their summary recommendations be taken into consideration.
	All of it	Yes	Removing the numeric goals from the wolf plan. Redrawing the wolf zones across Wisconsin and the creation of buffer zones around tribal reservations. The focus on wolf population monitoring and a science-based approach. Zone specific harvest permits with mandatory harvest registration and in-person certification requirements.	Change Lincoln County's core wolf zone back to zone 2 (from zone 3). Specify how wolf populations will bemanaged in each zone. Include a process to ensure licenses are issued for any legal hunt to have quotas met within a reasonable time frame to avoid elongated hunting seasons. Limit training of dogs to only the periods when the season is open. identify funding sources for wolf population management.	3	the plan should bring back the Wolf Advisory Committee and do a follow-up public attitudes survey after plan approval.
Kelly Mehring	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific	4	Wildlife belongs to all of us, in the public trust, & the majority is non-consumptive.

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				literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Lynn Armentrout	Most of it	Yes	1. Having wolf management be science-centered and tailored to changing conditions rather than dependent on arbitrary population numbers. 2. The low quota zones around Tribal lands. 3. Focusing on the ecological benefit of wolves.		9	
Patricia	Most of it	No	The adoption of proposed buffer zones, opposition to the mothives and methods for killing wolves	Hounding or hound trainning which are akin to allowing legalized dogfigthing Wolf hunting season	4	
Zach Carobine	All of it	Yes	I like the idea of wolves being around. But not as many as there are they need to be managed. It's not like they are spread out evenly through out the whole state. They are in concentrated areas and river deer population suffers for that.	The population goal	3	There are way too many wolves up north. And now I'm seeing them on trail cameras just south of Shawano by me. Just a matter of time before this deer population starts declining

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Olivia Holborn	Most of it	No	I like your commitment to making the management of the gray wolf a success story. I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognise the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (ie, previously no buffer zones existed)	It is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence. It is also missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. 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That culminates in the prioritisation of consumptive values and policies; eg, according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (ie, Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal world views about wolves. Tribal world views of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal world views consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritisation of policy objectives, the	4	

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				rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Julie Fitzpatrick	All of it	Yes	I like the recommendations to minimize wolf harvests near large tribal reservations, but the quota in these new Subzones should be set at zero to protect wolves who live on or near reservations. Making rules to reduce registration time for wolves killed by trophy hunters to 8 hours and limiting wolf licenses to be valid in only one specific zone are both useful elements. Removing the specific population goal from the plan makes sense. The goal should be more holistic, to have a healthy population of wolves that connect with wolves near them and fulfill their ecological purpose. Keeping wolf news transparent and public is important. Finding non-lethal deterrent methods for farmers and the public is important.	Encouraging wolf trophy hunting by creating a season to train hounds is not in the best interest of landowners, nontarget wildlife, wolves, or the public in general. Trophy hunters are a tiny, vicious, violent minority that do not reflect the values of Wisconsin. No state-sanctioned dogfighting. Wolf trapping also benefits a tiny number of individuals and does not reflect the values of most Wisconsinites. The plan should call for the elimination of the state law that mandates seasons for these activities. Objective C needs to be rewritten to focus on the ecological benefits provided by wolves, not on the trophy hunting and trapping, which only benefit a very small minority of Wisconsinites. Ecological benefits, such as species biodiversity, natural population control and disease reduction of other species, and reduction of deer-vehicle collisions help many more Wisconsinites than hunting and trapping. Hunting and trapping increase the overall levels of violence in our state, sanctioning the killing of animals for sport, increasing conflict and gun use, and teaching our children that people should feel entitled to use animals for their own gain without thought to the needs of the animal or its place in the natural world. Non-lethal deterrents should be emphasized and targeted for improvement. There needs to be a better understanding of the effect of killing even a single wolf, which can destroy the social dynamics of a wolf family unit and increase conflicts with humans. References in the plan to false information about wolves need to be removed. There are no documented wolf attacks in Wisconsin or 48 other states. Less than 1% of livestock are lost to wolves and can be compensated. The deer herd is robust and kept healthy by removal of the weakest deer by wolves. Public education about wolves is important and should begin with this plan, which should include a provision for updating more specific than "valid until it is replaced."	5	The draft is a good start, but it still misses many points. The plan should support a healthy, genetically diverse and socially stable wolf population, because wolves are a keystone species in our ecosystem. The plan should be rooted in the best available science, rather than catering to hunters and trappers who do NOT represent the best interests of the wolves or the majority of Wisconsinites. There is no justification for killing wolves or any other animal for sport. All lives matter. The attitudes survey detailed in the draft plan clearly shows that Wisconsinites value wolves and want them to thrive. These values must be reflected in the plan. At a minimum, the plan should: 1. Recommend the elimination of the state mandate for a hunting and trapping season on wolves. 2. Focus the resolution of wolf conflicts with humans on non-lethal methods. 3. Recommend changes in DNR perspective to increase public input outside the hunting and trapping community and put higher value on science-based resources.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	3	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciated the recommendations for controlling trophy hunting and wolf trapping.	Training hounds for wolf hunts will cause more conflicts with wolves. In section 1, there should be more discussion on how killing a wolf harms wolf families and again can cause more conflicts with wolves.	7	Wisconsin has a responsibility to craft a plan that helps not hurts healthy wolf populations. They are a keystone species that need more protection.

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Steve Holmes	All of it	Yes	Nothing	Please see below.	2	I've never had a plan without a goal, you need to have a population goal. Get one. Don't understand why when we had a few packs they averaged 5 per pack. As the packs increased the wolves per pack declined and I don't understand why. From 1979 to 2021 legal wolf mortality was 1248 animals of 2041 as stated. Not sure if this is a bid deal. There have been 75 human health and safety issues with no injuries or deaths YET. It seems to me you are ok with that but at some point there will be an injury or death, are you prepared for the heat when you do NOTHING to reduce the wolf numbers. Wolves have no fear of people and their numbers are increasing but you are happy to educate us about wolves. You need to allow us to reduce the numbers of wolves. The wolves are killing the deer herd in the north. Deer hunters are quiting hunting because they don't see deer, the wolves are killing them. The funds will be declining too. Very disappointed in the DNR over the past decade and this wolf management plan isn't bringing my trust back.
Adam Mills	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	3	
Brian Matthys	All of it	Yes	The survey of attitudes towards the wolf presence in Wiscosin was very interesting	I strongly disagree with the DNR not establishing a 350 max population that was promised to the public when the wolf was reintroduced	2	The DNR refers to the wolf as an Apex predator. There is no provision for the population control of the wolf population in Wisconsin. I am not opposed to having wolves in Wisconsin but every species of game has population control methods except for the wolf!
Shelby Kortenhof-Struck	Most of it	Yes	The science based approach. The sensitivity to the tribes.	Do not approve of hunting wolves with dogs. Do not approve of quotas.	10	Good work by the DNR despite the anti-science Republican legislators in this state. Keep fighting for what is right for the environment.
	Most of it	Yes			2	
James	Just the parts I am interested in	No		You need to do a better job in taking care of the Wolves. It seems to me that the majority of your citizens feel the same way you should be protecting them not allowing them to be slaughtered .	5	It could be better than your proposals
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques	0	

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				by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Jim B-axa	Most of it	Yes	It explains that there isn't a wolf population problem. 48 farm animals losses compared to the slaughter of wolves? There is a severe imbalance and the state is listening to the few complaining than reviewing the scientific data. Reduce the numbers of wolves allowed to be hunted and killed for trophies.	It is over exaggerated for reasoning with regards on the number of wolves allowed to be terminated.	0	Science provides a clear example of how wolves can manage their population better than human intervention. You are literally shooting yourselves in the foot with the thinking in this plan.
	Most of it	Yes	Understanding the wolf pack family and history	trophy hunting, trapping, using dogs to hunt wolves - like putting a car against an army tank	2	Too much emphasis on reducing the wolves, hunting, trapping (the most inhumane option on the planet), trophy hunting is horrible

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
YB	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The Plan is well presented and supported with data, maps, and tables.	The document is too long and full of unnecessary detail.	5	The Plan discusses wolves as if they were inanimate objects we should 'manage'. Please understand that they are intelligent beings, who have shared the Planet with us for thousands of years. They are a keystone species in the wilding process of natural habitats. They have a right to their continued existence and we should be working together to make that a reality.
	All of it	No	What I like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What I don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	What I like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	5	
Dobi Dobroslawa	All of it	Yes	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution	5	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.
Jeffry Lasar	Most of it	Yes	I like more restrictions near Indian reservations	I do not like the fact that dogs used for bear hunting are eligible for depredation compensation. I would rather that the Wisconsin DNR eliminate bear hunting with dogs, altogether.	6	

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public	5	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.
James grant	Most of it	Yes	A generalized holistic approach to population, with an emphasis on non lethal control methods	Not taking into account falsified depredation reporting. Not addressing the negative effect on packs, of lethal control and it's subsequent increase in live stock depredation caused by pack disruption	5	I would like to see more emphasis included in the plan, to deal with illegal wolf killing. If the poaching isn't stopped no regulation will have legitimate outcome
[redacted]	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I do think the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I also recognize the improvements made to the previous plan, such as: (i) wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves; (ii) the much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves; (iii) the inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves; and (iv) the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (i) wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; (ii) effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; and (iii) the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The aforementioned scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): (i) opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%); and (ii) feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of	5	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.

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				scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence).		
Ronit Corry	Most of it	No	Thank you for the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: Wolves in WI will not be managed by reference to the old goal of 350 wolves. I like the recognition of the ecological role of wolves. I like the understanding of their ecological roles and the opposition to the motives and methods. for killing wolves. I like the adoption of the proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations. Thank you.	Please all the current scientific literature available: Wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution With the missing science as well as the wanting to keep recreational killing, the plan is biased. The plan should not involve any killing of wolves except in extremely rare cases. Please note: A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which is very much like legalized dogfighting, should not be allowed as it is extremely cruel to wolves as well as hounds and is not supported by the majority of hunters or most of the public.	4	
	Most of it	Yes	extended time frame for public input.	don't think the count and estimations are accurate. Pack size and not counting lone wolves. Numbers are too low. You know we have atleast 950-1100 in the state.	2	the initial plan was for 300-350. We are way above that, and have been for a few years. So what is the BIG hold up? Quit favoring animal activists and do a manage hunt for 350. They are not going off the face of the earth! You drag this out just like CWD. Sat on it for 18-20 years and look at it...you haven't done a F...n thing about it yet!! Wonder why license sales keep declining...go figure.Start by shutting down EVERY deer farm across the country, and not spending our money on them either. The DNR thinks WI. elk herd at Clam L. is really growing!!?? For as long as it's been,...NOT... it Sucks! It should be way higher....TOO MANY WOLVES.!!
Jennifer Valentine	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan	1	please safeguard these majestic and important animals

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				also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Jeffrey L Widell MD	Most of it	Yes	The concept of "Total Quota" Is no longer an overarching theme. Reducing the time of registering a "kill" is critical for real time assessment of population loss. "Second chance" to live. the various non lethal options to mitigate conflict with livestock is preferable. Thanks for emphasizing that. Accepting that tribal zones are essentially safe harbor and thus Limiting Wolf killing in proximity to tribal zones. This satisfies the implicit understanding that wolves may unknowingly wander a few miles outside of theses "safe zones"	The concept of trapping is archaic. Allowing an intelligent social animal to slowly succumb in a trap.or violently self amputate to save it's Pups or fight off hound dogs with GPS collars enables and perpetuates a sadistic element of human behavior. Hunters from other states don't need to come here demanding to "do us a favor" and help us manage our non existent "wolf problem" I believe Wisconsin should lead the nation by example in Scientific coexistence with wolves. We need to better appreciate and give weight to the attitudes of the general population of Wisconsinites regarding the selfish and barbaric tactics of the trophy hunting industry.	7	Thanks for allowing me to express my concerns. They are real. I which I could get more involved. I am a critical care physician in Milwaukee, and I know a thing or two about empathy, pain suffering and the importance of social networks

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Lisa Bey	Most of it	Yes			9	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	5	
Hannah Lee	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the inclusion of many sides of the issue. I feel the report is balanced. I very. much appreciate the efforts to curb trophy hunting, which I consider to be immoral: taking the life of a living creature - especially one as threatened as wolves - for the enhancement of your own ego is, in my opinion pathological, cruel, and obscene. Trophy hunting should be illegal and the consequences of violation should be severe and the number of wolves that can be hunted for trophies should be reduced to zero, throughout the state, not just in the designated subzones 1B and 1C, making Product C2a irrelevant. I appreciate the removal of a numerical population goal from the plan. The goal should be to have a self-sustaining, self-regulating, and genetically diverse population that can maintain its connection with wolf populations in neighboring states and fulfill their ecological roles. I also want to thank you for making this information transparent and available to the public. It will help us advise you better. Further, wolf conflict mitigation plans that focus on non-lethal means of control are totally a step in the right direction. Efforts to educate farmers in ways to protect their livestock and pets from harm should be part of the whole picture in this regard. (OF NOTE: I do not consider hunting dogs that are trained to kill bear, wolves, and other wildlife as "pets" or "livestock," and neither should the state. These are working dogs trained to kill, and as such should not be eligible for reimbursement.) So, thank you for your hard work on this very sensitive issue.	I strongly object to establishing a season for training dogs for trophy hunting. It amounts to state-sponsored dogfighting, which is one of the most cruel activities humans engage in, as is trophy hunting. NO TROPHY HUNTING IN WISCONSIN, and NO SUPPORT for it; on the contrary, it should be illegal, with strong penalties for violations. I would even go further and say that dogs already trained for trophy hunting should be confiscated or purchased, and re-trained to do activities that are useful and helpful instead of cruel and destructive* (*they should not be killed because of their training! They are innocent and likely not aggressive unless commanded.) Establishing a season to train trophy-hunting dogs would lead to all kinds of trespassing violations among landowners, social chaos among wolves, and harassment of non-target wildlife. Overall, the plan puts an alarming emphasis on trophy hunting and trapping wolves at a time when they are not protected by the Endangered Species Act. I understand that state law demands the holding of such seasons when wolves are not federally protected, but the plan should recommend that this law be changed, similar to the way it recommends changes to other state statutes. It is quite disturbing and very disappointing to see that the majority of strategies under Objective C, "Provide Multiple Benefits Associated with the Wolf Population," are related to trophy hunting and trapping. These are NOT benefits; they are encouragements to cruelty and disregard for ecosystems. Wolves themselves - the benefits THEY provide to the ecosystems they serve, and to biodiversity - should be the focus of this segment of the plan, not the thrill that some bloodthirsty narcissist can get from killing a wolf. The crucial role of wolves in the ecosystem, their help in reducing deer-vehicle accidents and reducing disease should be highlighted in this plan, and should be the focus of "Benefits." All Wisconsinites benefit from the presence and activities of wolves, whereas only a tiny portion of the population wants to hunt for trophies; why kowtow to such a small (and cruel) minority? The report should place a higher priority on non-lethal methods of conflict deterrence in Sections 3 and 4, Objective B. Scientific studies have already shown that ikilling wolves, especially via trophy hunting and trapping, can lead to increased conflicts, whereas nonlethal methods can be even more effective when used correctly. Product B1f "To utilize wolf harvest zones/subzones and public harvest season. to address conflicts by directing icensed wolf hunters and trappers to areas of conflict" goes against the best available science and should be removed altogether. THERE SHOULD BE A MORE ROBUST DISCUSSION, particularly in Section 1, about the great harm that killing of wolves does and has done to their social dynamics. Numerous scientific studies have demonstrated that killing a single wolf can create social chaos - as each individual wolf in a family has a particular role - and can tear families apart, potentially leading to increased conflicts with humans. The plan also includes "perceived" and irrational harms from wolves as potential justification for reducing wolf numbers by killing them. This does nothing but further mythology from fairy tales and folklore imported by European settlers. Wolves do NOT threaten human lives, the livestock industry, or the hunters' ability to hunt deer. Wolves take far less than 1% of Wisconsin's livestock, and there has never been a documented case of a wolf attack on a human in the lower 48 states. The DNR should focus on providing robust public education to correct misinformation and these irrational "perceptions," instead of using them to justify killing wolves. Finally, the plan should include a provision that it be updated at least every 5 years, rather than simply being "valid until it is replaced." The world is changing too fast for that.	10	Your job is incredibly hard, but you've done it well. Even though significant changes should be made in order to align this plan with the best available science,Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and social values, this plan is a vast improvement over the previous plan. However, he planning process allows the DNR Board - the same Board that pushed for high killing quotas that resulted in the bloodbath we saw in the recent past when wolves lost their Endangered Species protection - to alter the plan in any way they see fit, and I am deeply fearful that they will use the plan's low numerical ratings to justify. making harmful and destructive changes that will undo the progress that has been made here. I pray that will not happen. As a keystone species, wolves' benefits ripple throughout our ecosystem and have been instrumental in restoring ecological biodiversity. While there are many scientific studies documenting the consequences of killing wolves, there is not a single one that provides a sound justification for killing such intelligent, social animals who provide such ecological and cultural benefit. Wisconsin has a responsibility to craft an updated wolf management plan that supports a healthy, genetically diverse, socially stable wolf population and is rooted in the best available science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge, public values, and ETHICS. This draft must be revised to meet that responsibility by: - Recommending policy changes that eliminate the mandate that Wisconsin hold a trophy hunting and trapping season on wolves when they are not federally protected. - Further exploring and prioritizing non-lethal methods for preventing conflicts with livestock. - Recommending the elimination and of trophy hunting, of training dogs for that purpose, and establishing consequences for such activities - Including a strong commitment to giving ALL Wisconsinites a seat at the table in guiding wolf policy. Based on the 2022 public attitudes survey detailed in the wolf plan, the majority of Wisconsinites value wolves and want them to thrive in Wisconsin. These values should be more proportionately represented in groups and boards that influence wolf policy.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science. We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe thce, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary	4	

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				prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Joan McCormick	All of it	Yes	Zero.	All.	0	I am appalled that we kill these precious animals. They belong In Wisconsin as much as humans do.
Tracy Ouellette	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Using science to set goals rather than arbitrary numbers, and including public opinion rather than only special interests. Respect for tribal boundaries with buffer zones to protect animals that are considered important to tribal culture	Reliance on recreational killing of wolves as part of a management strategy, which only perpetuates human-wolf animosity and does not manage wolves based on scientific population goals. Allowance of use of dogs to track and kill wolves, which is inhumane to both dogs and wolves. Minimal reflection of tribal attitudes toward wolves as relatives and valued members of their ecosystem.	3	Although a resident of Washington state, I own family property in Wisconsin and spend significant time there every year and have for decades, so this issue is extremely important to me. I believe wolves are a critical part of the healthy ecosystem of Wisconsin and welcome their recovery, and hope for an attitude towards wolves that is collaborative and accommodatiing rather than one of conflict and adversity.
Gladys Simerl	Most of it	Yes	Protecting wildlife and enjoying nature - which I fervently do	No idea	10	I am a Christian and God commanded man at creation to take care of it - including the animals
Kim Kelley	Most of it	Yes	• Buffer Zones around tribal reservations • Social Survey • removal of goal of 350 wolves	•the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy • Wolves should not be killed unless in extremely rare circumstances of defense of life • the plan should require abatement measures as well as non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	5	'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

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Michelle Jorgensen	Most of it	No	That killing of 350 wolves is not the major goal. That it includes the trend that more and more people care about their survival and well being and do not want the current methods of "culling". That there will be buffer zones near the tribal areas.	There is a great deal of science and studies that should be reviewed and incorporated into the plan especially about sentience, wolf hierachies, wolf social dynamics, etc. This is key to understanding how to keep the wolf population stable and healthy. There are studies that show legal killling encourages illegal killing. There are better methods than recreational killing and wolves should only be killed in rare instances (life threatening). There should be more wolf protections and other methods incorporated like abatement and deterrants for livestock owners. Killing often is not a long term solution. There is so much research that the public wants less lethal killing and more humane ways to resolve problems. Trapping is extraordinarily cruel and in general the research shows the MAJORITY of those surveyed who do not want hunting at all, feel it's unnecessary, it's culturally offensive to Native Americans and they don't like the methods. Please use this research in your plan and tailor it to provide more abatement methods. Indiscriminate killing is not the answer.	4	There are definitely some pluses in this plan but please refer to some of the research below. Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). 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Seth Coffey	All of it	No	Nothing.	It is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.	0	t we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal, cruel killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and

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Marcus Allsup	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. Much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves Recognition of the increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves Adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): -wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing -effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones -the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. -Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. -Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. -Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. -The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. -The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). -All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). -Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). -Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). -There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) -There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. -In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	5	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. -'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
D H	Just the parts I am interested in	No		Killing wolves.	1	Please protect wildlife and wilderness.
Aleasha K	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the	4	Here's the reference: Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). 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				public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." 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						Treves, A. (2018a). Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. PLoS ONE, 13(1), 1–20. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0189729 Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Cornman, A. M., & Treves, A. (2018b). Correction: Killing wolves to prevent predation on livestock may protect one farm but harm neighbors. PLoS One, 209716. Santiago-Ávila, F. J., & Lynn, W. S. (2020b). Bridging compassion and justice in conservation ethics. Biological Conservation, 248, 108648. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2020.108648 Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Lynn, W. S., & Treves, A. (2018c). Inappropriate consideration of animal interests in predator management: Towards a comprehensive moral code. In T. Hovardas (Ed.), Large Carnivore Conservation and Management: Human Dimensions and Governance (pp. 227–251). Routledge. 9 Santiago-Ávila, F. J., & Treves, A. (2021). Toward multispecies justice in human – wildlife coexistence : reply to Clark et al. 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Virgene Link-New	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	Thank you.
Leonid Volovnik	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and	4	

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				endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Sandra Mallmann	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	liked the ideas for helping to keep livestock safe.	trophy hunting,foothold traps, cable restraints, and the use of dogs, you don't use any of those methods for deer and don't think bear hunting either. Not sure if I read anything about killing pups and mom's in their dens' but should never happen.	4	
Vince	All of it	No	Any part of it that does not let wolves live in peace and tries to "manage" them, aka murder them is not anything I like.	Any part of it that allows the murders of wolves. They will call it "management".	1	Wolves do not need management and should be left alone!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Katie O'Halloran	Most of it	Yes	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	4	

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				towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Theresa Cosmano	All of it	No	Not using old goal Of 350; inclusion of social survey; implementation of buffer zones.	Does not curtail lethal management; still allows hounding which is equivalent of DOGFIGHTING; hounding should be made illegal; ban the use of traps; plan not consistent with public values towards wolves.	5	Please consider more scientific information and please consider more humane avenues.
	Most of it	No	Some of the improvements to the horrible present plan!	Stop killing the wolves! Implement mandatory coexistence strategies!	5	
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing really. Trying to relocate them would be great.	I don't like hunting and trapping.	10	Wolves were here first. We infringe on them. Your only worried that there would be less deer for hunters. Who cares about them.
	Most of it	No	Just feel you need more scientific knowledge and help.	Same as 4.	5	Found it rather difficult to really understand, but just have to say PLEASE Stop the hunting and slaughter of these wonderful animals and PLEASE ACCEPT how much more worthwhile they are (this is so true especially regarding other wildlife, wild lands, climate, etc. They balance nature while man destroys it. I'm grateful you are working on a plan, but you must find a way to keep MAN from SLAUGHTERING the beneficial animals. Thank you for caring enough to try to get a plan together.
	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		10	
Donna Selquist	Most of it	Yes	You do have the ability to set a quota, and you should make that quota ZERO.	Hunting is still allowed. Trapping is especially horrific, and should NEVER be allowed/	6	
Alesander Romero	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the wolf conflict mitigation plans to allow for non-lethal methods to avoid the rare occasions where there are conflicts with livestock in farms. I believe that science led practices are a step in the right direction. I also agree that increasing education for the public on the implementation of non lethal deterrent techniques is a MUST to help protect all animals and treat them in a humane way.	The idea of having a set season to train hounds on wolf trophy hunting is the equivalent to dog fighting and should be sanctioned. Trophy hunting and trapping wolves is only in the interest of a VERY SMALL population, and the focus should be more in the facts that wolves provide many benefits to the ecosystem, as well as reducing diseases and preventing accidents caused by deer. Studies have shown that killing a single wolf destabilizes the pack and causes chaos, leading to more issues with humans around. Overall, this plan focuses on the perception that wolves threaten human life or livestock, which is not true, and uses it as justification for killing them. Instead of it, the plan should focus more on EDUCATING the population to avoid such misinformation.	7	This plan should be updated to remove the mandate for trophy hunting and hunting seasons, provide more education on non-lethal deterrents as well as ending the misinformation about wolves being a threat to humans and livestock, and include a section to review the plan for potential changes in a short to medium time frame (every 10 years)
Jeffrey Ballou	All of it	Yes	Like the provisions to support farmers and others if wolves harm	Trophy hunting, use of dogs, etc	5	
Geraldine A Frigge	Most of it	Yes	It is imperative that these animals that were reintroduced into our State be protected, but managed.	Any uncontained wolf hunts.	4	Use common sense! Destroying animals in any sense must be controlled, not decided without REAL consequences.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves.	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	4	It just boggles my mind how quick you are to bow down to the cattle industry. Time to wise-up guys . . .
Jean Purser Cameron	All of it	No	The buffer zones between native American tribes & wolves	"SLAUGHTERING" wolves is NOT the same as "MANAGING" them.	2	Trapping, poisoning, and allowing public hunts are all INHUMANE methods of managing them and, besides the ETHICAL reasons for not using these methods...you are hastening the EXTERMINATION of another "endangered species"!

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william schultheis	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	mgt. based in science		8	
Taylor Neff	Most of it	Yes	A science-based wolf management plan that takes into consideration local tribal input.	Plan presentation is so long that it is difficult to finish reading the whole thing.	10	I support a plan that allows the wolf to be treated as a native animal species that deserves it's rightful place as a wild animal in the state without excessive hunting pressure.
William Zwicky	All of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal 2. The low quota zones are important 3. Focus on ecological benefits of wolves.		9	
Mary	All of it	No	Emphasis on maintaining or increasing the wolf population. The benefits they have are endless and the only complaint people have can be handled if they just kept their livestock safe and away from being accessed.	Predation shouldn't have any lethal response ever. Compensating for animal loss is fine, but teaching farmers how to put up a fence and keep their animals safe is much more important.	8	Do not kill wolves just because humans are too lazy to secure their property or watch their animals, or cause they're insecure a wolf will kill the buck they've been tracking.
	Most of it	Yes	1 - I like the removal of an arbitrary wolf population goal to that the best-available science is applied to wolf management. 2 - The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. 3 - The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.		10	
	All of it	No	the new one doesn't rely on population numbers.	it doesn't specifically provide for non-lethal interventions.	6	could be better by acknowledging the ecological role wolves play- how necessary to a sound wild life ecology, and providing for their permanent inclusion in all of the state's planning efforts.
Bridget Palecek	Most of it	Yes	I like the fact that they are considering buffer zones around the reservations and the fact that they finally realize the ecological plus to having wolves in our state. They are beautiful animals and are faithful to their pac (family) which is a beautiful thing to see. Randomly killing one of the pac affects the whole pac, so we want to keep killing wolves at a minimum so recreational killing of wolves needs to be banned. It's horrid seeing pictures of wolves killed by happy, smiling hunters.	If you implement the above, our wolf pacs in Wisconsin will benefit greatly.	7	A plan is only as good as the implementation of it.
Barbara Hegedus	Just the parts I am interested in	No		The slaughter of wolves is not only offensive, but I believe it's immoral and goes against nature. Let hunters shoot at tin cans!	2	Traps and guns - the only way too many agencies know how to "manage" wildlife! Let nature manage itself. Nature does it so much better!!!

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Chloe	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan that should be) Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. 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Shannon Hunter	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan hat runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	3	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		

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Michael Souza	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
		No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	In short, wolves should not be hunted - period. But failing that this is what isn't best about the plan: The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to	1	As noted above, leave wolves alone.

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				wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Donna Mulvey	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) ●	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	5	Thank you.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	nothing	killing and murdering wolves who are only trying to exist and they are part of the ecological spectrum	0	made by sick people who can only kill and murder to solve situations. power grab by hunters and farmers in state fish and game agency does not represent the general public
Deborah Boots	I have not read any of the draft plan	No		You may be trying to stabalize the problem. but wolves need pro- tection, not overmanagement. Please dispense with all recreational and abusive cruelty measures to placate private residents.	2	please upgrade department courage to stand for ethical treatment of wildlife.
Laura Lane	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal, the plan rightly focuses on the ecological benefits of wolves, and the plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribe requested it.		9	Please protect Wisconsin's wolves!
Susan Welsford	Most of it	No	It is somewhat of an improvement ovr.the original plan.	It does not go far enough to protect the species. Animals are NOT on this planet for human convenience.	2	Please take any actions necessary to protect wolves and to stop legislation for wolf hunts in Wisconsin. I am desperately seeking protection for this severely threatened species and its return to the Endangered Species List. Loss of these two things will push the species to extinction. WI DNR is well aware of the importance of this predator in nature's biological ecosystem from the Isle Royale (MI) events. The wolf recovery system is deeply flawed, i.e. erroneous and poorly calculated population estimates, influence and dishonesty of farmers, greed of the hunting/trapping and firearms industries, climate change, urban sprawl, and the abject failure of state DNR organizations. In 1989, there were only three gray wolves left in the Michigan's U.P. Hunting, trapping and human/corporate greed nearly drove the species to extinction before, and (like Michigan's wolves) are on the brink of extinction again. We must allow them the required protections and acreage to live to expand their genetic pool. Without a valid, scientific and robust wolf protection plan, this vital species will be destined for extinction. Provide more protections for WI wolves.
Laurie Tabor	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	Wolves are essential for a balanced ecosystem. ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of	3	New research out yesterday from the Voyageurs Wolf Project: Humans are a substantial source of mortality for wolves that live predominantly in national parks with legal hunting and trapping of wolves outside of national park boundaries accounting for 53% of all human-caused mortality for wolves from national parks. And human-caused mortality triggers instability in wolf packs in national parks. This conclusion is based on a huge collaborative effort that included data and researchers from five national parks—Yellowstone, Denali, Yukon Charley, Grand Teton, and Voyageurs. This research was different than previous work because it looked at how humans impact individual wolf packs (i.e., the social unit) as opposed to the larger wolf population. To do so, we contrasted what happened to wolf packs after at least one pack member was killed by human-causes with packs where no members died of human-causes. We figured out that the chance a pack stayed together to the end of the year decreased by 27% when a pack member died of human causes, and whether or not that pack reproduced the next year decreased by 22%. When a pack leader died, the impact was even larger, with the chance of the pack making it to the end of the year decreasing by 73% and reproduction by 49%. Although we did not examine whether human-caused mortality alters the size of wolf populations in national parks, this work shows that people are clearly altering certain aspects of wolf ecology in national parks even if they are not impacting overall population size. And why exactly is this? Turns out, humans are a disproportionate cause of mortality for wolves that live predominantly in national parks. In other words, wolves die more often of human-causes

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				lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). 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(Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		than would be expected for the amount of time wolves spend outside of park boundaries. All of this just shows how the conservation and management of wolves (and other wildlife) that routinely go in and out of protected areas such as national parks is challenging and why we think collaboration between different state and federal agencies is key when it comes to managing and conserving wolves and other wildlife.

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Nicholas Kovalcik	All of it	No	I am very happy to hear that there will not be a bare minimum population number that the state would be attempting to achieve. I'm also very glad to hear that the use of dogs to track wolves during a potential hunting season will not be allowed.	I'm disappointed that there is a strong possibility for another wolf hunting and trapping season. Based on what we know about wolves, there doesn't appear to be a good reason to allow people to kill them for sport. I'm especially concerned that in the event of a wolf hunting and trapping season, recreational hunters and trappers will not take the individual wolves welfare into account and many animals will suffer needlessly. I would like to see a complete ban on the general public being able to kill wolves for sport. I would also like to see a more definite guarantee in the draft plan that non-lethal wolf/livestock conflict tools will be used first before lethal action is considered.	7	
Hannah Lemke	All of it	No	I truly appreciate all the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Blood does not buy goodwill: allowing culling increases poaching of a large carnivore. Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences, 283(1830), 20152939. https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2015.2939 Christianson, D., & Creel, S. (2014). Ecosystem scale declines in elk recruitment and population growth with wolf colonization: A before-after-control-impact approach. PLoS ONE, 9(7). https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0102330 Creel, S., Becker, M., Christianson, D.,

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				persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		Dröge, E., Hammerschlag, N., Hayward, M. W., Karanth, U., Loveridge, A., Macdonald, D. W., Matandiko, W., M'soka, J., Murray, D., Rosenblatt, E., & Schuette, P. (2015). Questionable policy for large carnivore hunting. Science, 350(6267), 1473–1475. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aac4768 Creel, S., & Rotella, J. J. (2010). Meta-analysis of relationships between human offtake, total mortality and population dynamics of gray wolves (Canis lupus). PLoS One, 5(9). https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012918 David, P. (2009). Ma'iingan and the Ojibwe. In A. P. Wydeven, T. R. Van Deelen, & E. Heske (Eds.), Recovery of Gray Wolves in the Great Lakes Region of the United States (pp. 267–277). Springer. Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94. Eberhardt, L. L., White, P. J., Garrott, R. A., & Houston, D. B. (2007). 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kym	All of it	No	wolves need to be recognized as a vital part of the natural process of wildlife. it is good to make changes and increase awareness to PROTECT and PRESERVE WOLVES SPECIES.	recreational killings needs to stop as a method of control as species suffer greatly and could be lost. All species and wildlife needs to be RESPECTED not eliminated by humans.	5	Humans needs more compassion and tolerance as we must compromise and live together. Humans cannot destroy every other species. We must work together to preserve this planet.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Christopher Tumolo	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Patrick Pergolski	All of it	Yes	Keeping the wolf population up		10	Saving our Wolfs
Nicole	All of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence	5	'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

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				(e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.		
gerard kuehn	All of it	No	some are good but not enough good for the wolves	killing any wolf. they harm nobody. they have a right to live in peace. i support any wolf organisation. no hunting should be allowed ever. nature is in charge. the wolves are God's creation. they are loyal to each other unlike humans. we need them to be protected from humans	2	do the right thing please. leave the wolves in peace to raise their little families. i have been supporting them since 1964 and will never stop. they are my spirit animal
Andy Mannsfeld	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Buffer zones	Missing scientific literature Continued use of lethal management Use of hounds Placing livestock over wolves. Livestock should be removed if a conflict arises Non-lethal abatement measures should be required by all livestock operations	3	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				Consider the benefits of wolves as part of the eco system. Study areas where wolves have essentially been eliminated or greatly reduced in over-population of various species. I am a resident of Michigan and we share wolf populations with your state so we share these concerns.
Isabel	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to	4	

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				provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Drew Holloway	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn't recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	9	I really appreciate you gathering public comments on this plan. I feel like wolves are an important component of Wisconsin history and tribal history and as I've learned more about their role as a keystone species, I've realized just how important they are to a functional ecosystem in Wisconsin. Visiting the wolves in the Green Bay wildlife sanctuary was a truly magical experience for me as well.
Dianne G Croft	Most of it	No	All positive aspects of the plan to preserve wolves.	Negatives such as hunting, culling and other "managed" control.	6	It could use more rules for protecting wolves and their pups.
Gerald Bowman	All of it	No	I encourage maintaining and supporting wolves. I like the idea of compensating farmers and ranchers for loss.	I do not like trapping or killing of wolves. There should be no trapping unless it involves a cage or something where the wolf is not injured. Killing of wolves should not be allowed unless under extreme cases	4	See above
	Just the parts I am interested in	No			7	
Elisabeth Ritter	Most of it	No				Anyway, it is so important that wolves go on living in those areas!
Jodi Weiskott	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be	4	

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				incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing,as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment. ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable.		
	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating state's wolf management plan. Although we believe current plan needs significant updating, we recognize efforts, improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles, increased opposition to motives, methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect best available science, is missing substantial amount of scientific literature on : ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships, evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. No emphasis given on wolves importance to ecosystem which has been proven ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings esp. poaching needs to be addressed & killing then claiming it was a feral dogl or mistaken for a cougar [of all things...duh]	1	THINK MORE OF THE BENEFIT OF WOLVES TO THE ECOSYSTEM THAN NEGATIVE IMPACTS. REMEMBERING WOLVES BEEN ICONIC IN AMERICA WAY BEFORE US HUMANS BEEN LIVING HERE. THEY DID JUST FINE WITHOUT HUMAN INTERVENTION & LEFT ALONE. WOLVES ARE SOCIAL BEINGS WHO ARE BASICALLY SHY, TEND TO THEIR FAMILIES TO DEFEND THEM FROM HARM OF HUMANS, WANT TO JUST BE LEFT ALONE & FREE. HUGE RESPONSIBILITY IS NOT TO PUT COWS IN SAME AREAS AS WOLVES, ITS ALREADY BEEN PROVEN IT DOES NOT WORK, THAT IS BIG ISSUE CAN BE RESOLVED. REPLACE COWS FOR BISON. DON'T ALLOW RANCHERS TO RUN COWS IN WOLF COUNTRY, THEY VERY WELL KNOW IT DOES NOT WORK, GIVES THEM FREE RANGE THEN TO SHOOT AT THEIR DISCRETION THEN ARISE WITH ALL SORTS OF LAME EXCUSES WHY THEY KILLED THEM WHEN MAJORITY OF THE TIME A WOLF DIDN'T EVEN DO THE DEED, LIKELY WAS ANOTHER PREDATOR AS A COUGAR OR BEAR. STOP THE BAD RAP ON WOLVES BY ALL THESE LAME EXCUSES & INTERGRATING WITH CRITTERS DON'T BELONG IN THEIR TERRITORY, LIKE COWS!

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Steven Vogel	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles, and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships, and evolution; ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, more numerous, and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of being dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. 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julia knaz	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	if it saves the lives of wolves good if not plan better	you need a plan that will continue to save the lives of all wolves, and not have a quota of how many should live	5	save all the wolves lives. do not fall to the hunters request for a hunt. save them and forget about the money made from hunting
Rachel D	All of it	Yes	I like that input from indigenous tribal leaders, and strong scientific information and research, were included in this plan.	I dislike the fact that many WI residents surveyed did not want wolves to occupy most / all of WI, and many residents did not know how to answer that question.	9	We cannot have another catastrophic wolf hunt as we recently did, before federal protections were reinstated. Wolves are important keystone predators, and they make Wisconsin's natural environment healthier.
G. Paxton	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal.	2	Please provide a Draft Wolf Management Plan focused on wolf protections.
Yvette Tapptico	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	5	Cattle and dairy are destroying life and causing mass extinctions, water loss, deforestation, habitat loss. The ranchers are given priority ver indignous wild natural beings who lived here far longer than the imported invasive, land -thievng bovines and the ranchers. No killing of indeiegnous beings or restriction of the roaming ranges should ever be allowed. Removed th cattle, restrict the rights of the ranchers to take over our lands, waters, natural atmospheric balance. This is insane,, the perspective of the relative newcomers to the Americas! LET NATURE RULE. Grow organic crops to feed people,.
Philip Ratcliff	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves.	Scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances.	3	Last year your state went on a frenzy of wolf killing, just like the redneck states of Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana. I thought that your state was more civilized. The current draft plan is a slight improvement.

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Liz Waters	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	Thank you for taking in public comments and considering what is best for the wolf population.

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	Thank you for basing this on science and taking public as well as tribal input.
Lori Erbs	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well-being ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well-being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings	1	I am a former Wisconsin resident and realize that consciousness is the key to effective change in this and other issues. Please implement educational outreach to the citizens of WI to provide viable co-existence strategies and better understanding of apex predator role in maintaining healthy ecosystems.
Karin Lease	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The plan did not reflect the best management practices established by science. It ignores the sovereignty of individual wolves and their essential nature in local ecosystems. It does not take into account that overall public opinion is against killing them. Killing individual animals that are absolutely essential to the packs they are a part of is not a solution to anything. It is cruel, unethical and actually causes more of the problems problems it is supposed to solve. It is a huge factor on the illegal killings that are taking place all over their habitat. Using hounds presents more problems and it is horrifying on the suffering it causes. Thank you.	1	Please stop killing wolves. They are essential to a healthy ecosystem, other wildlife populations and the environment as a whole. They have a right to live just as we do.
PATRICK DELANEY	All of it	Yes			9	
	All of it	Yes			2	
Emily	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Increased recognition of the ecological role of wolves. Also the inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves.	- The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. - The plan runs contrary to public values towards wolves. It omits mention of such majority values from the plan, despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).	4	

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	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	The plan needs more focus on non-lethal resolutions and better protections for wolves
Lisa Ferguson	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				I support (i) increasing protections for wolves, (ii) requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and (iii) the banning of recreational killing.
Juan Hernandez Garibay	All of it	No	None	I don't like everything about this draft plan !! Wolves like all animals restore ecosystems!!	0	WE NEED TO SAVE WOLVES FROM EXTINCTION!! WOLVES LIKE ALL ANIMALS RESTORE ECOSYSTEMS!! HUNTERS ARE THE INES THAT NEED TO BE MANAGED !! WE SAVE WILD ANIMALS WE SAVE ECOSYSTEMS!! WE SAVE EARTH
lynn hoang	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350wolves.●There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves●The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methodsfor killing wolves●The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal rereservations, whereas previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing; effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones; the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing,social dynamics The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion ofsustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy,results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of thisomitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.●The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rarecircumstances of immediate defense of life.○A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowingliberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidenceof illegal killings.	4	
Don Schaeffer	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	No specific population goal	I would like to see the plan include a proposal to study the relationship between wolf density and the prevalence of CWD.	7	I don't believe dogs should be used hunting wolves.
	Most of it	No	I think all of the wolves should be respected and all of the animals should not be hunted. They are beautiful and especially the deer and elk should be respected.	na	10	I hope that the wolves will have protections in the future and not hunted down.
Miranda McCall	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf managementbplan. Believe the current plan needs significant updating while recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing,as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews aboutwolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for	4	

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Jason Linn	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I'm glad WDNR has allowed more than 350 wolves to live in Wisconsin. I'm glad the public opinion survey showed a clear majority valued wolves.	Hounding should be illegal because it's cruel. Too many hunters represented in public opinion survey. More scientific studies should be adduced. Wolves should not be killed. You should read Davidson-Nelson, S. J., & Gehring, T. M. (2010). Testing fladry as a nonlethal management tool for wolves and coyotes in Michigan. Human–Wildlife Interactions, 4, 87–94.	3	Non-lethal should be the default. I love wolves.
	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate that it is based on scientific consensus around the ecological benefit that wolves have in Wisconsin. I also am pleased with the consultation with tribes who have long lived in Wisconsin and have treaty rights that must be respected.	I think the plan needs to have clear guidance on how often this plan will be reviewed or updated. Many state plans such as DOT transportation plans have a regular cadence whereby they are reviewed and updated. Science and conditions change, so adding a regular cadence for review and update is essential.	9	Thank you for putting together such a thorough plan that reflects science and public engagement.
Suzanne Kirby	Most of it	No	Using scientific information to keep a healthy balance between nature and humans	The plan is missing some important scientific information and promoting recreational hunting as a management state-of-the-art even though this is not what the scientific literature suggest.	3	
Glen Anderson	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Thanks for this opportunity. I'm glad so many WDNR staff have helped to update Wisconsin's wolf management plan. Thanks for these improvements over the status quo: ● The old numerical goal of 350 was stupid policy. ● I'm glad you recognize that wolves play legitimate roles in ecosystems. ● Your social survey is wise and smart. ● Thanks for setting up buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Although your draft plan improves upon the status quo, YOU MUST IMPROVE IT IN MANY WAYS: ● We need "BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE" to guide everything. ● I am seriously disappointed that you support killing wolves for recreation instead of trusting nature to manage population. KILLING IS NOT ENTERTAINMENT!!! ● EXCLUDE lethal ways to manage wolves. ● FULLY INCLUDE AND EMPOWER indigenous people. They lived sustainably with wolves for thousands of years. They know best. ● PLEASE RELY ALSO ON THE "BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE" instead of the biased, corrupt, typical ways states deal with wolves.	4	Thanks for this opportunity. I care about EVERY ecosystem, including those of locations elsewhere from where I live.
Andy Goretski	All of it	Yes	I like that we will have lethal means of management for wolves.	I support the 350 wolf threshold to begin management practices. I see no numbers proposed.	1	It is tragic what has happened to the deer population in historically strong Northwoods hunting forests. The whole balance has been crippled by Wisconsin DNR inaction to assert their responsibility to manage populations. DNR alliance with the Federal Goverment and special interests have been very discriminatory to Northwoods residents and wild game consumers. Get it right and get the balance back. I support 350 wolves so that we can experience some interactions with wolves, but not on almost every outing in wolf country.
myra	All of it	No		The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	1	

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Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	3	Given that: Humans and Big Ag Livestock Now Account for 96 Percent of Mammalian Biomass, wild mammals have been reduced to only approximately 4%, we are in the middle of a mass extinction due to human behavior and overreach of resources, non-human species are vanishing at a rate not seen in 10 million years, more than 1 million species are currently on the brink of extinction, biodiversity matters to all of us (even to human health) we should be doing everything we can to preserve, protect and support each and every native wild being left on the planet-especially wolves who are native to this continent (unlike cows and pigs) and who are the ancestors of our beloved dogs. Anything less is unnecessarily violent and destructive, anthropocentric, short-sighted behavior which will come back to harm us in the end.

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves		
Joe Wierzbicki	Most of it	Yes	Ecological benefits of wolves. Getting rid of population goals, and low quota zones	Don't really agree with using dogs to chase wolves for so long during the season.	8	
JOSEPHINE	Most of it	No	I REALLY HOPE THE GOVERNMENT AT THE WYOMING, MONDANA AND YELLOWSTONE BORDER WILL FREE ALL WOLVES CRUELTIES AT THE YELLOWSTONE BORDER AND MONDANA	NOT SURE ABOUT THIS TILL FURTHER VIEWING THROUGH MY EMAIL. BUT ONE THING I LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT, THE PLAN TO SAVE WOLVES AT THE YELLOWSTONE BORDERS IS TOO SLOW, SO I AM SKEPTICAL ABOUT THIS.	4	MORE WILDLIFES RESCUED PLANS FOR OTHER WILDLIFES INCLUDING OCEAN MAMMALS LIKE THE DOLPHINS, WHALES, ELEPHANTS, ZEBRAS , ETC.....
	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	0	
Linda Hiller Deppe	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Removal of numeric population goal. Listening to the Tribes input. Noting benefits of wolves to the landscape. Reflects growing favorable public opinion of wolves.	No mention of support for responsible farming practices and non-lethal options, which could be less expensive than compensation in the long run.	8	This draft is a huge improvement and the first real sign that the citizens of the whole state are being heard.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Tori H	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	5	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Virginia Watson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Pleased to see an update of the wolf management plan. I like that 1) Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. 2) The role of wolves in ecology will be considered. 3) A survey that shows increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles & especially increased opposition to killing wolves 4) The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	don't like: 1) The current draft does not reflect the best available science a) wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing b) effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones c) the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships $ evolution 2) The emphasis on sustainable recreational killing & consumptive users which is contrary to scientific evidence 3) No lethal management of wolves except in immediate defense of life. 4) Wolf protections should be the priority, along with a concentration on non-lethal management relative to livestock conflicts. a) Set minimal hunting quotas relative to Act 169, mandating wolf hunting season, including zero quota. b) Studies have shown that non-lethal management produces better conflict management results. 5) Surveys indicate public cares about wolves as individuals & for maintaining biodiversity. The plan should heed public opinion & avoid the liberal killing of our wolves. 6) As it stands the plan fails to consider the majority public opinion in forming policy. 7) Decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (such as majority opposition to killing wolves) are contrary to the principles of scientific integrity. 8) There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health & well-being. There are no measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence). 9) Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population. In contrast to the notion presented in the plan, tribes consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards these ideas are shared by many non-tribal members & demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. 10) In general, omissions of scientific evidence, & the dismissal of public values & concerns for wolves indicate a biased & unscientific perception of wolves promoting values contrary to majority public opinions.	4	
Kathryn Watkins	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	The wolf protection draft addresses the need to protect wolves and action is being taken to do so.	The protections don't go quite far enough, i.e., ways to coexist w/wolves using non-lethal methods, putting an end to "recreational" killing.	5	The following need to be included in the draft: There needs to be more protections for the wolves and the protections in the plan should be increased. People have to learn to coexist w/wolves which means non-lethal conflict interventions must be practiced. Lastly, recreational killing must be banned. No animal deserves to die just for our "entertainment". It is cruel, inhumane and an animal basically dies for nothing. We need wolves to balance the ecosystem. It is unconscionable to me that wolves are again being hunted and killed after coming back from near extinction. We must protect them as much & as soon as possible.
Heide Coppotelli	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques	5	I have chosen to use the comments on the wolf management plan that were compiled by experts in wolf conservation and management rather than write my own, because I agree with their statements and couldn't begin to articulate their cogent points nearly as well. Please know that I stand behind what I have entered and hope that you will take the input to heart. You can make a very important difference for not only this incredibly vital species, the wolf, but also for the ecosystems of which they are a critical part. Please, for all our grandchildren, we must be truly outstanding stewards.

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				by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Diane Young	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I like everything that will help wolves remain in the balance of ecology.	I don't know enough about what led to the plan to comment or criticize that hard work that went into its creation.	10	I wish success to all those involved in this mission to support a healthy wolf population in Montana. We don't have many wolves in Maine, but I'm glad to help.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad Public.	4	
Bryon Sundberg	All of it	No		The plan to kill the wolves.	6	
Theresa	Most of it	No			5	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from

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						the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	First, the plan emphasizes the benefits that wolves provide to the environment. Second, the plan eliminates having an arbitrary wolf population goal. Finally, the plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes have requested such zones.		9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Marcia Kellam	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	1	

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Frank Burke	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. 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In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	1	

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Judy Masbaum	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	4	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority

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						opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)
Lance Kammerud	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	STOP ANY PLAN OF KILLING WOLVES!!!	ANY WOLVES BEING KILLED IS TO MANY!!!	0	STOP THE PLAN TO KILL, HARM WOLVES IN ANY WAY OR ANY MEASURES OF HUMAN GREED THAT AFFECTS ANY WOLVES!!
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Increased recognition of the ecological role of wolves.	The plan should emphasize no lethal management of wolves and eliminate hunting, trapping, and hounding of wolves.	2	
Chris Pedone	All of it	No	That this issue is being discussed	Sport hunting should NOT be considered. Non-lethal solutions need to be implemented.	4	
John Richardson	Most of it	No	I like the fact that you have done a lot of work and are addressing the status of wolves in WI.	I believe it needs to include the more science based research that's available on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well-being as well as the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions	6	Can the plan "prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence"?

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Lydia Garvey	I have not read any of the draft plan	No				It's vital to protect our wolf predators- they are vital to ecosystem balance. WI Draft WMP Talking Points What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Alice	Just the parts I am interested in	No	A Few changes	Not enough Protections for Wolves. No more killing of wolves ever!!	1	I Want the WDNR to know that I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring Non-lethal Conflict Interventions and Banning Recreational Killing.

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Rosina S Harter	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. 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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. 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	All of it	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable."		
Margaret	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Saving the wolves		7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dee Simon	Most of it	No	There is greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	1. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike 2. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. 3.The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. 4. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals	1	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves
Holly Cox	Just the parts I am interested in	No	What I like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	What I don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ●		We have lost 70% of the world's wildlife since the 1970's. This is due to habitat loss, pesticides, human activity, climate change, etc. We, as humans, must do a significantly better job of protecting other species. We must stop deforestation, hunting, & human expansion. Please do all you can to protect this species. Give nature & Wildlife the right to exist. We all benefit more from them being here & thriving. Thank you.

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				There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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	All of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). 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That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view	4	NA

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Nick Schoeppner	All of it	No	● I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing	4	

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				that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents.	0	
Sherrill Futrell	Just the parts I am interested in	No	You seem to recognize the importance of wolves to the greater environment.	Your lack of inclusion of scientific studies and your continual allowing of recreational wolf-hunting, which is ugly and counterproductive. I've boycotted the state of Wisconsin ever since I heard about this silly and unnecessary cruelty.	3	I want you to INCREASE protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing! Thanks.
Mary Bissell	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a	5	

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				regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Just that there is a plan.	The counting population is 50 to 100% low.	1	The wolfe has decimated the northern deer heard on public property without a residentual area within 1/4 of a mile. People see deer only because the deer need to exist where there are lights on in a residence to survive. MI is worse. Thanks for wrecking tha hunt for whitetail deer in the north.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Nina Vera	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Save the wolves. Don't kill any wolves. Nina Vera		0	Don't ever kill any wolves
Candi Ausman	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and	4	

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Diane Rohn	All of it	No	Nothing	That you have a management plan for wolves. They have every right to live free from your "management plan".	0	

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[redacted]	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. 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	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	5	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing.

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				towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Jamila Viandier	Most of it	No	I like that WDNR really took the time to gather evidence of the public's opinion on wolf management, including tribal opinions. It was very in-depth, with important elements (such as insightful probing questions, how attitudes have changed, why attitudes have changed--including the role of social media in this) and really took into account a vast array of public stratum. I liked the education part, the way WDNR is actively trying to educate the public on wolf interactions.	It seems as though there is more scientific literature available that was not taken into account, such as literature on wolf packs, their needs, wants and prosperity. There also wasn't enough on why people oppose a wolf hunting season.	7	I strongly applaud Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources for updating the state's wolf management plan and for seeking out public comments regarding it. The wolf management plan should emphasize and promote only non-lethal methods to deter livestock-wolf conflicts. WDNR should work with livestock owners to teach them how to non-lethally manage any wolves that they may think pose a threat to their livestock. WDNR should only compensate livestock owners if they have shown that they only use non-lethal deterrent methods. I am opposed to WDNR using recreational killing of wolves as a primary management strategy. Wolves are essential to any ecosystem and provide all sorts of benefits to nature and humanity. They keep deer populations in check (unlike humans that take the biggest and best deer, wolves know to take the weakest and sickest ones, ensuring better survival for the deer populations in the long run), which in turn keeps everything else in balance by controlling the prey animals.They are essential to any sort of biodiversity. While there is a mandated wolf hunting season (Act 169) WDNR can get around this by setting quota limits on wolves to "zero," thereby producing no fatalities. Hounding should also not be allowed, as this is dangerous to the hounds and promotes violent killing of the wolves. It is also very unsportsmanlike. Wolves are individual beings who deserve respect and should be allowed to live as intended; focusing on and persecuting wolves is unethical and antithetical to the natural order. It violates deeply held beliefs in Native American tribes as well as anyone who cares profoundly about the environment. Thank you, Jamila Viandier
carol pirkle	Most of it	No	The draft plan considers the recognition of the ecological role of wolves. In this day and age, inclusions of this sort are more important to our environment than ever. There is some opposition to motives and methods that presently exist for the killing of wolves.	Although the plan includes some opposition to methods of killing wolves, they need to go further and include the consideration that lethal management should be limited to the immediate threat of life. There is also a lack of scientific literature regarding the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions. More needs to be mentioned about studies done on wolf sociability, etc. This includes the impact that widespread killing of wolves has on the social dynamics and well being of wolf packs. I live very close to the county where OR 59 was shot and killed. This is also an area where coyote killing contests were held for years. This is a clear example of how the liberal killing of coyotes and wolves results in a direct increase in illegal killings.	7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Stephanie	Most of it	No	I appreciate the improvements made to the previous plan, including that wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves and the fact that wolves are now recognized for the important ecological role and benefit they play.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on the following: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	3	This plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. The plan fails to consider wolves as individuals. The opportunity exists to do better.
Katherine Wright	Most of it	No	* Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. * There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves * The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves * The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood	1	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence. This is our opportunity to speak up for wolves in Wisconsin and shape their future protections. I hope you will listen to what we have to say about protecting the wolves, not only in Wisconsin but throughout the US.

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				as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Jordan Briskin	All of it	No	● Wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of wolves' role in keeping the ecosystem healthy and balanced. ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of 0 wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is	5	Ideally, there should be no provisions allowing for recreational hunting of wolves.

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				significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should *require* the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specificmethods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when, in fact, tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point to a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● "SOM" wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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snigdhodeep mukherjee	All of it	No	Adoption of proposed buffer zones, recognition of the importance of wolves in the context of ecology, inclusion of social surveys focusing on positive views on wolves	1. The draft is missing significant amount of scientific literature on - wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing - effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones - the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution 2. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. 3. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. 4. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. 5. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.	4	
Jean Lindgren	Most of it	No	Consultation with local Native Tribes.	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	4	I'm originally from Wisconsin though I don't live there now. I appreciate your effort to treat wolves fairly but there's more to be done. Wolves are extremely important in keeping the eco-system in balance which must play an important role in your decisions. Wolves first, people second. Thanks for your consideration.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation	3	
Laura Lyons	Most of it	No	●The efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● Greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	●A substantial amount of scientific research and literature is missing on wolf population assessment, wolf behavior, their relationship to the environment, and non-lethal management. ●The obvious bias in the plan, that ignores science and favors recreational killing. ● The dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves.	4	
	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings		

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Linda Serfass	Most of it	No	I like that the WDNR is doing anything at all that is in wolves' favor as opposed to that of hunters and trappers. I have obtained my information from Project Coyote (a project of Earth Island Institute), and they have phrased all talking points as best they can be phrased, so I am not going to try to put this into my own words. ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point	2	

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Wendy mercier	Just the parts I am interested in	No			1	Wolves are very important and necessary. They need protection
Virginia Levith	All of it	No	It's a start, but we need more protection for the wolves. Increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!	Recreational killing needs to be banned. Any shooting or blowing up wolf dens, etc. for any reason needs to be banned. Ranchers can use guard dogs is an example of a responsible, non-lethal way to protect their herds. There are many more modern non-lethal methods. This is the 21st century.	3	Although the plan contains improvements compared to previous versions, it is far from reflecting the best available science, ethics and broad public values that should guide wolf policy and coexistence.
Sharon Olson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations Social survey notes increasingly positive views of wolves and their ecological roles - also increasing horror of wolf killings Removal of arbitrary limit of 350 wolf population	Does not consider science reports showing that non-lethal methods by livestock owners and wildlife officials lead to less livestock losses. Migration more effective than violence..	6	
Jayne	All of it	Yes	Greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. Hounding or hound training should be illegal	0	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!
KD	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves; ● There is much greater recognition of wolves' ecological roles; ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles, and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves; and ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed.)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships, and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous, and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf-hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy instead of dismissed. ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science.) Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F.) There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence. There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan, and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific, and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023.)		
Nawal Tamimi	Most of it	No	I care about protecting wolves	The one that protects wolves	2	WE SHARE THIS PLANET, WE DO NOT OWN IT, WE SHARE IT AND ALL WOLVES WISH TO DO IS TO LIVE!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Charles Fox	Most of it	No	The Draft Plan appears to be a comprehensive, good-faith effort on the part of the WDNR to manage Gray wolves in Wisconsin. I appreciate the background material on Gray wolf biology and ecology. Understanding these animals is one key to helping them survive in a dangerous human-dominated world. The human dimension is arguably the most important, contentious, and problematic aspect of wolf management. I appreciated the inclusion of the human social dynamics and attitudes towards wolves. The widespread use of non-lethal depredation tools for livestock producers will continue to be critical to wolf management in WI and is wisely included as well. As referenced above, public education and outreach will continue to be critically important components of wolf management. I liked some of the products of the draft plan including the Strategy C3: Encourage non-consumptive recreational and cultural opportunities associated with wolves, and Strategy D1: Foster public education and understanding of wolves by ensuring information is accurate and readily available to the public. I encourage the department to vigorously pursue these strategies.	It seems predetermined that wolves must be killed, that an abusive relationship between humans and wildlife must be maintained. That's a dangerous assumption. Wolves should not be classified as a "game" species. No one eats wolf and killing them is not a "harvest". Wolves and other native carnivores limit their own population based on the availability of prey and territory. Reducing the number of wolves on the landscape through recreational killing is a cruel, senseless waste. Shooting wolves is unjustifiable except for immediate threats to humans or their domestic animals. Pursuing wolves with packs of GPS collared dogs is unethical. Trapping wolves is extreme animal cruelty. The term "trapper ethics" is incoherent. No ethical person would torture animals for any reason. So-called "Best Management Practices" are fraudulent and have nothing to do with animal welfare. None of this can be justified ecologically, economically, or ethically. WDNR should not rely on killing wolves to meet management objectives. Research by Treves, et. al. strongly suggests that legally sanctioned killing of wolves increases illegal killings. The legally sanctioned killing of wolves signals that these animals are worthless and should be killed because they are of no value. Recreational killing of wolves is a very dangerous policy that should be reconsidered before any more killing "seasons" are authorized. The continued treatment of bear hounding as some kind of legitimate activity is highly problematic. Bear hounding is an intense source of conflict for wolves and should be abolished. This activity is abusive to bears, wolves, human residents, and the dogs themselves. WDNR never really knows how many wolves are living in the state so it is impossible to know how many wolves can be killed and still maintain a sustainable population. In an age of mass extinctions and mass shootings it's difficult to sanction still more killing. Despite its long history, the recreational killing of wildlife is highly problematic should not be used as the primary "management" tool for wildlife in Wisconsin.	5	The political environment around wolf management - and many other issues of modern life - is incredibly, insanely toxic. This draft plan does not adequately address this reality. Despite all your work this plan could be completely ignored and your state wildlife management hijacked like it was before, leaving wolves and other wildlife to be slaughtered.
Sandy White	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including:●Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350wolves.●There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves●The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves●The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	●The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on: ○wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well beingoeffectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal oneso○the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well being,social dynamics,ecological relationships and evolution●The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy,results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.●The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.○A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	5	n/a
Katie Warner	Most of it	No	I like the recognition of wolves' ecological importance, something that should go without saying but often does not. I like the inclusion of buffer zones around tribal land. I especially appreciate the scrapping of a numerical quota, a fairly useless measure in a changing environment.	I dislike the absence of some very critical information, like the impacts of hunts on the health of packs and informed supported information on proven non-lethal methods. I dislike that lethal management is considered appropriate for anything but the most extreme cases, as it is not usually necessary. There is very little value put on the actual familial relationship of wolves and tribes, or recognition of the importance of each wolf/family unit.	5	Western wolves are under extreme attack, globally many species, especially carnivores are on the brink of extinction. The us has already made the mistake of management of wolves by extermination, only now we absolutely know better. Not to mention wolves balance your ecosystems, I know Wisconsin is a beautiful state, so I know you recognize the importance of that balance. Enough bloodshed, I'm begging you.
Laura Arias	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring NON-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring NON-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!	1	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring NON-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!
	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Leave the wolves alone!	Leave the wolves alone!	0	Leave the wolves alone

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Amy Martin	All of it	Yes	Examples of non-lethal wolf depredation abatement tools.	I dislike the use of hunting dogs and lethal traps to hunt wolves. This poses dangers to those dogs, and traps such as snares and the like are unethical as animals try to release themselves by gnawing their own limbs. I definitely despise the killing of wolves younger than 2 years of age! They haven't really been given the chance to live their lives as they should or to engage with a pack. What happens to the animal once it is killed? Sure, they can be skinned for their hide, but what of the rest of the animals? Humans do not nor should they consume wolf "meat," and excuse me for this but all I see is just another form of entertainment for testosterone-fueled egos. The great white hunter! And I am white and definitely do NOT identify with hunting what we cannot consume for the sheer sport of it. That IS what this is-- all bout a sport. They can try to paint it any way they like, but it's just a bloodsport. There are way too many aspects of the Wolf Management Plan that are disheartening--too many to discuss in a mere survey. There are other ways to maintain the population of wolves in Wisconsin--we do not have to kill them. This was their land before it was ours. We must respect and nurture all wildlife. It is our duty as humane beings. Done.	0	There are several other states that are trying to re-introduce wolves to bring back balance to their ecosystems: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado in the recent past. Why can we not round up the "quota" of wolves and send them to those states to aid in their reintroduction? WHY must we KILL one of our greatest majestic natural predators? Assisting those states with their re-introductions will also build closer relationships between them and Wisconsin. We are, after all, the UNITED States of America.
Sonja Mills	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)	2	None
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation	4	

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				of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Barbara	Most of it	No	protecting all the wolves	no hunting absolutely no hunting of wolves	6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No			10	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
TRACY STAEDTER	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciated the inclusion of Tribal Perspectives from Wisconsin indigenous communities and as well details from a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. I appreciate the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	Scientists who concern themselves with studying wolves have shown the effectiveness of non-lethal interventions to prevent livestock predation. This is not talked about in the report. The emphasis on recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy is a biased plan. The influence on this is plan is clearly from an ag/hunting viewpoint and runs contrary to scientific evidence. How can any one look at the map of where wolves lived compared to where the roamed hundreds of years ago and think that continued killing of them is a good thing? It is also well known that wolves are social animals, who live in families and interact with other packs in specific ways. The impact of random deaths in a pack negatively affects their behavior, wellbeing, and social dynamics. There is a lack of consideration for wolf population health and measurable indicators for assessing stress. The report also doesn't touch on the financial opportunities that could be available to Wisconsin from wolf-watching tourism. Ten years after the wolves were brought back the Yellowstone, the University of Montana conducted a Regional Economic Impact Analyses and estimated that more than $35.5 million (confidence interval of $22.4 to $48.6 million) are generated via wolf-centered ecotourism in the park's surrounding gateway communities. Source: https://www.nathab.com/blog/economic-benefits-of-wolves-in-yellowstone/	5	It's depressing to see the map of the historic range of wolves in the US compared to what they are today. Wisconsin has an opportunity. I also think that the plan should recommend that Wisconsin strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves, especially that which uses hounds. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. I was shocked to see the number of illegal killings of wolves compared to those harvested legally. Humans seem to want to kill or hold captive what they cannot control. It's sickening. I appreciate the public commentary but I actually don't think anything I say will matter. I strongly believe that lives of wolves are at the mercy of Big Ag and Hunting. It saddens me greatly to read this report and to even comment on it.
Andrew J Luk	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves	3	

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				and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, andespecially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates	4	

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				when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023		
shine	Just the parts I am interested in		stop killing woves	killing of wolves		

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Lisa Barrett	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Encourage fellow advocates to comment in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing.		10	Encourage fellow advocates to comment in favor of increasing wolf protections, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions, and banning recreational killing.
Juanita Rinas	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing a. effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones b. the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution c. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. d. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. e. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. f.Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public.	2	The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's

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						proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)

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Diane M. Kastel	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	We appreciate the efforts of all "WDNR" staff involved in updating our state's, wolf, management plan. Although we believe the, current, plan needs, significant, updating, we recognize the efforts, and, improvements made to the, previous, plan, including: ● Wolves, in WI, will no longer be managed by reference to the, old, numerical, goal of 350 wolves! ● There is, much, greater recognition of the, ecological, role of wolves! ● The inclusion of a, social, survey, which notes, increased, positive views of wolves! knowledge of their, ecological, roles, and, increased, opposition to the motives, and, methods, for killing wolves! ● The adoption of, proposed, buffer zones around, tribal, reservations (i.e., previously, no buffer zones existed)	● The current, draft does NOT reflect the, best, available science, and, is missing a, substantial, amount of, scientific, literature on, wolf, ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency, and, wellbeing! ○ effectiveness of, non-lethal, interventions, especially, relative to lethal, ones! ○ the impact of, widespread, killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological, relationships, and, evolution! ● The, above, scientific, omissions, combined with the emphasis on, and, promotion of, sustainable, recreational, killing, and, consumptive, users as a, main, management strategy results in a, biased, plan that runs contrary to, scientific, evidence despite much of this, omitted scientific, evidence being more recent, numerous, and, of stronger, inference! ● The plan MUST, strictly, curtail, any, lethal management of wolves except in, extremely, rare circumstances of immediate, defense of life! ○ A, substantial, body of research documenting, human-caused, mortality in, North American, wolves, including, Wisconsin, wolves, has found that policies allowing, liberalized, killing of wolves result in a, direct, increase in the hazard, and, incidence, of, illegal, killings! ○ Hounding, or, hound, training, which are akin to allowing, legalized, dogfighting, MUST be illegal, or, severely, restricted as this practice is, extremely, cruel to wolves, and, hounds, alike, and, is NOT supported by the majority of hunters, or, the, broad public! ● The plan MUST prioritize, wolf, protections, and, concentrate, solely, on, non-lethal, management of wolves in response to, livestock, conflicts to ensure, ethical, coexistence! ○ Despite "Act 169", which mandates a, wolf, hunting season, the Department can, still, restrict the implementation of, lethal, methods by setting, minimal, quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing, and, methods! ○ Several studies have proven a, proactive, non-lethal approach leads to, better, conflict, mitigation! ○ Lethal management fails to provide a, long-term, solution to, wolf, predation, and, has the, least, consistent success rates when compared to, non-lethal, practices! In addition, there is, significant, evidence showing that, lethal, wolf management may be, less, functionally effective at mitigating, subsequent, livestock losses than, non-lethal, deterrents! ● The plan MUST require the implementation of, abatement, measures as well as the use of, non-lethal, conflict minimization techniques by, domestic, animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for, confirmed, predation! ● The plan, also, runs contrary to, public, values towards wolves (and, omits mention of, such, majority values from the plan), despite, Department, surveys evidencing that the, broad, public cares about wolves, as individuals, (and, not just for the viability of the population)! Given the, recent, liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be, demonstrably, informative to note, majority, support of the, following, reasons for opposing a, regulated, wolf hunting/trapping season (which are, all, omitted from the plan): Opposition to, specific, methods of harvest, like hounds (64%), or, traps, (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%), or, culturally, offensive to Native American tribes (57%)! ○ All, such, reasons convey, majority, disagreement with practices, currently, promoted, and, endorsed, by the legislature, and, the "WDNR", and, such a conflict between managers, and, the public, MUST, not only be acknowledged, but, foregrounded, and, carefully, considered in policy (instead of dismissed)! ○ Such decisions to omit literature, or, downplay evidence (e.g., such as, majority, opposition to killing wolves, and, their reasons) are contrary to principles of, scientific, integrity (e.g., present, all, relevant, scientific, evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising, ethical, decisions, such as, recreational, wolf killing, as, robustly, supported by science)! ● Conflicting Agency objectives (e.g., optimizing, public, hunting, and, conflict, mitigation) are NOT only NOT acknowledged, but, even, misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of, scientific, evidence! That culminates in the prioritization of, consumptive, values, and, policies; e.g., according to the body of, scientific, literature, use of, lethal, methods, and, especially, public, hunts, are contrary to, most, objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their, ecological, roles, and, their, non-exploitative, enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F)! ● There is a, stark, lack of consideration for, individual, wolves, wolf, population health (including wellbeing), and, measurable, indicators for assessing, any, harms, barring, disease, prevalence (e.g., accounting for, cortisol, levels or, other, stress hormones, measures of pair/pack existence)! ● There is an, inappropriate, understanding, and, consideration of, tribal, worldviews about wolves! Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a, wolf, population, when, in fact, tribal, worldviews consider, each, individual wolf as a person, and, relative. Cultural respect, and, sensitivity, towards, such, views, shared by, many, non-tribal members, demand the, strict, mitigation of, lethal, measures, especially, recreational, killing, as opposed to their, current, promotion in the plan! ● In	4	

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				general, all, omissions of, scientific, literature, the, arbitrary, prioritization of, policy, objectives, the rhetoric of the plan, and, the dismissal of, public, values, and, concerns for wolves, point towards a, biased, unscientific and, instrumental, view of wolves that promotes values contrary to, broad, public perspectives on wolves! ● 'SOM', wolf, estimation methodology – From a, recent, critique: "The, new, methods sacrifice precision, but, are believed to retain, adequate, accuracy, and, sensitivity, to, changing, conditions for, reliable, decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and, sensitivity of the, new, 'scaled occupancy model' ("SOM") applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the, Wisconsin, method would, systematically, overestimate, wolf, abundance by large (but, currently, incalculable) margins! Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to, unverified, methods but, also, implemented widespread, wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of, wolf, abundance may have, far-reaching, consequences for, population, viability, and, confidence in, state, wildlife managers! We discuss findings from Wisconsin, alongside, similar, findings for, other, states', occupancy, models being insensitive to, human, causes of mortality that have, recently, increased! Overall, Wisconsin's, proposed, method for estimating, wolf, abundance shows, significant, departures from, best, practices in, scientific, measurement! Verification will require, independent, replication, and, unbiased, tests at, multiple, scales in, multiple, habitats under, different, human-induced, mortality rates, and, peer, review before the, new, methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Rene Ruston	All of it	No	The plan contains improvements compared to previous versions (which, if we are honest is not a high bar). Wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 Greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. Nature created a perfect ecological system where EVERY creature plays a part and when we, humans, disturb this balance is when we run into trouble. A social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The addition of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations. Previously no buffer zones existed	This draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature (I am aware of at least 79 references) on: A. wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. B. Effectiveness of NON-LETHAL measures, especially relative to lethal ones C. the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution These 79 scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of "sustainable recreational killing" and "consumptive users" as a main management strategy, results in a BIASED plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail ANY lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. This is what "management" is. Killing is not "managing". It is up to us to adapt to nature. Not the other way around. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which is a form of legalized dogfighting should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves AND the hounds. It is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public and reminiscent of the hideous practice of Galgo dogs in Spain. The plan should prioritize wolf PROTECTIONS and concentrate SOLEY ON NON-LETHAL MANAGEMENT of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still support the public majority in calling for restricting the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Use creative methods to "protect" not destroy.	2	In general, ALL omissions of scientific literature, the prioritization of policy objectives over conservation, the rhetoric of the plan and the alarming dismissal of public support and concern for wolves can only be construed as biased, unscientific and an instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perception of wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. After reviewing the evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin, the obvious conclusion is that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. The findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models ignore human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance significantly ignores best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods

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				Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. There is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. Include requiring the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves and, quite obviously, omits mention of such majority values from the plan, despite department surveys confirming that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals and not just for the viability of the population. Some of these wolves have names! Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or CULTURALLY OFFENSIVE to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but prioritized and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity. Present ALL relevant scientific evidence to the public. as well as ETHICS (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misleading as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and two especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider EACH INDIVIDUAL WOLF as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to the current promotion in the plan.		
Cherri Farren	Just the parts I am interested in	No		Wolf management does not mean interfere with packs, research shows this causes more numbers and problems than leaving them to naturally roam.	6	I have worked on ISRO wolf moose longest ongoing research project. Wolves are shy, and do not bother people. Only times I was capable of interacting with wolves is when radio collars were applied. Otherwise, they are scared of humans and keep away. Not a problematic creature at all. Hunting wolves will cause instability in packs, unstable behaviour and more issues with human wolf interactions. Only 20 years ago did the UP reintroduce wolf packs. Wolves keep coyotes population in-line.
Brenda Frey	Most of it	No	I like anything that is for the wolves because hunters think they are competition, trappers just love catching them for wolf haters and ranchers go into land that should be the wolves.	I do not want them killed.	5	We have been at war with them for too many years and it has to stop. We have to learn to live with them and make sure they do not become extinct. Cannot make laws like okay to murder pups and everything else that is cruel.
Pam Bacon	All of it	No		I don't think that hunters/trappers and agriculture/ranching vs wolf advocacy/education is fair..	1	
Traci Moreno	All of it	No	proposed buffer zones, gathering public opinion, recognizing the benefits to wolves role in the ecosystem.	Prohibit killing wolves except if there's imminent danger. Make hound trading illegal.	1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Not sure what bear baiting has to do with KILLING wolves, let's stop sugar coating what you really want. "Harvesting" is what is done with corn and wheat. KILLING is what is done to living animals.	Stop ambiguous language which allows hunters to "think that a wolf MIGHT cause a problem". These are family groups that need ALL there members to survive, all year long. You worry about livestock and pets but make no mention about how wolves maintain the health of wild herds- elk and deer- by removing old and sick members and carrion in the winter. If they have more natural food to hunt, they generally will not bother domestic animals. Get the cattle OUT of natural wolf areas.	2	Many hunters don't care what they hunt, just so they can go out and kill animals. Hunting should be confined to those animals that are used for food. TROPHIES are not a reason to kill.

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Nelson B	All of it	No	I am glad of the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. However I think the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I acknowledge the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: Wolves in Wisconsin will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. Also, the addition of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations where previously no buffer zones existed.	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science).	3	Please stop the unwarranted slaughter of these beautiful creatures!
Paul	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Recognition of the importance of wolves.	That you have altered your plan by omitting scientific data to support your agenda. Wolves do NOT need to be managed. They self-manage.	5	Support wildlife for the sake of preservation NOT for hunting, agriculture or farm animal grazing.
David Lauder	Most of it	No	The majority of Wisconsin residents support increasing the number of wolves living there.	That DNR wants to limit their numbers. 350 doesn't sound like a sustainable population.	8	I live in Illinois, so I'm not sure I should be commenting on what Wisconsin does about this. I think wolves are beautiful, misunderstood animals that can and should be a part of a healthy ecosystem.
Julia	All of it	No	Nothing	Not protection for wolves	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Melissa	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
carol broll	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves	4	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques	1	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Bev lips	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	While this is an improvement - it is far from the more scientific & ethical approach I had hoped for .		1	I would like to imagine a harnessed energy to support the population of wolves and wolves wild areas for the betterment of human kind.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Candace Rocha	Most of it	No	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	5	
cathy elizabeth levin	All of it	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ●The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D	1	

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				and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Alexander Hughes	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The recognition of the ecological benefits of wolves	Permitting training/using hounds to hunt wolves	6	
	All of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	0	The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%)
Philip	All of it	Yes	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.	3	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. The improvements I like are: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature: ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e.,Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	4	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023		
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.	1	

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Barbara Liszeo	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating, I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and well being ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, well being, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dog fighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Wendy Jean Honold	All of it	Yes	The wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves, there is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves, the inclusion of a social survey (which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves, and the adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution	4	It would be nice if wolf killing would become illegal.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence). There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. I conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. Please prove the findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
G. Simmons	Most of it	No	You have good intentions but it needs to be more pro animal and environment.	I dislike the presentation of preservation when your plan actually means killing animals. Oh and 34% is very low maybe humans should be scales back to 34% And many people are kept fearful of animals so the human reaction is...KILL IT. Unacceptable and despicable.		Syop murdering animals to appease people and educate people on how to coexist without murdering animals that also have a right to thrive.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jan Karpel	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	3	
Adrienne Metter	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use	4	Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan) 3 Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008). Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range, Alaska. Wildlife Monographs, 170, 1–25. https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012 Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., & Hudson, P. J. (2015). Social living mitigates the costs of a chronic illness in a cooperative carnivore. Ecology Letters, 18(7), 660–667. https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12444 Artelle, K. A., Reynolds, J. D., Treves, A., Walsh, J. C., Paquet, P. C., & Darimont, C. T. (2018). Hallmarks of science missing from North American wildlife management. Science Advances, 4(3). http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/3/eaao0167.abstract Ausband, D. E., Mitchell, M. 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				of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		allowing culling increases poaching of a large carnivore. Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences, 283(1830), 20152939. https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2015.2939 Christianson, D., & Creel, S. (2014). Ecosystem scale declines in elk recruitment and population growth with wolf colonization: A before-after-control-impact approach. PLoS ONE, 9(7). https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0102330 Creel, S., Becker, M., Christianson, D., Dröge, E., Hammerschlag, N., Hayward, M. W., Karanth, U., Loveridge, A., Macdonald, D. W., Matandiko, W., M'soka, J., Murray, D., Rosenblatt, E., & Schuette, P. (2015). Questionable policy for large carnivore hunting. Science, 350(6267), 1473–1475. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aac4768 Creel, S., & Rotella, J. J. (2010). Meta-analysis of relationships between human offtake, total mortality and population dynamics of gray wolves (Canis lupus). 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Appendix: The influence of anthropogenic mortality on wolf population dynamics with special reference to Creel & Rotella (2010) and Gude et al.(2011) in the Final peer review of four documents amending and clarifying the Wyoming gray wolf management plan. FWS-R6-ES-2011-0039; 92220-1113-0000-C6. Vucetich, J. A., Smith, D. W. & Stahler, D. R. (2005) Influence of harvest, climate and wolf predation on Yellowstone elk, 1961-2004. Oikos, 111, 259-270. Vucetich, J., & Nelson, M. P. (2014). Wolf hunting and the ethics of predator control. In L. Kalof (Ed.), The Oxford Handbook of Animal Studies. Oxford University Press. https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199927142.013.007 11 Wilmers, C. C., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., Kohl, M. T., Geremia, C., & Smith, D. W. (2020). How climate impacts the composition of wolf-killed elk in northern Yellowstone National Park. Journal of Animal Ecology, 89(6), 1511–1519. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.13200 Wallach, A. D., Izhaki, I., Toms, J. 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A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Lisa D. Urness	Most of it	No	I appreciate the fact that WDNR recognizes that wolves have the right to LIVE at all.	It is critical to implement conflict management plans with the community and educate the public as to options other than MURDERING these animals who have every bit as much right to exist as holier-than-thou humans. Continuing the use of HOUNDS to torture wolves (and, in turn, all too often be injured themselves) is UNCONSCIONABLE. "Recreational killing". Really? Will humans EVER grow a conscience?	2	Please place substantial emphasis on EDUCATING and working with the ranchers to minimize conflict. It seems to be working to some extent in Wyoming and Montana.
Lisa Schoenbachler	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal	3	Wolves are an important part of the ecosystem and deserve to live as close to their nature as is possible with as little interference from man as possible.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
	Most of it	No	The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves		1	The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life.
Carol Ohlendorf	All of it	No	What we like: We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed) What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing	What we don't like: ● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.	0	I am so sick and tired with all the killing of our wildlife especially the wolves...this is a political issue not a wildlife issue...the ranchers have powerful lobbyists that continue to help pass legislation and laws that will kill our wolves...we have co-existed with our wildlife for centuries but in the last 8 yrs..all I read about is trophy hunters allowed to kill anything for a trophy. This is horrific and needs to be stopped...when are we going to take care of our wildlife and not eradicate them...

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			liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings.			
Kay Day	Most of it	No	Removing the "quota" of 350 wolves as was done in the past. Greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves which is important in having a well balanced wildlife	The emphasis on recreational killing of wolves and the allowed methods of killing them. Using hounds to track and kill wolves is inhumane both for the wolves and the hounds. There needs to be more scientific input on the impact of widespread killing of wolves - to their well being, their social structure and physiology.	2	
Margaret Guilfoy Tyler	Most of it	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal	4	

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				worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
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rhonda lieberman	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods.	1	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.
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						More than mere numbers: The impact of lethal control on the social stability of a top-order predator.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Paul Palla	All of it	No	What we like:We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf managementplan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), werecognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including:●Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350wolves.●There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves●The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves,knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methodsfor killing wolves●The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously nobuffer zones existed).	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantialamount of scientific literature on (see reference list below):○wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing○effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones○the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing,social dynamics,ecological relationships and evolution●The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion ofsustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy,results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of thisomitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference.●The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rarecircumstances of immediate defense of life.○A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in NorthAmerican wolves, includingWisconsin wolves,has found that policies allowingliberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidenceof illegal killings.○Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting,should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolvesand hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broadpublic.●The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethalmanagement of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence.○DespiteAct 169,which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can stillrestrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, includinga quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods.○Several studieshave proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to betterconflict mitigation.○Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predationand has theleast consistent success rateswhen compared to non-lethal practices.In addition, there is significant evidence showing thatlethal wolf managementmay be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses thannon-lethal deterrents.●The plan shouldrequirethe implementation of abatement measures as well as the use ofnon-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter toreceive compensation for confirmed predation.●The plan also runs contrary topublic values towards wolves(and omits mention of suchmajority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broadpublic cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population).Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incrediblyinformative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulatedwolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specificmethods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves isunnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%).○All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promotedand endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict betweenmanagers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded andcarefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed).○Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majorityopposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles ofscientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) aswell as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing,as robustly supported by science).●Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation)are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the bodyof scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values andpolicies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature,use of lethal methods, and2especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, thewellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e.,Objectives A, B, D and F).●There is a starklack of consideration for individual wolves,wolf population health(including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring diseaseprevalence (e.g.,accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures ofpair/pack persistence)●There is aninappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews aboutwolves.Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receivefrom the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews considereachindividual wolfas apersonandrelative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards suchviews, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethalmeasures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in theplan.●In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policyobjectives, the	2	WE NEED TO SAVE THE WOLVES!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concernsforwolvespoint towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves thatpromotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.●'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recentcritique:"The new methodssacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity tochanging conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy,precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied inWisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimatewolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similarto other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespreadwolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reachingconsequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. Wediscuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancymodels being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased.Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significantdepartures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will requireindependent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats underdifferent human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods areconsidered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)Rating:4-5Reference list (studies not integrated into the current draft wolf plan)3Adams, L. G., Stephenson, R. O., Dale, B. W., Ahgook, R. T., & Demma, D. J. (2008).Population Dynamics and Harvest Characteristics of Wolves in the Central Brooks Range,Alaska.Wildlife Monographs,170, 1–25.https://doi.org/10.2193/2008-012Almberg, E. S., Cross, P. C., Dobson, A. P., Smith, D. W., Metz, M. C., Stahler, D. R., &Hudson, P. J. (2015). 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				Elmhagen, B., Chamaillé-Jammes, S., Sand, H., Lone, K., &Cromsigt, J. P. G. M. (2016). Paws without claws? Ecological effects of large carnivores inanthropogenic landscapes.Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences,283(1841),20161625.https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2016.1625Louchouarn, N., Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Parsons, D. R., & Treves, A. (2021). Evaluating howlethal management affects poaching of Mexican wolves. Royal Society Open Science,8(200330).https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.200330Low, P., Panksepp, J., Reiss, D., Edelman, D., Van Swinderen, B., Low, P., and Koch, C. (2012)Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness in Non-Human Animals. University of Cambridge,Churchill College.Lynn, W. S. (2006). Between science and ethics: What science and the scientific method can andcannot contribute to conservation and sustainability. In D. M. Lavigne & S. Fink (Eds.), Gainingground: In pursuit of ecological sustainability (pp. 191–205).International Fund for AnimalWelfare.7Manfredo, M. J., Sullivan, L., Don Carlos, A. W., Dietsch, A. M., Teel, T. L., Bright, A. D., &Bruskotter, J. (2018). America's Wildlife Values: The Social Context of Wildlife Management inthe U.S. National report from the research project entitled "America's Wildlife Values". FortCollins, CO: Colorado State University, Department of Human Dimensions of NaturalResources.Mazzini, F., Townsend, S. W., Virányi, Z., & Range, F. (2013). Wolf Howling Is Mediated byRelationship Quality Rather Than Underlying Emotional Stress.Current Biology, 23,1677–1680.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2013.06.066Miller, S. D., Person, D. K., & Bowyer, R. T. (2022). Efficacy of Killing Large Carnivores toEnhance Moose Harvests: New Insights from a Long-Term View.Diversity, 14(11), 939.https://doi.org/10.3390/d14110939Miller, J. R. B., Stoner, K. J., Cejtin, M. R., Meyer, T. K., Middleton, A. D., & Schmitz, O. J.(2016). Effectiveness of contemporary techniques for reducing livestock depredations by largecarnivores.Wildlife Society Bulletin.https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.720Milleret, C., Wabakken, P., Liberg, O., Åkesson, M., Flagstad, Ø., Andreassen, H. P., & Sand, H.(2017). Let's stay together? Intrinsic and extrinsic factors involved in pair bond dissolution in arecolonizing wolf population.Journal of Animal Ecology, 86(1), 43–54.https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.12587Mitchell, M. S., Ausband, D. E., Sime, C. A., Bangs, E. E., Gude, J. A., Jimenez, M. D., Mack,C. M., Meier, T. J., Nadeau, M. S., & Smith, D. W. (2008). Estimation of Successful BreedingPairs for Wolves in the Northern Rocky Mountains, USA.Journal of Wildlife Management,72(4), 881–891.https://doi.org/10.2193/2007-157Murray, D. L., Smith, D. W., Bangs, E. E., Mack, C., Oakleaf, J. K., Fontaine, J., Boyd, D.,Jiminez, M., Niemeyer, C., Meier, T. J., Stahler, D., Holyan, J., & Asher, V. J. (2010). Deathfrom anthropogenic causes is partially compensatory in recovering wolf populations.BiologicalConservation,143(11), 2514–2524.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2010.06.018Ordiz, A., Bischof, R., & Swenson, J. E. (2013). Saving large carnivores, but losing the apexpredator?Biological Conservation,168, 128–133.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2013.09.024Palacios, V., Font, E., Márquez, R., & Carazo, P. (2015). Recognition of familiarity on the basisof howls: A playback experiment in a captive group of wolves.Behaviour, 152(5), 593–614.https://doi.org/10.1163/1568539X-000032448Pereira, P., Fandos Esteruelas, N., Nakamura, M., Rio-Maior, H., Krofel, M., Di Blasio, A.,Zoppi, S., Robetto, S., Llaneza, L., García, E., Oleaga, Á., López-Bao, J. V., Fayos Martinez, M.,Stavenow, J., Ågren, E. O., Álvares, F., & Santos, N. (2022). Hair cortisol concentration reflectsthe life cycle and management of grey wolves across four European populations. ScientificReports, 12(1), 5697.https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-09711-xRich, L. N., Mitchell, M. S., Gude, J. A., & Sime, C. A. (2012). Anthropogenic mortality,intraspecific competition, and prey availability influence territory sizes of wolves in Montana.Journal of Mammalogy,93(3), 722–731.https://doi.org/10.1644/11-MAMM-A-079.2Rutledge, L. Y., Patterson, B. R., Mills, K. J., Loveless, K. M., Murray, D. L., & White, B. N.(2010). Protection from harvesting restores the natural social structure of eastern wolf packs.Biological Conservation,143(2), 332–339.Safina, C. (2015).Beyond words: What animals think and feel. Macmillan.Santiago-Ávila, F. J., Agan, S., Hinton, J. W., & Treves, A. (2022a). Evaluating howmanagement policies affect red		
Siegrid berman	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	Protect wolves from humans.st	Humans Still have hunting seasons	8	STOP ALL HUNTING OF WILD WOLVES COMPLETELY

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dr. Robert Williamson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Monitoring	none	10	
Tim Midboe	All of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal	6	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Kathleen M	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023) Rating: 4-		
jen bradford	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing,	4	It's time to stop the attacks on wolves. They are crucial to a healthy habitat, and we need to learn to live in peace.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations			
Janice	Most of it	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no Buffer zones existed	amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings	2	MORE PROTECTION. Our wild ones maintain the balance. It is humans who have and continue to ruin and descimate our wild ones from wolves, bears, horses…
Elsa Katrine	All of it	Yes	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as	2	PROTECT our ESSENTIAL WILDLIFE ESPECIALLY WOLVES at all costs! No more hunting or trapping wolves in Wisconsin. Period.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		
Jennifer Spirakis	All of it	No	None	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!	0	I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!
Cristy Murray	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves.	2	I object to the term wolf harvesting. Wolf killing is more authentic, though just as objectionable.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Ann Marie Sardineer	I have not read any of the draft plan	No	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although I believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), I recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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Jesper Knudson	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). 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That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	2	PROTECT THE ESSENTIAL WOLVES, not greedy ranchers or vile trophy hunters. It is time to co-exist with wildlife and use available non-legal methods. Nature always balances itself without a need for human intervention. Humans screw things up!

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				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. 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Ashley	All of it	Yes	● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and	4	

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				instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023)		

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	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, The knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolve The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	● The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). 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That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. 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Dr. Kellen Dunn	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. 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Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	3	We must PROTECT our precious, iconic, ESSENTIAL WOLVES at all costs -- it is time to learn to co-exist with Nature and use non-legal methods that are readily available.

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Aimee Miller	Just the parts I am interested in	No	We appreciate the efforts of all WDNR staff involved in updating the state's wolf management plan. Although we believe the current plan needs significant updating (see next section), we recognize the efforts and improvements made to the previous plan, including: ● Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. ● There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves ● The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves ● The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations (i.e., previously no buffer zones existed)	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on (see reference list below): ○ wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing ○ effectiveness of non-lethal interventions, especially relative to lethal ones ○ the impact of widespread killing on wolves' physiology, behavior, wellbeing, social dynamics, ecological relationships and evolution ● The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. ● The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. ○ A substantial body of research documenting human-caused mortality in North American wolves, including Wisconsin wolves, has found that policies allowing liberalized killing of wolves result in a direct increase in the hazard and incidence of illegal killings. ○ Hounding or hound training, which are akin to allowing legalized dogfighting, should be illegal or severely restricted as this practice is extremely cruel to wolves and hounds alike and is not supported by the majority of hunters or the broad public. ● The plan should prioritize wolf protections and concentrate solely on non-lethal management of wolves in response to livestock conflicts to ensure ethical coexistence. ○ Despite Act 169, which mandates a wolf hunting season, the department can still restrict the implementation of lethal methods by setting minimal quotas, including a quota of '0' wolves, restricting timing and methods. ○ Several studies have proven a proactive non-lethal approach leads to better conflict mitigation. ○ Lethal management often fails to provide a long-term solution to wolf predation and has the least consistent success rates when compared to non-lethal practices. In addition, there is significant evidence showing that lethal wolf management may be less functionally effective at mitigating subsequent livestock losses than non-lethal deterrents. ● The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation. ● The plan also runs contrary to public values towards wolves (and omits mention of such majority values from the plan), despite department surveys evidencing that the broad public cares about wolves as individuals (and not just for the viability of the population). Given the recent liberalization of killing wolves by the state, it would be incredibly informative to note majority support of the following reasons for opposing a regulated wolf hunting/trapping season (which are all omitted from the plan): opposition to specific methods of harvest like hounds (64%) or traps (70%), feelings that hunting wolves is unnecessary (62%) or culturally offensive to Native American tribes (57%). ○ All such reasons convey majority disagreement with practices currently promoted and endorsed by the legislature and the WDNR, and such a conflict between managers and the public should not only be acknowledged, but foregrounded and carefully considered in policy (instead of dismissed). ○ Such decisions to omit literature or downplay evidence (e.g., such as majority opposition to killing wolves and their reasons) are contrary to principles of scientific integrity (e.g., present all relevant scientific evidence to the public) as well as ethics (e.g., disguising ethical decisions, such as recreational wolf killing, as robustly supported by science). ● Conflicting agency objectives (e.g., optimizing public hunting and conflict mitigation) are not only not acknowledged, but even misunderstood as harmonious, against the body of scientific evidence. That culminates in the prioritization of consumptive values and policies; e.g., according to the body of scientific literature, use of lethal methods, and 2 especially public hunts, are contrary to most objectives relevant to: harm mitigation, the wellbeing of wolves, their ecological roles, and their non-exploitative enjoyment (i.e., Objectives A, B, D and F). ● There is a stark lack of consideration for individual wolves, wolf population health (including wellbeing), and measurable indicators for assessing any harms barring disease prevalence (e.g., accounting for cortisol levels or other stress hormones, measures of pair/pack persistence) ● There is an inappropriate understanding and consideration of tribal worldviews about wolves. Tribal worldviews of wolves are misconstrued as 'cultural benefits' tribes receive from the existence of a wolf population, when in fact tribal worldviews consider each individual wolf as a person and relative. Cultural respect and sensitivity towards such views, shared by many non-tribal members, demand the strict mitigation of lethal measures, especially recreational killing, as opposed to their current promotion in the plan. ● In general, all omissions of scientific literature, the arbitrary prioritization of policy objectives, the rhetoric of the plan and the dismissal of public	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				values and concerns for wolves point towards a biased, unscientific and instrumental view of wolves that promotes values contrary to broad public perspectives on wolves. ● 'SOM' wolf estimation methodology – From a recent critique: "The new methods sacrifice precision, but are believed to retain adequate accuracy and sensitivity to changing conditions for reliable decision-making. We review evidence for the accuracy, precision, and sensitivity of the new 'scaled occupancy model' (SOM) applied in Wisconsin. We conclude that the Wisconsin method would systematically overestimate wolf abundance by large (but currently incalculable) margins. Because Wisconsin, similar to other states, not only changed to unverified methods but also implemented widespread wolf killing, shortcomings in their estimates of wolf abundance may have far-reaching consequences for population viability and confidence in state wildlife managers. We discuss findings from Wisconsin alongside similar findings for other states' occupancy models being insensitive to human causes of mortality that have recently increased. Overall, Wisconsin's proposed method for estimating wolf abundance shows significant departures from best practices in scientific measurement. Verification will require independent replication and unbiased tests at multiple scales in multiple habitats under different human-induced mortality rates, and peer review before the new methods are considered reliable." (Treves & Santiago-Ávila, 2023		
Lisa Neste	Most of it	No				I support increasing protections for wolves, requiring non-lethal conflict interventions and banning recreational killing!
Tasha	All of it	No	I pray I'm a pastor that all animals are save the majestic creatures. I pray that all your plans in your mind or given to you by God and that you're able to save every wolf every baby cub in the name of Jesus it will all work he will be rejuvenate, restored and refresh, and you will have clarity on how to do this and many people from everywhere will come to help you I'm in.	Anything you were trying to do to save the wolves it's all good nothing is bad at least some people are coming to go to save the wolves that are voiceless	10	I believe we need to find people in Congress attorneys judges, people that have power, and know how to word things so that they understand that we are not gonna stand for the animals being killed. Remember, the animals are majestic creatures that belong to God if you protect them, God will protect you and your family. If you do not protect his animals, then don't cry to him to protect your kids so I believe that you were doing the right thing there's nothing wrong with your plan if I think of anything else I will let you know, but at least y'all are trying to say the poor wolfs.
Daniel Aquino	Most of it	No	Wolves in WI will no longer be managed by reference to the old numerical goal of 350 wolves. There is much greater recognition of the ecological role of wolves. The inclusion of a social survey, which notes increased positive views of wolves, knowledge of their ecological roles and increased opposition to the motives and methods for killing wolves. The adoption of proposed buffer zones around tribal reservations.	The current draft does not reflect the best available science, and is missing a substantial amount of scientific literature on such as wolf ethology, sentience, sapience, sociability, agency and wellbeing. The above scientific omissions, combined with the emphasis on and promotion of sustainable recreational killing and consumptive users as a main management strategy, results in a biased plan that runs contrary to scientific evidence despite much of this omitted scientific evidence being more recent, numerous and of stronger inference. The plan should strictly curtail any lethal management of wolves except in extremely rare circumstances of immediate defense of life. The plan should require the implementation of abatement measures as well as the use of non-lethal conflict minimization techniques by domestic animal owners for the latter to receive compensation for confirmed predation.	4	
Rick Barber	Most of it	Yes	It is a very thorough and comprehensive plan covering all aspects of wolf ecology and history. I can see that a diverse group of wolf interest groups provided input to the plan.	There should not be buffer zones around reservations. Even the northern zone of WI is not "wilderness". A balance needs to be maintained between predator and prey. Collapsing the deer herd in favor of wolves is not sustainable or responsible. Allowing numerous wolf packs to disperse into second and third tier areas with more roads and agriculture is not sustainable or responsible. The wolf population has exploded well above previously accepted, scientifically determined population goals. Specific management tools must be added to this management plan.	3	This management plan provided very little in the management area but provides much in the area of monitoring, studying and maintaining the unacceptable status quo.
Steve Arduser	Most of it	Yes	Lots of graphs and charts with specific information.	No population goals.	6	I think the population should be 350. And I'm not concerned about hunting near reservations.
Daniel Rambo	Most of it	Yes	The completeness of the plan, addressing supporting wolf populations, continued monitoring/research, and education outreach to the public. The DNR consulting with an established board of various interested partiesi s a very good idea as is the establishment of different management zones that address particular concerns or characteristics of that area of the state is a valuable method of gaining support from state residents and interest groups. Overall, I think the plan is well thought out.	No objections	10	As stated in the plan, the idea of wolves being part of our state ecology brings much debate. Unfortunately, wolves have not had the support or acceptance from human populations that other wild animals have. Hopefully the proposed plan can help increase understanding of the place of wolves in ecology of our state. The plan is a reasonable approach to addressing the variety of opinions held by we humans.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		population goal was not set. Should be set at 350	1	
Anne Edwardson	All of it	Yes	I like the very thorough and detailed presentation of the history of WI wolves, the historical changes in the relationship between people and wolves, the cultural importance of wolves to our First Nations, and public attitudes toward our wolf population. I like the attention given to the values held by members of the public of animal equality; i.e. the right of wolves to exist and live here; the moral and ethical considerations of how wolves are managed and hunted; the value of stewardship vs. dominance. I like the description of how the department has managed wolves in the past, what has worked well with recommendations for continuation and what might be different in the future with recommendations for change. Much of what I am concerned about, concerning the hunting of wolves, was addressed. I would encourage the target hardening of farms and livestock: the plan addresses this, yet I would increase emphasis on it, expanding possible options.	I did not see anything that would prevent a repeat of the infamous hunt of 2021. The elephant in the room is WI Statute 29.185 that mandates a wolf hunt whenever wolves are not federally protected. I understand that as an agency, you must work within statutory authority, yet that statute seems to totally contradict the fundamental premises of this plan. I am opposed to the wolf being a "game species", and it seems that public sentiment and the cultural values of WI tribes share that value. Somewhere or somehow there must be a check to a simply mandated hunt. This plan calls for a "well-regulated public wolf hunting and trapping season" in Strategy C1a. If for whatever reason, a hunt cannot be well regulated, then a hunt should not be held. Somehow, this plan should provide for that possibility. I would also include a recommendation for monitoring hunting dog depredation to assure that the dogs are the victims of wolves and not of irresponsible human companions who are training them in wolf caution areas, known rendezvous sites, or bear bait locations. I would support a return to funding wolf depredation through the sale of endangered species license plates (if I understood that change correctly). Also, I would recommend not allowing dogs to be used to hunt wolves. I understand from TWA that the road system and logging trails in northern WI are so pervasive that wolf dens are dangerously accessible increasing their vulnerability and leading to heightened mortality. I would suggest adding citizen groups who monitor wolf hunting activities to the post-season hunting survey for their input on what they observed during the hunt. There are not enough wardens, and concerned citizens should be encouraged to observe in the civil fashion in which, for example, the Wolf Patrol does. ( ) The Animal Legal Defense Fund has a bill of rights for animals, one of which is: The Right of animals in the wild to self-determination and an environment that allows them to engage in behavior natural to their species. That might be included in this plan.	8	I am in the almost "opposed to all hunting" category, yet I consider tolerating hunting as the price to pay for living in a state with the gift of natural resources that we have in WI. I have had many co-workers and some family members who hunt so I understand the desire to hunt. Yet I do not want to experience the trauma of flagrant, unregulated hunting, and I emphasize support for the balance of stakeholder interests that I read in this draft plan. In the just wondering category, is the loss of farms in the northern part of the state having any effect on wolf management needs or strategies? Do farms attract wolves for other than their livestock? The grain and other feed sources may attract or support rodents and other small animals that the wolves also eat. And, are increasingly isolated farms more vulnerable to wolf predation than farms located in a robust farming community? (Just wondering.)
Steve Gevaert	All of it	Yes	I don't know that I like any elements. Even in your preface you make false statments, "Since the DNR manages wolves according to this plan and following state and federal laws, the DNR takes this revision process very seriously" You don't take "YOUR" plan, or State Law seriously or you would been ready to hold a required hunting and trapping season I January.	That you don't abide by your own scientific research that WI only has quality habitat for a limited population of 350 wolves. It's a total sham and cruel to subject people in the northern part of the state to such a high populations which I'm sure numbers much higher than you propose. We could never hunt and trap 1/4 to 1/3 of the overall wolves in 3 or 4 days. Stick to your own research (not the national organizations) and place the 350 population goal in the plan and activiely hunt and trap to accomplish it. I have cabin on the Forest/Florence boarder and the deer herd is almost non-existent.	1	Having large buffer zones around tribal lands is just another way of increasing the overall population. Remove those.
Bill Perrotti	Most of it	Yes	Nothing comes to mind	Buffer zone around Reservation land. Increase in population.	1	
	All of it	Yes	I understand you think by killing them is to help them with climate change and so forth . But it's not a good idea . Keep them alive . The planet needs them. We have to learn how to live with them .	Do not kill them .	4	Stop trapping them and killing them for fur .
Jonathan Walter	All of it	Yes	N/A	1. We need a numerical goal for the state. This is the basis for using science to use data to accomplish a goal. Be specific and manage to the plan. 2. Buffers around Reservations. US Landowners have property rights in the USA. 3. Not counting lone wolves in population estimates. They have no less of an impact on people and wildlife than those counted. Estimates are 10-15% of the population are Lone Wolves 4. Managing the hunting harvest while factoring in Native American harvest tags. If they are not going to use them, we need to increase the available amount for state hunters.	1	For me, the most obvious sign of concern is the lack of understanding of how people who actually live on the ground in wolf country feel about the population. All indicators at the local and county level where the populations are highest are asking for a 350 population goal and reducing the numbers. As an avid Bayfield County Hunter from SE WI, the impact is not felt in the southern state anywhere near what it is in Bayfield County. There is not a day you hunt during the gun season where you don't see Wolf Tracks, see Wolves, or hear Packs Howling. They have decimated the deer herd and destroyed the hunting camp traditions of the north. And for what?
Bruce J Olson	All of it	Yes	All of it	Non of it	10	About time we have a balanced plan.
Angela Payseur	All of it	Yes	The harvest zones and limitations set forth within most of them. Trying to listen to hunters, but also taking into account the importance of Wolves.	The zones of 1B and 2B not included in the reservation no-harvest zone. There should be a no hunting perimeter around the tribal lands. The approval of using baiting and dogs to hunt wolf (and bear). It is inhumane and the cause of most of the depredation. Although controversial, remove the hunting dogs and you remove most of the depredation and payments for losses- indicated by your research in the plan.	4	Please reconsider allowing baiting and the use of dogs. Also, including zones 1B and 2B in the tribal no hunting zones. The thought that tourism to see wolves etc, while enticing, isn't very realistic for our area and probably won't have any impact. The plan is well researched and thought out. But, personally, I hope they remain listed, so no hunting is allowed. People need to be aware educated and respectful of wildlife and we can co-exist.
Rick Mack	Most of it	Yes	The zones	The lack of a population goal	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jeffrey F Kenkel	Most of it	Yes		I took way too long to present. No Population Goal: The 'holistic approach" is wrong. There was a numerical goal of 350when wolves were first re-introduced, and that should remain. It was the DNR's number then and no reason has been given for it not being retained. Population Estimates: Plain and simple, there are too many wolves. You are trying so hard to deny that, but given our human population, how it is spread across the state, and the many conflicts that deer hunters, bear hunters, and dog owners have every year wolves are far more prevalent and create far more human conflicts than reasonable. The population needs to be reduced and not having the original 350 population as a goal furthers these conflicts. Tribal Zones: It is WRONG to increase the tribal zines beyond the reservation lands boundaries. Farmers and hunters in these areas are being unduly punished by no reducing wolf populations and therefore conflicts. Hunting Quotas: It is no secret that the tribes do not want to harvest any wolves, so why even include them in the quota?? That's just silly. Just go a head and create harvest numbers to aim us back the the originally accepted number of 350. Delisting: The plan must insist the DNR help the State delist wolves so that we can resume lethal conflict control and population management.	1	Plummeting deer numbers in wolf overpopulated areas have affected our economy negatively by A) Reducing deer hunter enthusiasm and therefore hunting participation, B) Decreasing recreational (hunting) land prices, C) Severely depressing deer hunting as a tradition and significant source of tourism dollars across at least the northern one-third of the state. Please stop your veiled ani-deer hunting attraction to wolves.
James F Koth	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None of what I read	No actual number of wolves goal.	1	The DNR wolf management has ruined deer hunting on public land in the northern 1/3 of Wisconsin. There are way to many wolves and no management plan.
Don DeMotts	Most of it	Yes		No population goal, no hearing in heavily wolf populated areas, local governments should have input, the plan implies that hunting conflicts are hunters fault and have no recourse, buffer zones for reservations gives management to tribes, no form of population control in the plan,	0	It appears to me that our DNR is solidly in the camp of wolf protectionists and is anti hunter, anti dogs and is not for the management of the wolf population, rather management of humans to accept wolves where ever they are located.
Deborah Dakich	Most of it	Yes	I'm happy to see that the plan calls for using scientific research instead of instituting a plan that is based on bias information influenced by a small minority of Wisconsin residents and outside influences, such as, Hunter Nation.	The first item is the recreational hunting of the wolves to reduce conflicts. There isn't any scientific basis for this. In fact studies have shown that by removing a pack member, especially an alpha male or female, increases conflicts. Also, the model used for determining the population, is skeptical. We should try to accumulate more data on the population throughout the state. This should include the input of biologists and professionals.	5	One other item is the use of hounds for hunting wolves. This practice encourages unsactioned dog fighting. It also disrupts other animals within that environment. Allowing hounds to run wild on public lands, is a nuisance and annoying practice for other residents using public lands. Wolves should not be hunted in national forests and areas of prime habitat.
Dianne Yeske	All of it	Yes	I am very pleased to see the elimination of a numeric population goal and ensures that the ecological effects of a hunt are taken more into account. I am also pleased to see that the treaty rights of the tribes (which have been sorely ignored in the past) are taken into consideration, with the establishment of the low quota zones.	I would like to see better regulation of hound training, where rather than keeping it open through the entire state during wolf hunting season, it be closed as each zone is closed. I would also like to see more emphasis onn non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts. And, as with any good adaptive wildlife plan, there should be something in place that spells out when the plan will be up for review again and updated as needed, as well as a committee specifically created to oversee this management.	9	Overall, I think the proposed plan is significantly better than what Wisconsin currently has, and commend you for considering the science and the tribes in this new plan.
Anne B	Most of it	No	Input from multiple partners & not just hunting groups (tribes, state/tribal agencies, nature/conservation groups, etc.); science-based information used as basis for information (not preconceived outdated ideas like 'kill all the predators' etc. as in the past); depth of information and research	No specific elements; maybe that it doesn't include information on immediate effect of bordering populations as in the UP of MI and MN - I live just over the northern WI border in the UP and we have wolf populations that might interact with the WI populations	8	Make sure hunting season is better regulated/methods in place so the debacle of the last one isn't repeated and the quota isn't vastly overreached
Leslie Paynter	Most of it	Yes	1) Getting rid of a numerical target population goal 2) The adoption of buffer zones around tribal lands 3) The importance of wolves' ecological benefits 4) The inclusion of tribal knowledge and values in the document	1) I would like to see the DNR work with the state legislature to overturn PA 169 2) Hunting with hounds and hound training be banned in the state 3) At minimum I'd like to see a ban on the use of hounds to hunt wolves in National Forests 4) I'd really like to see a zero hunting quota to protect wolves	7	I appreciate the time and effort that went into drafting this plan and overall I feel it is good. I think the hunting organizations hold too much sway in this state and there seemed to be a lot of emphasis on the killing of wolves rather than meaningful steps towards co-existence.
Barb Voigtman	All of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal and instead focuses on the science of what it will take to maintain a healthy wolf population within a healthy ecosystem. Love that the plan focuses on the ecological benefits of wolves, commitment to science and research, focus on public education and the importance of non-lethal methods in promoting co-existence of farmers with wolves.	Recommend calling out the challenge ACT 169 has on the DNR's ability to foster true stewardship of wolves and in maintaining a healthy ecosystem, not to mention the impact this could have on a potential increase in livestock attacks by pack disruptions. If hound training on wolves must be allowed, recommend stopping training in the zones that are closed. Recommend putting in date for future review of plan such as in 5 years versus "valid until replaced". Recommend prioritizing non-lethal methods to prevent wolf attacks versus paying for wolf attacks after the fact. Put prime emphasis on public education to dismiss myths about wolves. Living in a county that has wolves I have heard many falsehood about wolves. We desperately need education to counter this misinformation. Recommend more emphasis on honoring tribal beliefs and culture through more tribal involvement and policies that reflect the tribes beliefs. The tribes have hundreds of years of experience in living in harmony with wolves and hold the wolf in high regard. We should tap into this experience more and put more weight on honoring tribal beliefs.	9	Thank to the DNR for using comprehensive methods to include key stakeholders and public input along with an extensive literature review of current and applicable research/benchmarks as well as a review of historical and current DNR data to write this plan. This plan was well written and a great reference. Great job!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Dave Krause	Most of it	Yes	Management level of 500 animals	Not keeps the 500 animals	1	Your poor wolf management has come close to wiping out low deer populations, especially after hard winters. Low to no raw production. Our future of deer and deer hunters are being left in the hands of people who let this get out of control. I would like to see my license money to be spent on something better then a 70 page report on wolf plan. A animal that had no reason to be reintroduced in the state of Wis.
Lisha Doucet	Just the parts I am interested in	No	• The elimination of a numerical target population • The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. • The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. • Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	• Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training must be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. • The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	5	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
	Most of it	Yes	Protecting the wolves	No dogs for anything training or otherwise	10	We need to balance our ecosystem and that includes wolves
Bob R	Most of it	Yes	Hunting remains an option	No goal. Should be 350. Can't hold department accounts without a number goal. Should not have buffer zones that includes private lands where wolves might be a problem.	1	Need to hold public hearings.
John Barton	All of it	Yes	Not much, no mention of numbers or hunting.	No number on how many wolfs Wisconsin we limit. We need a control on wolf's north of highway 29	1	Wolf's have caused millions if not billions of lost revenue in Northern Wisconsin. We are losing hunters in the north and land ownership because of the wolf. We need two separate plans, one north of Highway 29, and one south.
Matt Amend	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the fact that you are taking comments on the plan, and that you will use the comments to improve it.	I do not like the fact that there is not a population goal. Seems the agency took the easy way. If the current form comes to pass, it will open up a can of worms for all. Also, I don't understand what the large buffer areas around the tribal reservations has to do with good management. I don't own property in these areas, but I would be mad as heck being restricted from using it……i.e. hunting. Please get back to managing the population through hunting and trapping this year. It is a shame that the whole situation has become somewhat of a political football these days.	3	We need to have a population numbers. The current idea is too vague. Hunting and trapping is a must. Also take into account that the tribes will have a harvest of zero. Big boy decision time…….please!
Anne-Marie Hewitt	All of it	No	The elimination of a numerical target population. The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. Emphasizing the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	No commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. Hound training must be stopped. The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. As a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Overall, the plan is good. However, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations, even though they represent the minority of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis is placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
Barry Benson	Most of it	Yes	Like the use of sub zones to address livestock depredations. I also like the integrated approach to dealing with livestock depredations and health and human safety issues.	Population numbers not being used in management goals. This isn't logical based on the fact that DNR has solid info on every breeding pack in the state. Aren't overall numbers relevant when it comes to Federal listing or delisting? Seems like it's being avoided because of public disagreement with other wildlife populations(deer). Overall wolf population numbers do not have to be the sole basis of wolf management, but it should definitely be a part. The non hunting/trapping public opinions are based on overall population of any species . If the deer population is high, then hunting isn't viewed negatively. Same thing if the wolf population is growing or stable. Of course, the opposite happens if populations are low. Numbers ARE important and have to be included in any management plan, especially since the DNR has solid evidence to back those numbers up. Also I'm confused why the concentration of livestock depredations in northern Portage and Wood counties are not included in zone 4a. It would make sense to extend the northern boundary of 4a to the Portage/Marathon county line to include those farms that have had past depredations.	7	Probably caught this error already, but the language states that zone 4a includes parts of Wood, Portage, Clark, and Adams. The map actually shows that Adams is NOT in zone 4a, but a small portion of Waushara county is.
Bruce Coleman DNR # 96826	All of it	Yes	NONE	NO wolf numbers goal but DNR has lied to about the plan from the start so why should I believe you any way.	1	I don't believe anything you say about the plan. I voted for the very first plan and DNR lied about it all. I love to see wolves but you lied that numbers would be in check and I will not believe anything you say or write once you lie to me you will NEVER get me to believe you until you live up to your first broken promis
Michael Wipfli	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Not using numerical population estimates to base management and harvest proposals upon. A population goal of 350 was established to insure perpetuation of the species. Harvest quotas will be applied to tribal areas but If those quotas are not filled other methods must be applied to fill those quotas.	4	The Wolf is a wildlife species which requires the basics of food, water, and cover. You Natural Resource Professionals must get back to these basics and regulate this species to ensure that it stays in Wisconsin but is managed to population densities where prey specie populations are not affected, and human-wolf interactions are minimal.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Frank A Scherkenbach	All of it	Yes			10	When we spoke on the phone yesterday, I mentioned that I had a passing interest in commenting during the still open public comment period preceding the DNR's long anticipated publication of its updated wolf management plan. While in the process of entering the website to forward my comments, I noticed that participants are specifically asked whether they have read the proposed plan in whole or in part. This triggered me to take a good look at the entire plan. Once having done it, I've become so fascinated by the comprehensiveness of the study, including the exhaustive data gathering, and state history on which the plan is based, that I thought I would send it along for your recommended leisure reading. I found it both an informative and entertaining read. In fact, this is great read for anyone interested in Wisconsin's historic wildlife and cultural history, forming the basis on which we are now asked to consider regulating the wolf impact in appropriate wildlife areas still to be found here. In any event, I was impressed by the amount of effort the DNR has put into this highly controversial wolf management plan - and have a new appreciation for the people who are trying to serve the larger public interest, by bridging the gap between divergent and varied interests impacted by this DNR decision.
	Most of it	Yes		You write a plan that a majority of people will not read because it's too lengthy and confusing. It is clearly biased to favor the wolf.	1	You hide the cost chart of payments being paid for farm animals, pets, and other payments because of the wolf population. People are more interested in the cost and safety that is being caused by the increase in the wolf population. There is clearly a big increase in the payments to people from wolves killing their animals. People don't trust the dnr, and reports like this with no action of controlling the population only make people trust you less. KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID
Paul Martin Griepentrog	All of it	Yes	None	Failure to address diseases transferred from wolves to livestock and people. example neopsorosis. Failure to address landowners concerns within the extended reservation boundaries.	0	Will USDA APHIS employ the tactic now being used in other abatement programs that violate civil rights? Example; farmers being denied access to programs because they refused to implement abatement protacals without just compensation for labor involved with implementation and maintenance.
Chuck	Most of it	Yes	Not much. We have 2000-3000 wolves in the state given the 20-21 survey. This doesn't include roaming wolves or sections of the state that aren't surveyed yet. For years we were told the population is around 824 wolves. Why should we believe anything from you now?	I'm not seeing any wolf management plan as far as reduction goes. There are far too many wolves in our state. I have zero faith in the dnr or any other government body to reduce the wolf population. Wolves have decimated the deer population in our state. And the UP as far as that goes. Same with northern Minnesota. They're as far south as Columbia county and most likely into Dane county as well. So their habitat is not restricted to northern forest zones. Also, Wolves not only kill weakened prey, they also kill healthy prey. It's not like they hang around starving till some deer gets weak. I've personally seen and followed them in bloody snow as they allowed young wolves to practice chasing and killing a healthy deer that an adult wolf hamstrunged so they couldn't run full tilt. As they wolves decimated the northern deer herd, they followed the food source south. I'm sure they'll be welcome in Madison and Milwaukee so city folks can see them. Just imagine gofling your favorite course as a pack of wolves chase a deer down the 13th fairway and kill a deer while you play through. Awesome!	0	End the elk program in Wisconsin. We were promised and elk hunt starting in 2000. Wolves killing elk delayed that for years until herds increased. Now we get a WHOLE 5 ELK A YEAR to hunt!!!! Oh Boy!! Eliminate all the staff and money that goes along with it. You want to hunt elk? Go west. And one more thing. Shut down all the deer farms aka cwd factories in the state. Just like Montana did in 2000 to protect their elk. Apple Creek in Cecil has over 300 deer per square mile. They have cwd within their fences resulting in surrounding counties not able to bait or feed. Yet Apple Creek still feeds artificially within their cwd factory fences. Total BS.
Jason Thomas	All of it	Yes	not much.	There should be more specific language about targeting the wolf harvest as resource management effort. It could be targeted more to avoid livestock predation damages. It could be targeted more as a way to increase Elk populations. It could be targeted more as a way to increase deer populations in certain areas. These things need wording that allows change over time. For example if the deer herd in wolf unit 1 experiences an extreme winter die off in 2022, then the wolf harvest in 2023 should be adjusted upward accordingly to improve deer population in wolf unit 1. If the deer population is strong in the accepted wolf range, then the wolf harvest should be targeted to the zones where the elk herds exist. Wisconsin has spent a ton of money on the elk reintroduction, and each elk has an extremely high cost association. There is no reason NOT to target wolf harvest to the elk zones, however limiting the method of harvest in these areas needs consideration. In Summary, The plan needs specific language to target wolf harvest and adjust wolf harvest Annually to manage the populations of deer, elk, and wolves looking at the current population estimates of all 3 species. The plan also needs specific language limiting the population estimate to 350 wolves and language stating that we will target harvest to achieve that population goal with in 3 years.	3	
Robert Tocco	Most of it	Yes	I like that the first "rule" is to maintain a viable population to fulfull the ecological role that wolve's play.	Too much control and allowing hunting groups too much say.	7	I am a long time hunter but I do not kill things I don't eat and I oppose predator hunting. In my opinion, the people that engage in wolf hunting lack ethics and do not care about or understand general ecology.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Marie Baker	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves.There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update.The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	
Wende Zinda	Most of it	Yes	Science based approach. Tribal input. Involving volunteers to monitor the wolf packs.	I question the accuracy of wolf attacks on domestic animals. I think the information provided on this topic should be of less importance.	6	I don't want wolves to be hunted during mating season and when they have cubs. I don't want them to be hunted on snowmobiles or with dogs. I want regular reviews of how the new management plan is working.
Steven Davis	Most of it	Yes	It respects the principle of biodiversity and the place of wolves in Wisconsin's ecological systems. It also respects the tribes of Wisconsin instead of ignoring their views and preferences as has been the case for so long. Finally it rids the state of an outdated and obsolete population target that doesn't reflect reality or science and going forward would cause nothing but continued trouble and controversy.	I'd prefer it take stronger action on hunting with dogs. I am not opposed to hunting, but wolf hunting should be something hard to do as a sporting challenge, and not a frenzied showdown cruel to both dogs and wolves.	9	I thank the DNR for undertaking this new plan and seeing the need for it and taking seriously all sorts of different voices.
patrick j koehler	All of it	Yes	The reasons wolves should be maintained in Wisconsin's environment.	No quota.	4	Why does the DNR not want to abide by the original goal of 350 wolves as set by professional wildlife managers? It appears the DNR is bending to the whims of a very small segment of Wisconsin's citizens, and special interest groups, who base their stance on unscientific and emotional reasons only.
John Unger	All of it	Yes	None, as it is a smoke screen to the ignorant	The program was brought to the public using 350 as the number to be the goal, the goal now is 3 to 4 times that.	1	This is why the outdoorsman of this state do not trust our DNR, we were lied to and misled again.
Cory A. Masiak	Most of it	Yes	I like that the draft plan includes a focus on the ecological benefits of wolves; that Wisconsin's Native tribes were consulted in this process; that the tribes' responses (letters) were included verbatim in the body of the plan; and that "non-consumptive recreational opportunities associated with wolves" and wolf-related ecotourism were taken into account.	I feel that the plan does not take adequate account of the illegal harvesting of wolves in Wisconsin, which I suspect is much higher than we are aware of. I also think that the DNR should prioritize nonlethal options to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts. Finally, the use of hounds and other dogs in the wolf hunt needs to be better regulated.	8	Overall, I feel that this plan is science-based, which is a positive. But as someone who is totally opposed to the hunting of wolves, except in the case of serious livestock predation, I do not like its emphasis on providing a "sustainable harvest opportunity." As noted, we should aim for a form of "mutualism": the coexistence of wildlife and humans. I especially appreciated the statement by the Potawatomi that it is not the tribe's stance to "manage" their brother but to instead provide stewardship or nonlethal coexistence. If only white people (and I speak as a white person) exhibited as much wisdom as our Native neighbors.
Scott G Hrovat	Most of it	Yes	I like extra time for public to read and give comment! I do believe all groups need to work together on this and come up with a number all can agree on.	Need to be more accurate on population. Need a population goal for state.	3	I believe your population estimates are low, and you will need them to be accurate to establish quotas in specific management areas.
Linda Brunner	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Objective A: Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill it's ecological goal.	Allowing any trapping (immense suffering often for the animal) and any use of dogs for hunting.	6	Those human beings in the areas focused on for wolf/animal predation concerns must be fully responsible on their end for the protection of livestock and pet animals.
THOMAS FECK	Most of it	Yes			10	I appreciate the vast amount of work and research that went into this plan. The educational sections are worthy. The actual management strategies are measured, fair and reasonable. Personally, I am opposed to killing wolves under almost all circumstances but I realize that this is not possible. Good job on the plan, I hope that it is implemented as written.
Matt Dettlaff	Most of it	Yes	I like the inclusion of many stakeholders in the process and the consideration of both the resource and social impact of trying to manage wolves in Wisconsin.	I am very disappointed that a numerical target population is not part of the plan. You cannot manage what you do not measure. Although we are measuring the wolf population, the plan has nothing solid to compare how effective future management efforts are in meeting a population goal. I live in the "secondary" wolf habitat of Adams County and I think it is very cool to have them in the area. Never would have thought wolves (or bears or bobcats) would inhabit the area when I was a kid first starting to hunt the area in 1980's. I think they add a very unique thread in the fabric of the ecosystem, habitat management and outdoor experience. I just think we need to manage them with specific population # goals in mind. And let the wildlife experts set the appropriate harvest quota's to keep the whole ecosystem healthy...and not the special interests on either end of spectrum manipulate the science.	6	Thank you for your efforts to balance the science and social pressures of this resource.
	Most of it	Yes		NO QUOTA OF 350 ANIMALS; YES ITS THAT SIMPLE!	1	I own land that is in the reservation boundary in Sawyer Co. The wolves have devastated the deer herd here and even members of the tribe are upset that there is no control set in place. WI. residents were on board with reintroduction of wolves as long as the 350 count was used. There is NO reason as to why the state would need more. Thank you.
Daryl	Most of it	Yes	not a lot	not having a wolf count. we have 3x as many wolves as we should have.	2	we need to help the northern counties to control the wolf numbers.there will be few deer if we dont.
	All of it	Yes			1	
	Most of it	Yes	There is a place for the wolf in Wi, at a managed level.	Underestimated population	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
ken vanden heuvel	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	i like that there will hopefully be a limit to the number of wolfs allowed and will be maintained		3	
	Most of it	Yes	Very little to like!	This is such a boring read. I wish that I was getting paid to read this because it took up so much of MY time!	2	Don't be listening so much to the people that live only in Milwaukee & Madison. And don't be censoring the comments. the DNR is not so believable so much anymore!!! Not everything can have a positive outlook all the time. That is not reality. Also you should be listening to the WWF board members more especially on there Objections numbers # 7-9-10 and 11. I own properties in Price and Juneau counties for meny years. And YES YOU NEED TO SET A NUMERIC POPULATION GOAL,
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	Looked like a huge data dump without the most important summary of population goal and annual harvest goals.
Cranberry River herbster	All of it	Yes	Not believe your graphs are accurate And I am a hunter Who spends 10 months in the woods along the Cranberry Sand and Raspberry river bottoms	Too much information for Most people is putting it mildly rather scientific data is wonderful for those of us that have dealt with it for 50 years But a more simplified Version for most people would make this more useful	4	I fear dealing with conservation Since childhood That recommendations should have been spelled out Precisely.
jim gibson	Most of it	Yes	Not much.	Not being very realistic on holding to the original number (350) of wolves. It's only a matter of time that someone will be severely injured by a wolf as they become more accustomed to humans. ie; When the old alpha male gets kicked out of the pack and has to fend for himself nothing's easier than a kid, older person or for that matter any person to become prey.	1	Sticking to the original goal of 350 wolves statewide.
Kyle Bartelt	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes.The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don’t have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	
Carol Myers	Most of it	Yes	I like that it relies on tribal input and science, valuing wolves as an important component of environmental balance		10	
RUSSELL MATTICE	Most of it	Yes	MAPS showing distribution of Wolves on p48, etc	There is NO population maximum of Wolves listed. The subzones should be eliminated. The tribes already have harvest rights in the Ceded territory, per treaty. The US negotiated them a long time ago. Are there treaty rights just now discovered by the DNR that were not previously addressed in those treaties, that provide for more rights around the reservations? The survey in '22 sent out is suspect. I would like to see more imput from communities in Wolf populated zones. They PAY the REAL price. 500 WOLVES MAXIMUM IN THE CEDED TERRITORY A MUST! The DNR can set a goal for more Wolves in Zone 6 to reach any unproclaimed number.	3	The number of wolves to be harvested by tribes in ceded territories should be listed, and adjusted for non-tribal harvest opportunities based on actual tribal harvest totals. The adjustments to non-tribal harvest should be similar to the methodology used in tribal SPRING Walleye harvests on lakes in the ceded territory. The non-tribal harvest in the ceded territory would follow behind the tribal harvest season. I would like to see wolves managed for population increases in the southwestern counties in Wisconsin that have high CWD infection rates. I find this plan to favor tribal and the non-hunting urban communities to a large degree. I would encourage the DNR to promote the southern urban communities to take "Fluffy" for a walk in a Wolf populated zone, and follow up with periodic surveys also.
Judith Siettmann	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal. The focus of the plan on the ecological benefits of wolves. Planning for low quota zones around tribal lands.		9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jason K Duehring	Most of it	Yes	I like the fact that there is a wolf management plan particularly data relating to historical wolf population and prey abundance in other areas of the country.	I dislike the lack of a proposed population goal based on prey abundance, human interactions, and livestock depredation.	4	What good is a wolf management plan that draws no conclusions on a wolf population density. Without a set population goal, how can you manage licenses and harvest?
Daniel Rhode	All of it	Yes	The plan needs critical review. There is very little to like.	The plan moves away from the wolf management 350 count that was previously promised to the residents of Wisconsin.	0	Initially the DNR stated that when population reached 350 wolves hunting and trapping would be allowed to control the population. This plan does not maintain that DNR promise to manage the wolves. Also the number of wolves the DNR states as the current population is grossly underestimated. Efforts should be made to accurately represent the current wolf population, and real management efforts begin to reduce that number to 350 or less. Its a shame that as an avid bird hundred for over 50 years I am afraid to take my dog hunting due to the actual number of wolves in the woods.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Setting up management zones to better manage the wolf population	I think the original population goal of 350 wolfs was spot on. We have now exceeded the carrying capacity, without conflict in certain areas of the state.	3	The only comment I have is the only people that should be listened too about wolves are those who live with them. No liberal from Madison or Milwaukee should have any input at all. They are not directly affected by wolves and should have no say, especially out of staters.
	Most of it	Yes	I like that the DNR claims to want to protect and enhance our natural resources.	Protecting wolfs does not protect and enhance our natural resources, if you go into a wolf pack territory you see and hear very little quantity of other animals because they kill virtually everything else. They do this with farm animals and animals which are hunted for food also.	0	You see on page 52 nothing major kills wolves except for people, however you can see on page 9 wolves are the largest killer of the elk herd (people can eat elk). The draft does not document the same information for the deer population however on page 14 it says in areas of high wolf usage the overall deer density was reduced by 62%. What are they benefiting in the environment? The only thing I see is lower deer heard will help reduce CWD, but so would a longer hunting season and that would avoid any risk to farmers heards.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Should be only 250 wolf like we where told years ago. And no buffering zone .These people pay tax's and bought land to hunt on .Who come up with these ideas not fair to landowners.	4	
[redacted]	Most of it	Yes	The historical components were very helpful . Understanding of public opinion is important as well. I live in a populated wolf area and can corroborate the opinions. Wolf population growth through the years was also very helpful.	Not sure that there is much to dislike. However, there is more background than plan.	6	
	All of it	Yes	I like the idea to spread wolf statistics and information with the public. I think there is a huge misconception in non-range that wolves are BeLOW population goals, while that simply is not true. I like the idea of a harvest season for population control.	I dont like objective A where the plan wants population goals above predetermined levels. There isnt a goal listed while the previous goal was 250 wolves in Wis and UP. Need more specific goals on this. The plan seems like it will be expensive to execute. Do we need all of these population and herd analytics when our population is substantially higher than goals!? This doesnt make sense.	7	
Tom Duffey	Most of it	Yes	Overarching goal, i.e. the species role in the overall scheme of things.	Nothing stood out, as I think necessary compromises have been incorporated.	10	Me viewpoint relates to forestry, forest health, and especially, the ability of certain tree and understory species to regenerate under our unnaturally high deer population. I support allowing the natural relationship between predator/prey to at least somewhat be reestablished.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Megan Fitzgerald	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the thought of dividing up zones to narrowly focus on certain wolf management and conflicts within that area. Also collaborating and collecting scientific data from different reports collected.	N/A	10	Hello, I am a current student at UW-Stevens Point majoring in Conservation Law Enforcement with a minor in Criminal Justice. In my past college career I have taken Conservation Law Enforcement Theory and Principles were our class studied the current issue of wolf management and collaborated on how to come up with a management plan and how to implement it in Wisconsin. Also, I attended a Fish, Forest and Wildlife Resources course where for our end of semester project we were required to create a scientific report and I chose to do wolf management with livestock conflicts. My outline was very similar to your plan draft, so I am making some suggestions as to what I accumulated over my courses. My approach to possible management techniques was to divide the state of Wisconsin in 6 divisions such as : NW, NE, CW, CE, SW, SE. Several wolf packs could have tracking devices put on to track their movements and collecting data from farmers as an online submission form reporting encounters or fatalities of livestock. Reporting could also be implemented for hunters with tracking dogs. A recommendation could be made as far as offering a grant program for farmers to apply for funding on installing deterrent methods on their properties such as fencing, install corrals closer to residence/barn, spot lights and making recommendations for their livestock to be locked up at night. There could be quarterly reporting done from the DNR with the farmers to monitor improvement or challenges. Another recommendation that may be more challenging to keep track of would be decipher the deer population and deciding on an appropriate range of wolf population that can be healthy and sustain both populations. Although it is hard to determine how many deer are within the population of Wisconsin, compiling reports of fatalities, motor vehicle fatalities and tag submissions from gun/bow hunting season can help get an idea of the impact on the deer population and the potential of wolf-conflicts. By compiling all these reports could help monitor an appropriate population for wolves and deer. Of course this will be a trial and error and numbers may be adjusted, but it is to be expected since it is impossible to know the exact numbers for populations. Another issue that influences the wolf management plan is bias and opinions from the public. By implementing more information and education programs can help people get an understanding of the importance of healthy population balance. This could be mailing surveys, targeting algorithms on social medias, maybe creating creative and fun videos since social media is a huge part of society (maybe getting involved in TikTok), getting student bodies more actively involved by having DNR individuals visit the schools for a visitor day or hold after school meetings for the public. I feel like there is a lack of education and a disconnect between the public where people are just concerned of how they were endangered and are "animal lovers" so to speak which can significantly alter their viewpoints.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Danielle Pahlisch	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the increased investment in public outreach, education, and opportunities for engagement through community science efforts. I also prefer the updated plan's management goals moving towards a social and biological carrying capacity, which I feel is more effective and legitimate than setting a number that is often used to justify population reductions whereas the science suggests otherwise.	I firmly believe that more regulatory oversight and methods to ensure regulatory enforcement need to be considered. The results of the 2021 wolf harvest should never be able to occur again, and methods that led to such a rapid over-harvest need must be reconsidered such as the coordinated use of multiple groups of hunting dogs.	7	I am a graduate student enrolled in the Masters of Natural Resources program at the University of Wisconsin – Steven's Point. In addition to maintaining a research focus on the intersection of predator species and human cultures, I have been an active participant in community science projects, professional trainings, and research conferences that emphasize wolf biology and ecology in the state of Wisconsin. I hope to someday serve communities in Wisconsin as a wildlife educator by improving community and wildlife coexistence methods through the utilization of engaging, science-based methods. Therefore, I have a vested interest in the successful implementation and evaluation of an updated Wolf Management Plan for the state of Wisconsin which is guided by the best available science. There are many improvements and additions to the objectives in the draft management plan that, I feel, will be beneficial in supporting a balance between a healthy and viable wolf population as well as stakeholder interests. However, I urge the Department to reassess and reconsider some of the proposals listed under Objective C, particularly the goals highlighted in Strategy C: Evaluate wolf harvest season structure and implementation. I strongly disagree with the use of hunting dogs as a legal method of wolf harvesting and encourage that the Department reconsiders the inclusion of this practice in the final version of this management plan. Wisconsin is the sole state in which this practice is legal, and the ramifications of its use has already been revealed in the results of the 2021 Wisconsin Wolf Harvest. Harvest totals were more than double the Department's set quota limit and were reached at an unprecedented speed of just 72 hours. Among verified occurrences of delayed harvest reporting and improved tracking capabilities due to snowfall, the one variable that contributed most significantly to the over-harvest was the use of hunting dogs. Official evaluations of the hunt show that 86% of wolf harvests were done so by the use of dogs, up significantly from the 35% of dog-assisted harvest totals from the 2013-2014 harvest. The ease at which some hunters can coordinate their respective groups of dogs to chase, tire, and trap wolves has led to the success rate of this method. Further information that is highly troubling was revealed by necropsies performed on harvested wolves, which were the wounds and lacerations consistent with canine-inflicted injuries. This suggests that hunting dogs are engaging physically with wolves. This is not the legacy or hunting tradition that Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources should embrace; instead, I encourage the Department to install only those hunting methods that encourage fairness and dignity for wild and domesticated animals alike. Thank you for considering this input, and I look forward to following the development and implementation of this newest management plan.
Brett Widmar	Most of it	Yes	I liked how the statistics of depredation are clearly laid out as well as the statistics that show the Wisconsin wolf population is clearly increasing throughout time.	I disliked how the plan doesn't have a clear (+/-) deviation on the wolf population. The numbers seem to be skewed in a direction that encourages the idea of a slowly growing wolf population.	6	Future management plans should be left up to citizens and representatives that reside NORTH of hwy 29. It is these people who deal with the wolves, but it is policies created south of hwy 29 that dictate how we are able to manage this population. The wolves have their place in the ecosystem, but their population can not continue to grow un-checked.
michael goessl	Most of it		NONE	there is no numeric goal. We need to have a total number of wolves limit.	0	None of this seams to be science based. It appears to be mostly driven by emotions.
AnnMarie Preecd	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	Hound training!	9	
Dave Breuer	All of it	Yes	Just writing a plan	Anything having to do with having more than 350 wolves in this state	0	science and the people affected should be considered and not politics or the whim of tree huggers!!!!! We do not protect rats so why protect wolves!!!!
	All of it	Yes	ADD THESE POINTS I like the fact that the plan is based on good science and is not impose. Any mandatory population cut offs.	I think the plan could be a little more clear about the economic and tourism benefits of being one of the only states in the country that has a thriving wolf population and complete ecosystems	9	
Larry B	All of it	Yes	It appears like a lot of time has been spent on this.	But with all the time spent on the plan. It appears to be biased towards the wolf. It seems like the plan wants to increase the population or at the very least maintain the current numbers. Which are not very believable.	2	By not putting a population goal on the plan it means nothing. And by allowing the tribes to claim tags when there is a season is a joke. The DNR already knows they will not use them.
Cameron Beatty	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal • The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves • The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it	Overall none	9	Please do whatever it takes to correct last years tragic occurrence.
Chuck Matoush	All of it	Yes	The use of Science based management. Wolves should be left alone as much as possible except for human/livestock interaction.	The plan should be connected more to the deer population than human desires. A pop of 350 seems arbitrary. Dog hunting and Reimbursement are ridiculous. The benefits of a healthy wolf population are not really explored.	5	I am curious to know how much bears, coyotes, and dogs actually do wolf interaction. Comparisons to other carnivore interactions with Deer, Elk, and Livestock, are not even mentioned. Comparisons of bear and deer hunting to car accidents. Viability of disease and overpopulation of deer control compared to wolf predation.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
John Hollis	All of it	Yes	Increasing the numeric wolf numbers. Respecting the tribes cultural values concerning wolves.	Make sure wolf counts are very accurate by counting the population as opposed to territory modeling. Hunting does not solve depredation conflicts.	5	The use of hounds on wolves should not be allowed.
Jeremy Reichl	All of it	No	I do like to see in the wolf plan the DNR consider the wolf a game species.	The research on the elk predation seemed a little weak due to COVID restrictions and funding issues.	10	The wolf plan seemed to be appropriate for the numbers and time and left room for federal or state restriction on harvesting.
Kimberly Hollis	All of it	Yes	Thanks for removing cap on wolf population and acknowledging the tribal values of wolves.	I do not care for hunting as a conflict tool, hunting increases conflict as young inexperienced pack members are left to fend for themselves with the loss of older pack members. I do not care for the occupancy model currently being used. I think this model overestimates the number of wolves on the landscape.	5	I think that there should be a buffer zone around tribal lands and ban hunting in prime wolf habitat. Bear hound training needs to be drastically reduced as well as baiting. Baiting brings conflict between hounds and wolves. Chocolate should not be allowed in bait as it is poison to candid's. There should be no compensation for hounds lost to wolves. Hounds should not be allowed to train on wolves or used during any wolf hunting. The majority of Wisconsin residents believe people and wolves can coexist. The trophy hunting of wolves is only to appease a small, vocal minority and not the majority. I oppose recreational hunting and trapping.
Jim Johannes	All of it	Yes	Only the idea that we have a plan.	I sent in detailed comments before so I will not repeat those. I forgot to add this comment, however, and want to do it now. There should be no buffer zone around reservations. That infringes on rights of private land owners. It shouldn't have to go beyond that but if you insist on a buffer, you have it backwards! I draw an analogy to the Vietnam War and Cambodia. Where did the Vietcong and the NVA go to hide? Cambodia. The only way to stop that was to go into Cambodia. To the extent wolves can retreat onto reservations after predation on private livestock you need to allow them to be pursued onto reservations. So the buffer should be onto the reservations not onto private land. The common sense solution is to simply agree there can be no buffer zone for any buffer creates problems we do not need.	2	Please do not be so transparently biased in creating these committees. It is embarrassing.
debbie	Most of it	Yes				i think wolf should still be protected and Dnr should regulate them and last time open hunting they took a lot mor then they should of.
	All of it	Yes	Educating the public on the benefits of wolves to our eco system.	disagree with regulating population of wolves, specifically hunting, apparently we still have not learned from the mistakes of the past wiping out species for sport, recreation, misunderstanding of species. We live in their environment and need to learn to coexist with them vs. hunting them down, Even reducing the number of licenses to hunt still significantly effects their population. Let them live man is more of a trhreat to their survival than nature.	5	please reconsider plan to hunt wolves and study outcome of population every couple of years.
David Unger	Most of it	Yes	Mitigation of human/wolf issues, the idea of keeping wolves as a game species, the existence of wolves in our state	Lack of numerical management goal, apparent lack of concern for lowering wolf population	2	The original delisting population goal of 350 should be the standard still. There should be a timeline as to when to reach that goal. The tribes should not be allocated tags for something they have no intention of using. The reality is that when hunting and trapping begins in Wisconsin it will quickly become difficult to lower their numbers as is seen in Weatern states. This is something that needs to be addressed with tag allocation.
	All of it	Yes	Confirmed number of wolfs per zone	Need to low the number of wolves	1	
	Most of it	No			1	
Gary Giannunzio	All of it	Yes	leave the wolves alone; hunt the hunters	leave the wolves alone	5	leave the wolves 100% alone; get rid of hunting
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”.	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes.The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter. There is currently no guidance in place for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don’t have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritize these opportunities.	9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				To many wolfs ask the old timers why they got rid of them years ago it wasn't because they were so great. Get rid of them agian. Devastating the deer up north & the economy. Lots of people went to northern wis to deer hunt but nobody wants to go up there there are so few deer left it ain't even a huntable population. Most people are giving up on hunting wis just fo out of state there is a hell of a lot beter hunting& don't have to deal with the stupidity
	All of it	Yes	Nothing. Way too many wolves.	Pretty pathetic when we hunt 3 counties up north & run over 40 trail cameras between all of group & it's not uncommon to find multiple wolves when we check their trail cameras every week. Or when we go to the cabin in winter to snowmobile in Ashland county the only tracks on our 1 mile long road are wolf tracks. Doesn't take a genius to figure that out. It ain't no stray dog running wild in January.	1	Why don't you ask the public for their input on the wolf population. Not some city slicker that never leaves their cushy office to venture into nature and doesn't even know what a wolf track even looks like.
Joe Goltz	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing the cull number and basing the plan on populations and the science of the moment. I also like how tribal input was considered in the plan and there was focus put on the benefits of wolves in our ecosystem.		9	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Nothing reduce wolf numbers simple as that.	The wolf's devastated the deer herd in northernwis & the tax payers have to foot the bill for all livestock& hunting dog that get killed because of way to many wolf's.	1	The population. Estimates are so far of it ain't even funny all them educated idiots that think that they know the population are so far off. That's all they have to do is talk to all the people that spend time in the woods instead of sitting in there office that's never been in the woods.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			10	Wolves are an integral part of our ecosystems. They help keep deer population in check, which benefits drivers, many plant, and other animal species. Less dear means less deer in our yards and on our roads and eating plants. That means plants can grow more. More plant growth means more food for other animals and less animals coming into town to look for food. The carcasses of their prey also help to add nutrients back into our soil and provide food for scavengers. Whuch means healthier soil for more diverse plant life and less scavengers in our trashcans. Want less highway accidents caused by deer? Less rabbits in your garden? A more diverse and healthier ecosystem? Keep the wolves around.
L Endicott	Most of it	Yes	That it is a science based plan and that you have included the Tribal communities.	I still believe quotas are too high for the wolves.	9	Humans do not need wolves for meat to feed their families. The wolves do not need to be hunted in huge numbers. Hunters in Wisconsin have many other species to hunt and even to fish. We need to leave these beautiful animals roaming in Wisconsin. When we remove the wolf at the apex of a food chain, the other animals in the chain are all affected. We should not risk damage to the interconnected chains that make our delicate food web. Please limit the wolf hunt in Wisconsin NOW!
Carol Mickelsen	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				-Tired'!!!-of-'Spending'!!-'Decades'!!-Trying to 'Bring Back'!!-'Endangered Species'!??---Only to Have the-'DNR'!!-End up Selling-'Licenses- To-'Kill Them'-!!!-!!-??////((-!!!-('Is-'Anyone-'Safe' -!!???-From-'$$$-'Engendered from-'Selling-'Licenses'-!!!-???-???-//-((((-!!!--('Ultimately'!!!?? -'Only Making:-'Lical'!??/-Orrr:-'Out of State-'Hunters'!??-'Happy'!???-Is-'Alll'---We have-to-'Offer'!!???-As a-'State'!!-??-??////--('Or'!??-'Alll -We -"Have'!!??-to-'Wake Up For'-!!!???-?!-//-;(((-???-?!'-??-((((-!!-!!!!
Amanda Coleman	All of it	Yes	- Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management - The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan - The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves - Tribal community has been involved in the process	- The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. - There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. - The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn't recommend that these opportunities are prioritized	9	
	All of it	Yes	The only comment would be that there is a place for the Grey Wolf in Wisconsin but needs more management that stated in new plan.	Need total Wolf count of 350 or less. Buffer around reservations redicious. Comments related to hunting dog problems being the dog iwnets problem is wrong. Breaking the Wolf zones into small areas nor acceptable. Hound hunting for Wolves needs to take place. I believe the current Wolf population is way off on the extreme low side. The whole plan appears slanted towards the Wolf protectionist groups. Time for Wolves to be delisted and a hunting/trapping season to drastically reduce the state population.	2	This plan is unacceptable and needs to be redone with realistic conservation methods not bending to protectionist groups.
Erin Spoehr	Most of it	Yes	-removal of wolf population goal -consideration of the benefits wolves contribute to the ecology -creation of low quota areas around tribal lands		9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
jean publiee	Just the parts I am interested in	No	none. i want to point out there is no science involved. this is a political polemic. biologists are trained at land grant colleges where they learn to kill animals for humans. bad training	the killing and murder of a species that is part of the ecological spectrum that deserves respect and protection from humans, not to let fat sloppy guys with guns make a new trophy	0	wolves are never "resources" they are living breathing creatures that kil for food. no science at all in plan, just moneymaking as usual.license money is the goal. fat slob hunters killing an animal to have a trophy doesnt make me happy. reduce conflict humanely.killing wolves does not in any way help to "understand" wolves. stop the hunting and trapping. stop the venality of moneymad humans for license money
	Most of it	Yes	Overall analysis.	Lacking numerical wolf goals. Those in favor of increasing the number of wolves primarily live in large urban areas that have no wolves and more than likely are not hunters. Their support impacts the state plan overall, however, it hurts the areas with wolves. Business are closing due to lack of hunters because of low deer populations directly related to wolves. Also forces hunters to relocate to where there is a somewhat sustainable population.	4	
	Most of it	Yes	*There is connection to Tribal management. *It acknowledges the ecological benefit of wolves.	*It would be great to get specific about review and evaluation for the future.	9	
	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical.	7	I like that the plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it.
Marvin Thorell	All of it	Yes	Numbers, of total wolves, projected and actual kill numbers.	WAY too long.	7	I own 80 acres of mostly wooded land in Lincoln County with 7 elevated (tree) stands. In 2022, I hunted 3 straight months from those stands. I also put out 8 trail cams throughout the 80 acres. In those 3 months of hunting I saw only one deer, a small doe, which I killed with my crossbow. I estimate that I put in over 80 hours in my elevated stands. I am 76 years old and have hunted this land for the last 64 years of my life and have never seen the deer population this low. I see as many wolf tracks as deer tracks in the woods. PLEASE kill more wolves. I felt bad about killing the single young doe because that is the seed for the future of deer hunting on my land. Will I see 0 deer on my land in fuure years. The thought distresses me.
	Most of it	Yes	The overall data provided from a range of different issues related to wolves	No population goal, buffer zones around reservations impeding land owners and users of public land in those areas, no plan to work with the federal government to delist wolves and bring management back into the states control	3	
	Most of it	Yes			3	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	NONE	Most of all it, the WI DNR has no interest in actually fixing the issue of massive over population in the state. You are only doing this to waste money. We have no season, its not allowed by Federal Law, and there is a Democrat Governor in office. Do you honestly believe you're going to create a season on your own? LOL....stop it. When a season was available, YOU lied about numbers, as always, creating a far, FAR lower quota for the hunters of this state. Its absolutely sickening. As a hunter, who puts far more money into the economy of this state, than any hiker can dream too, i have no doubt the DNR will make a mockery of it all, again. I'm just happy that the Northwoods hunters of this state take things into their own hands, as well they should. Shoot em all!	0	Complete trash, like most DNR ran operations.
	Most of it	Yes		There is no population goal. We need to have a way to keep the population under control when protections are removed. WI should be active in trying to get wolves from the federial protect species list.	1	
Karen	All of it	No	• The elimination of a particular number as a target population • The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. • The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. • Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training MUST be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has absolutely no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DNR must ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is huge uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should absolutely not be used solely to determine population. • The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised dominantly of biologists and non-hunter, non-trapper professionals.	7	
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing. Waste of time and money. I used to hunt deer, hardly see any since the wolves were brought in.	After seeing the wolf with the fawn in its mouth going back to feed the little ones we saw on camera, I don't want wolves eating our deer.	0	Plan a wolf hunt.
Anne C	All of it	Yes			0	Wolves should be on the protected species list and not hunted for any reason.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Anna Brewer	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The elimination of a numerical target population The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. Hound training must be stopped. The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Please provide any other comments related to the current draft wolf management plan: Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
	All of it	No	The elimination of a numerical target population • The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves and inclusion of tribal values and knowledge. • The attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. • Emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	Absent is a commitment by DNR to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. • Hound training must be stopped. • The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. • The recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts has no scientific basis. • At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. • There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. • The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	7	Overall, the plan is good; however, the Committee was overrepresented by hunting organizations even though they represent the minority opinion of Wisconsinites. Too much emphasis was placed on the killing of wolves rather than co-existence.
RFH	All of it	Yes	A sustainable population, but at very reduced numbers.	Creation of Wolf Advisory Commitee, another inefficient, politically motivated government bureaucracy, Don't believe that wolf populations can be self-regulating without human intervention. There is a reason wolves were hunted to near extinction. Plan is too wordy and long and contains much "weird" science vs real science. Was the draft peer reviewed by anyone?	2	I believe wolf populations should be kept low, not near extinction levels, but a number where depradations are the exception and not the rule.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			4	I think you should do more research on how many wolf's there actually are. You should thin the herd by 50%
Joy Perry	All of it	Yes	Recognition of ecological roles of wolves as well as acknowledgement of the importance of wolves to WI tribes. The draft is voluminously referenced and very well supported with respect to the underlying science (too much to be specific here) You seem to have accomplished good balances among competing interests, while making clear that the plan will be based primarily on the science. Recognition of importance of sub zones such the 1B is a great addition. The scientific literature review is impressive and insightful. Similarly, data collected from so many researchers, organizations and even the public help to ground this plan.	The draft has to address hunting, but here's where some of it goes too far. First, allowing the use of dogs is absolutely nonsporting. The bear season has vividly shown me that hunters track their radio collared dogs from their vehicles and put fresh dogs onto the trail when initial dogs tire, and so on. There's nothing whatsoever "sporting" about that - electronic tracking needs to be prohibited. I view baiting and trapping/snares/legholds the same way - there's no 'fair chase" in that, not to mention increased risks of other species (including domestic dogs) being caught. If we have to allow wolf hunting, structure it to ensure that it be ethical and strictly targeted to wolves.	6	I'd be interested in knowing just how many people actually read all 170+ pages… Good job overall; or reflects a lot of hard work by many people.
	Most of it	Yes			5	Protect the wolves. Don't listen to all of the redneck bar talk.
Campsie Grothendieck	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like a minimal effort to recognize the need to protect our natural resources in Wisconsin. I appreciated the map, disturbing as it is, showing the teeny area left of the historical ranging area of the wolf. Let's protect what little of this beautiful eco system we have left.	I dislike the heavy influence of ranchers and hunters who only care about their own profits or their own personal entertainment to the detriment of our precious wildlife.	5	We must protect the dwindling natural world and stand up to self-serving profiteers who would destroy every last living being to make a buck. Enough
	All of it	Yes	The 2022 draft plan eliminates an arbitrary and unscientific numerical target population which is consistent with other states, such as Michigan. The plan stresses the ecological benefits of wolves and the importance of tribal values and knowledge. The plan does attempt to minimize the impacts of a recreational hunt by adopting buffer zones around tribal lands, shortening reporting requirements and making hunting licenses zone specific. The plan emphasizes the use of non-lethal methods to reduce conflicts.	The DNR should make a commitment to work with the legislature to overturn PA 169 and remove payments for hunting hounds, killed by wolves. Hound training must be stopped. Hound training is ongoing even though wolves are currently federally protected. The plan should establish a zero hunting quota to protect wolves in our national forests and other areas prime habitat. There is no scientific support for the use of recreational hunting/trapping to reduce conflicts. At a minimum, DNR should ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves in our national forests. There is considerable uncertainty in estimating wolf populations based on the occupancy model and should not be used solely to determine population. The plan should include an oversight committee which is comprised of biologists and professionals.	8	I was disappointed that the committee was over-represented by hunting organizations who based their opinions on hearsay, myths and not scientific data. The DNR should promote co-existence rather than pandering to the hunting/trapping community (and in particular the Bear Hunting organizations)
Cindy Walters	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I really appreciate the way you included input from all different parties including tribal. I really support a science based approach. I think the hunt a few years ago was a total mess as so many more wolves were killed than the goal.	Don't support a hunt vs non lethal means for wolf control. It seems an unnecessary concession to deer hunters. Generated by ginning up fear and hate for wolves.	8	Thank you for extending your time for public input. I live up north and often see wolf scat on our trails and wolves in our trail cams. I feel they are an important piece of our ecosystem up here.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	the management zones seem fairly logical, the plan to educate the public seems reasonable	could not find anything specific for what the carrying capacity is for each zone, no plan to petition the Federal Government to finalize remove from endangered species list and make it more difficult for single judges to put wolves back on the endangered species list in this state	5	seems to be very biased toward no actual management of wolves to allow them to expand their population as much as with as little harvesting, control or human interference as possible
Nathan Socha	Most of it	Yes	I like that it uses more current scientific research.	I do not like that no actual number or number range has been set for a goal. By not doing that it allows the state to do what they want. Also the majority of the public imput from surveys should come from the areas where wolf reside.	2	I feel like considering marquette and green lake counties unsuitable for wolves is just false. There are plenty of wolves in that area. The fact that 8 of them were harvested from marquette alone should show that.
mary	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	that you are taking a holistic approach to managing the wolf in WI		10	
Gerard Deprez	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I thought the plan went into a lot of historical information pertaining to the adaption of the wolf on the ecosystem.	I thought the plan could have been done in more of an executive summary and less pages and less detail. You cited a reference to a 2014 survey that was done. I think you can refute a lot of the findings of that study. It comes down to the fact that there are too many wolves on the landscape and we need to reduce the population by at least 20%. This will not harm the wolf population based on the study.	1	I believe the residents in the state have spoken. They would like a wolf hunting season to reduce the wolf population. We need to set a numerical target for the desired population. If this population continues to grow, there will be more and more payments to citizens that have been harmed, a more dangerous environment for northern residents and visitors, and fewer animals to be hunted where wolves exist.
John Marchwick	All of it	No	I REALLY think this is one of the best wolf plans I have read yet. It's informative, you use hard facts, scientific data, you got statement's and teach the reader about the cultural significance of wolves and their meanings among Native Americans. I love how you're honest about wolf livestock conflicts as nothing is 100% effective which I love how you're honest about it. I love the elimination of the state population goal because as a sixth generation Montanan, the state population goal in Montana for wolves has been incredibly controversial as it's influenced how the anti wolf laws were made in 2021 that Montanas state legislature and governor passed. I love how you debunk myths about wolves within your wolf plan and it really seems like you used the best available science.	Well, I guess this part is more of an improvement but I would like to see if there's anyway the DNR can incorporate or promote tolerance of wolves in areas where people are living with them as I saw numbers in those areas that showed people there that didn't like wolves rather than they did. I do NOT support a wolf trapping/hunting season but I also know by law you are required to in Wisconsin however it seems like you're more prepared if one were to occur versus from the February wolf hunt of 2021. But again and overall, I really like the draft wolf plan you guys created and I hope you adopt it.	10	If there's anyway to like increase tolerance of wolves with people in areas where wolves are living in could be quite beneficial but from what I read you guys have a solid wolf plan.
Steven Gerrish	Most of it	Yes	Did I miss the part on the number of deer and the impact wolves has on it? Let's be real, the elk is is being decimated by wolves too. Your unknown mortality, bring the elk kill loss over 50% by wolves.	We have spend $16,000,000+ on an animal reintroduction for what? Where is the ROI? Should have never happened and your populations counts are Not accurate. There is way more wolves than you can count.	5	We need a let hunters harvest more wolves. Deer hunting and hunting license generate revenues. Revenues that should be used for greater outdoor engagement, not spent on wolves that nobody has an interest in
K N	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		10	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	I ask that are wolves protected, not gunned down for sport or cruelly trapped for their pelts. Please eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. I demand to disallow hunters from training dogs to chase down wolves. I want to thank the state of Wisconsin for removing a cap on the wolf population.
	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the removal of the cap on the wolf population	It allows hunting with dogs How can you insure effective law enforcement on future wolf hunts? The Wolf Advisory Committee needs term limits.	7	How often will the plan be reviewed? Why are wolf den and rendezvous sights public knowledge?
	All of it	Yes	EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ON WOLVES. THE FACTS ABOUT THE REAL DANGER TO PETS AND LIVESTOCK.	PAYING FOR HUNTING DOGS KILLED WITH TAXPAYER DOLLARS! ALSO, THE DISEASES IN WOLVES ARE CARRIED BY DOGS ALL OVER.	3	Paid Safari Companies do not belong in WI. HOLD OVER FROM A PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION. The land in WI is being eaten up by developers, creating a loss of habitat. When will the DNR pay to buy more land for Parks as did our forefathers? Funding wolf hunts is not something I support. We could do something better with the money.
Michael ballmann	Most of it	Yes	You attempted to involve people from across all demographics. But some were under represented.	No population goal- it should remain at 350. Did not get a fair representation of residents living in prime wold habitat. Giving the tribes the right to manage properties 6 miles surrounding their reservations. Taking away the rights of those who hunt w/ dogs. Too many zones to micromanage an animal that roams over large tracts of land that intersect	2	Hunters support conservation in this country, it's our money supporting state DNR's. With crashing big game populations in wolf territory, you are losing hunters who are paying the fees. The wolf lovers are not going to fund these agencies.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
				many of the proposed zone. A disregard for deer population numbers. It's all about wolf #'s.		
	Most of it	Yes		No population goal	1	Set a population goal and a plan to achieve it within two years. if permits are allotted for the tribes, an equal number should be allotted for the general population above and beyond the amount allotted for the general
John Welhoefer	All of it	Yes	It is obvious if we kept the numbers around 5-700 we would have less problems with the farmers. It does state that numbers could go as low as 200 before the federal government would feel it was endangering the possibility of a recovery.	Page 124 you talked about wolves on the reservations, it seems like you're really caving into the Indians on this. I don't own land on the perimeter of the res. But if I did I would be upset about the extended boundary.	8	It is a tough choice but the wolf numbers will need to be reduced to half or less in order for people up north to live with them. Everyone should be able to protect their livelihood.
	Most of it	Yes			1	Being a Wisconsin land owner in the north and seeing the lose of deer in my area , finding numbers of wolf killed deer on my property through out the years , and watching the lose of hunters in the aera ,makes me think that our DNR only cares about keeping their jobs or to justify the thought of them as the keepers of our state wildlife. They need to remember that if not for the men and women that hunt in this state they would not even be needed. I am not going to say that wolves should not be part of the eco system , the DNR uses the hunter as a tool to control the population of wildlife in this state. I think it's time for the DNR to set limits on how many wolves we need in this state. I spent 1/4 of my life in the north and have only seen 3 wolves in their natural habitat , most people in this state will never see a wolf in the wild only in a zoo, (and i think that wolves should not be in a zoo) talking to the hunters this fall most saw more wolvers then deer, the only thing I see coming is a uprising on the wolves and there will be no more and I think they do belong but need to be limited to a manageable number
Susan Michaud	Most of it	Yes	I am encouraged by the fact that no overall quota will be established - I think some local control is good but oversight by the DNR will be crucial. (see next question). It is not clear to me at what point and how the DNR will step in on the wolf hunt - and say enough!	The fact that wolf hunting seasons may well be longer is of concern -there may well be an impact on wolf packs and any hunting close to breeeding season and wolf pup birthing is not appropriate. I am also not clear on who will be allowed to serve on the state wolf advisory committee. It seems that an advisory commitee made up of scientist/biologists should be separate from committees that include wolf hunters. Why not have different committees that could have some inclusive meetings. Lastly, although the DNR's hands are apparently tied in regards to the use of dogs for wolf hunting is there a reason that the DNR can't give an opinion on that and at least point to the cruelty of that for both dogs and wolves?-	7	I found much of the plan comprehensive and thoughtful. However, because of its length (and detail) I am concerned that the number of people that will read it is very limited thus diluting its impact.
Diana Jonen	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The legitimacy and importance of wolves in an ecological system; low hunt quota zones; the removal of arbitrary wolf population goals	I don't know	9	I am glad to see changes are being made that will prevent another debacle like last year's.
A. Lewandowski	All of it	Yes	None of it.	The idea of allowing the wolf to spread throughout the state. Wolves need to be where people aren't. The sad thing is someone will have to die in order to get the point across.	0	The wolf is back so do your part to get it de-listed.Set a number , 350 and stick to it no matter what the antis in the south say. They don't live with them!
Russ Bloom	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Lack of a management number and a clear plan to control wolf numbers	1	I have been a life long hunter, and have purchased land in Lincoln county to great financial hardship. My grown children hunt with high hopes of passing this tradition down to my grandkids. We have had some wolfs move through in the past, but within the last year we have had a pack make our area there home- the results have been devastating. I would not have believed how bad it could be. How we going to keep young hunters, our future, interested in deer hunting when they sit on stand for days not seeing anything? I'm very disappointed in the department for letting wolf management get out of control. Wolf management going forward needs a clear population goal(350, which is still to many) and a harvest season. Very disappointed.
Dawn Williams	All of it	Yes	1. Removal of max. population number/goal. 2. Recognizing the important role wolves play in providing ecosystem services. 3. A more balanced plan that recognizes Tribal beliefs and the interconnectedness between wolves, as a part of nature, and human well-being. 4. Commitment to science and continued research, including the recognition that current regulations for hunting other species, e.g., bears for which baiting and	1. Greater oversight/regulation is needed regarding hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. 2. That prioritization wasn't given to responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce conflicts with wolves. 3. The plan lacks a defined review/update schedule. 4. The plan does not include permanent, ongoing stakeholder and science committee(s) involvement in overseeing wolf management in the state.	9	Thank you

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			hunting dogs are allowed, contribute to wolf/hunting dog conflicts.			
Jennifer butler	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Couldn't download anything. Your site is difficult which is probably your plan.	Make it easy to answer, which you didnt		You are VERY deceptive with this and the answers. Shame on you.
Meghan Pierce	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable towards wolves There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should close wolf-focused hound training activities as each wolf hunting zone closes.The plan currently would allow hounds to chase wolves for training purposes during the wolf hunting season, across the entire state, until the very last wolf zone is closed. This could go on for months and would interfere with the wolf breeding season in late winter. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	I like that the plan centers science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources.
Loren Voss	Most of it	Yes	Information	Sway towards wolves being any modern day use.	1	Wisconsin has very little habitat for wolves. Wolves will NOT stay in the habitat that Wisconsin has for them. i am a life long resident and hunter of Wisconsin. I have never saw a wolf in the wild. Now do I want to!
	All of it	No	It is the start to a real plan, better than nothing at all.	There is no numerical goal for the wolf population.	1	In order to properly manage the wolf population in WI, you must provide a reasonable and achievable number of wolves as the population goal. ie. 350!
Christopher Baker	Most of it	Yes	Ensuring a healthy and viable wolf population.	Allowing a wolf hunt.	7	
Larry Steen	Most of it	Yes	I give credit to this product of much research and contemplation. The authors, I think, did their very best to present and discuss all sides/views to the question of whether wolves should be allowed to exist in Wisconsin. However, the authors are human beings, only expressing what is "best" for the humans, but not for the wolves. Thankfully, there are many people who are looking out for the very best interests of the wolves, and hence the production of this Draft Review.	The sad, but true, history of humans slowly but surely destroying our earth is a reality that most admit, but few put forth any effort or remedy, at any level. I see this Draft Review as an effort. However, the bottom line with this Draft Review is that wolves come second place to the human interest. Of course, this is always a conclusion when humans and nature conflict. Thus, in this Draft Review, consideration for the wolves come secondary. Why should human beings determine/dictate that only so many wolves should be allowed to live in Wisconsin, and that certain human beings, who love to kill, be allowed to "harvest" the wolves? (The word "harvest" reminds me of picking apples or squash.) If truth be told, in theory, the human race should be examined as to how many of us are allowed to live, in Wisconsin or elsewhere. Any one wolf, in Wisconsin or elsewhere, is of more importance and significance than a human being. Although I hunted when young and stupid, today I can only view hunters as people who, quite simply, love to kill another being; hunters have a thirst only to be satiated by killing. My view is that there should be no hunting season for wolves. This majestic animal should be allowed to thrive as nature dictates. Man controlling nature, has over and again resulted in disaster. And, importantly, the wolves were here first.	4	I am well aware that my thoughts and comments will be ignored. Thank you for allowing me the forum to express me feelings. Larry Steen, [redacted] Elkhorn, WI 53121-1338. [redacted]
John Marchewka	Most of it	Yes		the composition of your wolf management team consists of more protectionist groups than those interested in an active hunter/trapper harvest plan.	2	The DNR is making little effort to manage wolves (even remotely close) to the established population goal of 350 animals. There is a poor accounting of lone wolfs and dispersed groups. There is a 4-5x multiplier of wolves in this state over said population goal. Protectionist groups now have more influence on DNR management plans than does the long-standing relationship between the DNR and hunters/ trappers (and there respective organizations).
mike thompson	Most of it	Yes	The graphs showing percentages of wolf/prey kills	The percentage of kills labeled unknown it looks like the dnr is hiding facts	7	always keep in mind the ability of wolf to reproduce if populations are low. overhunting is not bad aand helps the population in the long run

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Michael Delvoye	Most of it	Yes	Let the wolf be a wolf. Cattle and sheep are invasive species. Reimburse farmers for their losses without so much red tape.	Hunting the wolf makes no sense.	0	Listen to the indigenous people, they know what they are talking about regarding the wolf.
John Meagher	Most of it	Yes	The public forum for using citizens input	I don't like increasing the number of wolves killed via licensing	3	It is my belief, that if we are trying to combat CWD, we would want to increase the total amount of wolves in the state. Not only are there EFFECTIVE measures to prevent predation of domestic animals (dogs...), a lot of those kills are by coyotes, etc. Peoples fear(?) of these beautiful animals of God's creation, is and has been used as an excuse for destroying the animals that are not used for food. People need to stop fearing our wildlife, which is a very precious resource that balances the circle of life. The more 'natural' our environment here in Wisconsin is, the more tourism we will keep having.
Russell Ryczkowski	All of it	Yes	None of it!	No quota. Buffer around reservations. Population estimates. Lone wolves not counted while other states do count them. This whole process is upsetting all sportsmen and landowners who have been dealing with high predator numbers for year.	0	
	All of it	Yes				I don't think wolves should be hunted at all
Steve Nagel	All of it	Yes				If you're going to allow wolf hunting in Wisconsin, please kill all of the wolves so that we never have to go through this barbaric, psychopathic, inhumane cruelty ever again.
Fred Hubley	Most of it	Yes	Endeavoring to keep a sustainable level of wolf population, while reducing conflicts with human activities like livestock and pet predation	No target number for the wolf population. Few specifics on management goals/numbers, which will require hunting of wolves since their numbers are already well above any and all goals the DNR has ever set. Clear bias toward larger than sustainable wolf numbers, which will increase human issues; and against wolf hunting. Lip service at best toward hunting as a management technique	4	The wolf population is extremely healthy in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the UP of Michigan. Deer numbers in northern WI are suffering because of this (and a couple other factors). We risk losing a generation of deer hunters if wolf numbers are not controlled to their sustainable levels. Any reading of a "pack map" in Wisconsin would allow for a meager harvest each year to keep their number in check. I want both deer and wolves in Wisconsin. The Plan ensures there will be few deer in northern Wisconsin for years to come. Please agree on a management number of wolves.
Dane Miller	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that the goal of the plan is to promote a healthy and sustainable wolf population. I think they are a valuable and important part of the Wisconsin landscape and I am happy that their long term presence is valued by the state. I also like that a sustainable harvest is part of the plan. I believe that if the population can sustain with a managed harvest that it is the right of the people to utilize the resource.	I believe any deer or turkey hunter should be given a wolf tag for bow,crossbow,shotgun,or rifle harvest. My understanding is that most wolves harvested in Wisconsin have been with the aid of dogs or trapped. The most vocal anti-wolf hunters tend to insist that wolves are ruining their deer hunting. If that is the case then they must be seeing more wolves than deer. Put a tag in there pocket for a wolf harvest WITHOUT dogs and WITHOUT trapping. If they have a point then they will have harvested wolves to prove their point! I also hunt in the UP of Michigan where the deer population is low and the wolf population is stable or growing. I saw many deer this year and no wolves. However, if I was sitting in my stand next year and saw wolves come through and no deer I would wish to have a wolf tag in my pocket.	8	Really great work. My take is that WDNR is spending more resources than necessary on this issue due to the sensitive public nature of wolves and it is taking resources away from other species that are not as popular. How about a pine marten or coaster brook trout plan this intensive? But I also respect that the WDNR has risen to the challenge and I am encouraged that the wolf population will be managed.
LAWRENCE PAPLHAM	All of it	Yes	Large cross section of represented parties, albeit incomplete. Importance of having Native American input, especially given cultural significance. Section 1 / Background information very good Wolf zones and sub-zones.	Removal of numerical goal (350). Reinstitute this. Plan late: missed International Wolf Center Conference on October 15 -16. Question release right after elections Included HSUS but downplayed those who want no wolves. May have been able to learn something from the "no wolves" persons. Not weighted enough for those who live in wolf county. Inadequate reimbursement for depredation. Ignore indirect costs of wolf depredation. Wolves as a solution toward CWD. Really? Implicit bias. Some models and estimates need to be more robust and defendable.	6	If there is no way for people to control wolves, they will (and have) taken it upon themselves. The question is do you want to have a mechanism in place that allows for the control of wolves or do you want citizens to take it upon themselves to control the population. I can appreciate the limitations on a complete plan as the Feds continue to prevent lethal methods of control. But the framework could be in place, as noted by your draft. Thanks for an opportunity to comment upon the plan.
Mary	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Overall, I think providing specific data is good.	Not having information on reported wolf incidents involving pet attacks, livestock and other wolf concerns reported and on record	2	I am not in favor of the “adaptive management process” vs. a count. What are the specific “mechanisms” to address local concerns.
Curtis Andersen	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	I am very interested in having Wisconsin's natural resources being brought back to the way they were when the white man first arrived. Wolves are part of that.	Specifically, wolf "hunters" are not about eating the wolves, just about shooting, and most real hunters HATE shooters, who just blast away at everything.	5	The people that shoot wolves tend to be other than ranchers or dairy farmers, so they are just shooters, and should have no say in what the limits are on wolf hunting.
DOROTHY CROCKETT	Most of it	Yes	Objectives B, C and D. Product C1d. Strategy C3. Product D3b.	Anything promoting a wolf "harvest." Nature should control the numbers. Lethal means for mitigating wolf conflicts should used as a last resort, or for imminent threat.	6	I am not in favor of a wolf hunt, especially trapping. If a hunt is approved, please at least BAN trapping. There is no humane way to trap. BMPs will not eliminate the torture. California has banned trapping of furbearing animals. WI should do the same. The use of dogs for wolf and bear hunting should also be banned. The draft is well-written and very thorough. I agree with all of it except promotion of legal "harvest," i.e. hunting and trapping.
	Most of it	Yes		Leave the wolves alone. Let nature take care of itself for once. Humans don’t need to have their hands in everything.		We really do need to let the wolf population thrive. When wolves thrive, so does the entire ecosystem. They okay a vital role in keeping the ecosystem healthy. We meddle in enough things with nature. Let’s not screw this one thing up. To meddle in this is to do ourselves a grave disservice in the long run.

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Glenn Shong	All of it	Yes		No listed target number for wolf population. Ie the old 350 number. Does not take into account the input of the counties, local government and those that are facing the wolf predation from the wolves. Input should be limited to Wisconsin residents and property owners from the affected areas.	1	The DNR needs to study what the western states are showing for wolf data and take a long hard look at how Wisconsin can reduce its wolf numbers. There is a place for wolves but the population needs to be better managed... Just because they are a wild animal an people love the look and vote to keep them place, it's about time the DNR stepped up and controlled the PROBLEM
Jason Kleist	Most of it	Yes	With the proposed changes to harvest the tags would become unit/zone specific similar to bear tags. The research on wolves is good to see in the plan.	I dislike the 50/50 split between random and points for drawing tags. My preference would be to go all random to dissuade people from buying points with no plans of hunting the wolf.	2	If the tribes are able to claim half of the wolf tags but dont use them how is it expected to reach population goals?
ALLEN OLEARY	All of it	Yes	the effort was well done	tribal sub zones; lack of numeric population estimate methodology	5	too much input from anti hunters/preservationists
Sue Kinde	All of it	Yes	I prefer no arbitrary wolf population goal, but goals flexible and scientifically based. The zones seem carefully designed, with the low quotas around Tribal Lands helpful. I like the emphasis on the ecological benefits of wolves, especially as new knowledge is developed. I also thought your support for education of the public is very helpful. I thought the plan had detailed history and analysis, and was very thorough and well-written.	It wasn't clear who would be on the Committee, but I would like a strong presence of scientists. I am concerned about trapping, and also about dogs disturbing the wolf breeding season. Perhaps dog training could end as each zone is closed, and also hunting itself could be limited to one zone and end for that individual as the zone is closed. I would like additional encouragement of non-lethal agricultural practices. I knew about dogs and fences, but fladry is new to me!	10	I was impressed with the detailed history and recommendations.
	Most of it	Yes	The data tables are graphs are well done and show a clear picture of our current status in regards to wolves. Information on almost every aspect of managing wolves was clear to see,	The draft plan is enormous. There is a lot of information, but hard to find specifics because of its sheer volume. I had a hard time finding information on how wolves are affected deer herds per county.	7	
angie cope	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Incredible amount of research went into creating this report.	I would like to see a cooperative effort between Wisconsin and neighboring states. Surely wolves travel between Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.	8	I didn't get to vote on how I feel about wolves - but I would like to see them treated fairly and well in our state. Farmers and ranchers that suffer losses can be encouraged to have livestock guardian dogs (LGD) to protect their herds. Thanks for you hard work on this and continuted protection of the wolf.
	All of it	Yes	I like that you consulted with the Ojibwa and the HSUS.	That you consulted with the bear hunters and trappers. Two hunting groups that should never be.	1	First of all I do not believe in the hunting of wolves. There are many other ways you can manage the wolf. I know from being a lifelong member of Defenders of Wildlife that ranchers are compensated for all proven wolf attacks that result in loss of cattle, sheep. There are dogs that are bred for guarding livestock and fencing. Many options for protection against predators. If a wolf hunt does take place please remember the order of the wolf pack. No alphas should ever be shot, they should all be collared. I just pray this does not happen.
	Most of it	Yes	I was surprised to learn of the significant impact wolves have on the northern elk herd. The wolf hunting exclusion zone around native peoples seems workable.	I was surprised that there was not more information on how wolves impact the white tail deer herd. As written it seems that little thought has been given to the sustainability of the northern elk herd? It seems that we are trying to grow the northern elk herd so the wolves have a varied diet. The draft plan talks about challenges to the white herd quantity and health but does not include any information about the decline of whitetail harvest rates generally for over 20 years and the impact declining deer hunting has on the northern economy.	3	The wolf population and regions impacted can't be managed without consideration of the larger considerations once the wolf is no longer endangered.
Pat Witter	All of it	Yes	Use of scientific data	Use of lethal means to control the wolf, in particular trapping	7	I would like to see more regard given to our Native Americans viewpoints. DNR should always keep in mind that the greatest majority of Wisconsinites are NOT hunters and trappers, but they seem to receive the least amount of consideration when the DNR sets regulations and rules. What we do to another we do to ourselves.
Bruce Herwig	All of it	Yes	I dont understand the reason why we even would think about bringing the wolf back.	I think it needs to be a ongoing season to get them off this planet. They are killers and when you have to deal with people loosing their dog from the wolves we should have never gotten to this population level but until some kid gets hurt we protect the wolf??	1	Get a firm plan on a yearly basses to get the population under control because everyone that has taken it in their own hands, no animal should die that way !!! You have one pissed off public in all counties and loosing your support.
	All of it	Yes	Not much.	No numeric population goal. The writers were obviously influenced by partisan politics. Once again the masses of people living in urban surroundings with very little or no contact with the northern forest areas are dictating our policy.	1	This opportunity to provide comments is a disgrace to our state and the people living here. I have no faith in our government and our system. This response mechanism is tailored to provide the answers desired by the system. A complete embarrassment.
Michael Kiekhafer	All of it	Yes	I would like to start by saying I was impressed with the detailed information provided. I think the proposed management elements are solid and well thought out.	My biggest concern is the lack of target population numbers. Without the ability to control the population by hunting at this time, there is no control of the population ceiling for these animals. In my opinion, this will ultimately stress the forest ecology (primarily the food sources present) where these animals exist.	5	A concern of mine has always been input from those not directly dealing with wolf encounters or having them present in the locations they live. It is easy to ask people if they would like to see numbers expand when those people only have exposure to wolves via the media.
Mark Krueger	All of it	Yes	none	moving forward carelessly without any accountability to a specific numeric goal, giving your team full reign on how large the wolf population gets in years and decades to come. bad careless plan. really no plan at all!!!	1	lost our deer hunting spot in western forest county east of Howell lake due to wolves. two years in a row absolutely NO deer tracks two days before gun opener. Friend of mine on western forest oneida county line near backtracker will not snowshoe any more due to all the wolf tracks around our cabin on 7-Mile lake. we have too many wolves in WI right now

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						and need a plan like Wydeven brags about in the beginning of the "transplant". 300 wolves max.
Eli Schulz	All of it	Yes	Clearly you have done no real world boots on the ground research at all. Most of this is lies and propaganda. But i'm not surprised as you are woefully inept at managing anything at all let alone an apex predator like a wolf.	Is a bunch of bureaucratic[redacted] I wouldn't expect anything less from a bunch of non elected socialist democrats. I can't believe it took you 178 pages to explain yourself. Everything from your data on the elk herd to wolf population estimates and depredation is completely inaccurate. Even the survey you used for people on where they would like to see the wolves range is a lie. Apparently you only surveyed leftist democrats from Madison.	0	I have hunted the Northern forests of this state for 35 years about 4 months of my year was spent in the National Forest. The whitetail deer population in the Chequamegon National Forest is almost non existent. It began a precipitous decline in 2005 and has gotten worse every single year to the point where there is now only 0-4 deer per mile square which makes it basically un-huntable. There have always been hard winters, there has always been hunting (all be it severely mismanaged with way to many antlerless deer harvested), the only variable that would contribute to this catastrophic extinction of the deer in the national forest is the explosion of the wolf population. There are WAY more wolves in this state than you think there are. I would have thought that would be evident the last time there was a hunt, when the quota was met in 24 hrs. The only way that could happen is if the wolf population was 3 to 4 times what you thought it was. This is also evident in the complete and total failure of the elk reintroduction program. By 2010 there was supposed to be over 3000 elk in the national forest. In 2023 there is less than 300, and left alone, they will be wiped out by the wolves as well. The only places were the hunting is still decent is on tracts of private property beyond the reach of the WI DNR and NRB where landowners can manage the land and wildlife themselves. The DNR has failed and betrayed the sportsman of this state for far too long. Weather it is fisheries management or big game management you have failed on all counts. We the people will manage the wolf population ourselves. We do not need your permission.
	Most of it	Yes	Hard to find something I like in such a one sided plan.	The plan is totally biased. Wolves are shown to populate the northern area of the state. However the central sands area, which is not prime habitat, holds a large number of wolves. As a grandparent I am concerned to allow my young grandchildren to wonder in the area I know holds a alpha predator.	1	The wolf population continues to grow past population goals set by the state. Conflicts are down played. IE loss of property or the fact they are having a negative impact on the elk reintroduction program. In conversation with many land owners, they DO NOT want wolves on the land scape in central Wisconsin. If wolves are leaving the prime habitat indicated in your report and moving to marginal habitat that must indicate a population that has reached the carrying capacity of the land. In such a situation the excess population needs to be harvested. It is very clear from what is stated in the report that this is not going to happen.
Craig Railton	All of it	Yes	Having an extension for public comment. Having a wolf plan - but reasonable and sensible!	Inclusion/Exclusion - exclusion of comments from county/local govts. Balanced committee to include impacted stakeholders Population estimates - c'mon man - be true to the numbers and learn from states that doing it right Conflict management is weak for non-agricultural domestic animals and us Zone restructure will cause landowners in buffer zones will largely go unprotected and inadequate protection of livestock and pets Population goals established in 1999 (24 years ago) what is this, how can you even begin to think this is appropriate. Right along with this is, being realistic with deer herd populations in northern Wi. (other areas also) and the depredation #s. Listen to and include representation of groups affected - landowners, hunters, and residents of areas - not "wolf expansionist groups" located in Milwaukee and Madison Do not take my public property rights away with zoning around reservations. Zones should be set smaller (ex..by county) as our deer her hunting is zoned/monitored More robust and up to date monitoring of wolves (herd/individuals/public reporting, etc....) Why are we not looking and working with Western States to learn and come up with better models Goals / Objectives - should be realistic / appropriate and not filled with narratives, but with science/data/stakeholders in areas impacted,	1	The DNR lack of or appearance of - non inclusion of input with: city/county govts, stakeholders/landowners in units impacted, limiting public comment times, holding public hearings, utilizing real data and leveraging other states with robust plans ----- shows an incredible inadequacy of our representatives or an obvious kowtowing to other groups, which is "serving the people"
	All of it	Yes	whole thing is pretty over whelming		8	they should be managed , problem wolves should be taken out
Gary K	All of it	Yes	I applaud the effort to create a plan, but it is very vague and contains no measurement tools.	I've read the WWF's 32 point suggestions for change and I agree with them all. Buffer zones around reservations ?? No way.	2	You can't manage what you can't measure and you aren't measuring the wolf population. Put some hard numbers in your plan and then resubmit for public comment.
Kim Wasilewski	Most of it	Yes		Halt the wolf hunt and let their numbers rebound. Last year's hunt was a mistake and to many were harvested.		Please seriously consider letting the wolf population grow. Last year far to many were harvested. Their population has plummeted, they are being pushed out of their breeding areas and they're the natural selectors of managing the deer population. Let their numbers grow and HALT the hunt.
John Robson	All of it	Yes	I like the thought of regulating the population.	I don't support any future planting of wolf stock.	1	The wolves are ruining the woods for the true sportsman. They need to be regulated to a couple hundred in the entire state of Wisconsin.
	All of it	Yes	None of them	Need quota on how many our state can handle	1	Need to reduce the over all number of wolfs. They are killing everything they can. Way to many. 350 was the goal and the DNR don't know how many are running around. Listen to the people up north they know.
	Most of it	Yes	none	eliminate wolfs south of hwy 70	1	no wolves south of hwy 70 , to many dog hunters

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EmilyMae	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The cultural role and impact, population and pack distribution.	It's a large article and I imagine general public isn't gathering the content.	7	I didn't find any plan for wolf ecology and education, a lot if misconception in certain populations. I think the key is getting this information out in a format that sheds light on this subject.
Tim Mitchell	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	keeping human/wolf and animal /wolf conflicts down	should be a maximum carrying capacity for wolves ! The 350 that was originally provided by SCIENCE !	7	Native Americans should have no say except on reservations !
	All of it	Yes	the level of research, removal of numeric quotas, removal of hunting around reservations	dnr should better handle hound training to reduce conflicts with wolves	8	thanks for high level of research and public input and for caring about wolves
	Most of it	Yes	I like the management zones.	Nothing really.	10	
	Most of it	Yes	Input from Native American tribes is extremely important.	The use of dogs in hunting of wolves is barbaric and psychopathic... Example: Wolf hunters, John Wayne Gacy, Jeffrey Dahmer, and Ted Bundy are psychopaths.	2	1) The problem is not the wolf population... The problem is encroachment on wildlife by never ending development... the problem is too many people, not too may wolves. 2) Sterilize the wolf population... physical or chemical sterilization. 3) There's plenty of money available to sterilize wolves. 4) If the US Congress can flush $3 trillion taxpayer dollars down the toilet every year on war then they can spend at least $25 million every year to sterilize wolves in Wisconsin.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I suggest a 30 day hunt of all genders of wolves here in WI.
	All of it	Yes	The plan is adaptive rather than managing to a number. An adaptive approach is the best way to manage ANY wildlife.	It is a little beyond the scope of the plan because it is legislative in nature, but hunting wolves with dogs should be eliminated (consistent with WCC feedback) and Act 169 should be repealed because it is not a good management tool.	9	The plan is extremely well thought out, science based (long overdue), and I very much appreciate the DNR considering not have a poplulation target. I would like to see no hunting in territory immediately adjacent to Native American land. I would like to see hunting wolves with dogs banned, consistent with feedback provided by residents to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and Act 169 repealed - mandatory hunting is no way to manage ANY wildlife species.
Susan Smith	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Creating different zones of managment	Allowing hunting	7	
				where is the goal there is no numbers set ;every thing the dnr does is based on numbers; why are we counting prints in the snow when you could fly drones with camera over land and get a good count	1	
Nicholas Sprague	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				I would like to see the wolf population increase in WI.
Flynn	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	None. Wolves are killers and take out livestock and peoples dogs	All of it. Wolves are dangerous	0	Wolves should not be repopulated in Wisconsin. They kill deer people dogs and livestock. The are dangerous
	All of it	Yes	There are a variety of both lethal and non-lethal abatement options available to help address wolf/livestock conflict. The primary non-lethal abatement methods implemented at conflict sites, particularly livestock depredation sites, include visual and auditory harassment tools, predator-proof and electric fencing, and alteration of animal husbandry practice.	Another critical step in the harvest season development process is to determine the number of wolf harvesting licenses to make available to achieve the state harvest quota.	4	Let their population grow, we don't need wolf hunts for at least another 10 years.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Trying to be accurate on the count and including elk predation	The length, make something people can read that doesn't take an afternoon, but include sources for your numbers, who counted what, where and when.	2	Keep a hunting season and issue extra tags near the elk population.

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	All of it	Yes	Continuing to allow a wolf hunting season and expand it.	Restrictions on hunting wolves in the state. There are WAY too many wolves. Remember, at the end of the day, they are just a vicious dog.	3	We do NOT need wolves in the State of Wisconsin. They were introduced by environmentalist interest groups in retaliation against deer hunters.
	All of it	Yes	Sustainment of the wolf pack Addressing and reduce human-wolf conflict Address public misunderstanding of wolves	Human - Wolf conflict address, my fear is that it will always play out with the wolves losing their lives over somebodies hole in the fence.	3	Wisconsin has a history of allowing killing of any animal group that has an increase to 3. As long as the Herons, egrets, wolves, etc have shown their population can become 3 or more it's open season on them. Why bring back a population of any animal to the state if killing them is the objective??
	Most of it	Yes			10	Why have the wolves around they kill our animals that we hunt for food and they are very dangerous to humans need to get rid of all of the wolves just like they did in the sixties and not let them back in the United States
	Most of it	Yes	its very inclusive	not enough consideration of direct affects wolves have on property owners in wolf core areas	6	deer populations need to be considered more as they are as important to the wolf population as they are to the deer hunting public
Melissa Smith	All of it	Yes	Numerical Goal: The previous plans referred to a 350 wolf recovery goal set when the population was much lower. The number proved contentious over the years, even though the original plan authors said it was never meant as a cap. The 2022 draft plan does away with that debate entirely. It's also reflective of a new direction for wolf management in the state Social Survey: Overall, most Wisconsinites somewhat or strongly agreed that predators like wolves keep nature in balance (77%), wolves are culturally important (71%), and wolves are special animals that deserve our admiration (75%). Similarly, a majority of Wisconsinites agreed that people and wolves should be able to coexist (75%) and that it is important to maintain a wolf population in Wisconsin (80%). Ecological Benefits: More than ever before, the DNR has taken consideration into the ecological benefits of wolves, including CWD, landscape of fear, etc. This should be priority one over all other goals increased acknowledgement of tribal values and goals: Wisconsin Tribal Perspectives and Cultural Significance As part of the development of this plan, the department formally requested that the federally recognized tribes in Wisconsin contribute a written narrative on the cultural significance of wolves to be included in the plan. Acknowledging that it is not possible to speak with one voice for all tribes in Wisconsin, the invitation was extended to all. The request was sent to the Tribal Natural Resource/Conservation Directors and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers of each of the eleven federally recognized tribes of Wisconsin. It was also sent to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. While I stand firm against recreational hunting of wolves, I think the zone system and shortening of reporting is a step in the right direction. I support buffer zones. WE cannot allow what happened in 2021 to EVER occur again. While I also oppose lethal removal of wolves for depredation I am glad to see extensive talk about nonlethal abatement and increased scientific proof	I would first like to state that when the DNR stacked the committee with pro-wolf-hunting groups they continued an anti-democratic and failed policy of the Walker administration by dismissing the values of the true majority of the public that do not support killing wolves even in cases of livestock loss (Manfredo et al. 2020) and completely ignored the will of youths and future generations of Wisconsin residents. Therefore, any claim about a majority view or balanced committee in this report is inaccurate on its face. Using recreational hunting as a conflict resolution tool. Absolutely not. There is also plenty of scientific evidence documenting the harms that may come from wolf hunting. Wolves self-regulate their populations, without any need for human intervention. Given their internal regulation, an "overpopulation" of wolves is scientifically unheard of, and clearly a value judgment by humans who would rather have fewer wolves on the landscape. Wolves know what they need and live sustainably; it is a fallacy that their numbers need to be "maintained." The majority of Wisconsin citizens do not support wolf hunting. It is cruel especially with the use of dogs. Until that law is changed, a hunt being mandated is against the public trust, the DNR has the responsibility to set the wolf hunting quota at zero. As our lawsuit stated, Zero is a number Nor is there any evidence that wolf hunting decreases wolf-human conflicts. On the contrary, wolf hunting will likely create problems that did not exist in the first place. Wolf killing disrupts the social stability that allows for their cooperation and self-regulation. Hunting causes the break-up of wolf family groups necessary for taking down large wild prey, which in turns leads to some wolves shifting from wild to easier domestic prey. Hence, wolf hunting would increase harms to wolves, domestic animals and their guardians. Wolf conflict is highly exaggerated. The 2022 survey results showed that support (46%) for a regulated hunting and trapping of wolves is higher than opposition (29%); one-quarter of Wisconsinites were undecided. Support was higher among wolf-range residents (57%) than it was for residents outside wolf-range (43%). While modifications to question design between 2014 and 2022 limited statistical comparisons, informal comparisons suggest that statewide support for a wolf hunting and trapping season has declined over the last eight years. As was found in the 2014 survey, the top reason for opposition in 2022 was concern that wolves would become endangered again. The least selected reason for opposing a regulated wolf hunting and trapping season Occupancy model: The new model relies on estimated territory size and how likely wolves are to inhabit a certain area. This estimate is of the the entire population with much larger confidence intervals. The agency believe this estimates the entire population. Built in the framework of full protection and A lot of uncertainty without being conservative and not good for setting hunting quotas. Test this model while using the old Adams model for 5 years. The 14% decline you saw glosses over a wide confidence interval, There are weakness in territory size and observations per pack. It also doesn't account for a lot of wolf mortality or poaching Other concerns are that there is no oversight committee, The makeup of that very committee will have huge impacts on this plan In the plan you state that you will monitor expectations and outcomes. We have a hard time supporting that not knowing who this body is going forward? When will these assessments take place? We would like the committee formed before approval of the plan. There should be ZERO hound training. These people had no problem slaughtering wolves wtihout one. This is set up to cause major violations and interference to other hunters. There should be no reimbursement of hound hunters at any time for any reason	7	I think the DNR did a great job on the plan overall. I really appreciated the social survey being completed. I would like to see the wolf plan include those who want to move wildlife management towards an ethical, science-based, democratic vision of wildlife conservation that respects diversity and the intrinsic value of all life. I would also like to see outside scientists included in development, including Dr Adrian Treves etc. I believe in the need for wildlife stewardship to be reflective of democratic values and public interest, best available science and the U.S. public trust. We advocate for the change of processes within current wildlife stewardship, game agencies and the biases within these systems, including this wolf plan
Daniel E. Schmidt	All of it	Yes	None	Eliminating the population segment of the management plan. This was CRITICAL to our plan from the very start, and it has been modified several times and now trying to be eliminated. We were lied to. Management was never going to be an option. Original plan was for 250 wolves before management tool kicked in. That was revised several times after that.	0	Quote Aldo Leopold all you want, he is rolling in his grave over your handling of this natural resource. Wisconsin residents deserve better. Our wolves deserve better.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	All the data from the studies.	The data seems skewed.	1	In core areas where the wolf exists they seem to really have a lot of impact on that area.
Liz Meyer	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes		I do not need to read 178 pages to express my opinion. I firmly disagree with any type of wolf hunting/trapping/killing. We are so quick to turn to killing because it is easy and less expensive. I know there are remote places in the United States where whole packs can be relocated. This is just another example why our world is turning against us. Earth will be a lot better off after the next mass extinction event, which will be the first man made one. So sad.	0	
Greg Fabel	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Failing to acknowledge the lack of economic and social benefits of wolves versus other other animal species (i.e.deer).	3	I see very little social benefit from the presence of wolves in Wisconsin. The vast majority of residents have never seen nor had any sort of interaction wolves. As an avid outdoors person for my entire life, I have never seen or encountered a wolf. So I see no value in their presence on the landscape. On the other hand, the vast majority of residents have seen and/or interacted with deer and other prey species of wolves. If the presence of wolves results in a decreased population of these other species, it results in negative social and economic impacts. Therefore I believe the wolf population should be managed to the lowest possible number.
Logan Szopinski	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The objective for science based wolf management. specifically strategy F1 that gives everyone a seat at the table.	I dislike how in the past that plans and objectives have been touted as "science based" and couldn't be further from it. Population objectives have been reached long ago and I am all for the science based approach to creating a plan if it is truly science based.	5	
	Most of it	Yes	not much	Not having a wolf number to manage to. this basically allows the wolf population to be controlled by the amount of deer, etc. that is available to eat.	1	The plan does not take a centered approach to management. It leans towards the environmental and native american groups. there is no consideration to the sportsman in the state that want a huntable population of deer in the northern forest area of wisconsin
THOMAS S BERENZ	All of it	Yes	Nothing, I found it to lack any representation for the hunters or the people who live in the wolf zones.	There needs to be a numeric population goal! The DNR must define what that goal is, and present a plan to reach that number.	1	Obviously, the Governor and his appointees waited until after the election was over to submit this plan to the public in order to prevent any backlash from the voters. Stop making this a political issue and start relying on the science!
Rachel Zentner	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The acknowledgement of tribal connections and understanding of the wolf and its history	The idea of "managing" a predator. The entire system is set up to manage itself. This plan is unnecessary.	1	Your science is flawed and skewed towards land and species management which again is unnecessary, and the funds could be used for protection of a natural system to "manage" itself. Consider allowing the world to exist without your "help".
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	I love wolves and why can you not just leave them alone!
Scot J Balsavich	Most of it	Yes	The history is beneficial	I own acreage in a wolf area. I have had to stop any idea of using a bird dog for grouse hunting and had to build a 6-foot fence to protect my pets from harm. I am not afraid of wolves, but am afraid if my wife walks the dogs, she may put herself or the dogs in harm's way. If hunting is ever allowed again for wolves, the goal should be reduced to 200 wolves in the state. The wolves are not needed to control deer or any other critter. We have not been overrun by mice or beaver or deer in the past, so leaving the wolf number low is better for the overall balance. Yes, having wolves does create jobs for the WDNR staff, but we can find other useful work for that staff.	1	Reduction in population is in my opinion the best overall approach for the future. Too many wolves will lead to more conflict, will lead to further division in beliefs, and lead ultimately to reduced WDNR revenues.
Daniel Schultz	Most of it	Yes	I like the zones as they are established right now.	I think the tribes should have much more legal say in the hunting & "culling" of resident wolf packs.	4	"Product C2c: Issue wolf harvesting licenses which are only valid in the specific zone(s) specified on the license." This needs to be done immediately. Also, Wisconsin's 2021 Wolf Harvest Season was an embarrassing example of the "sportsman" hunting industry to take advantage of a legal hiccup to slaughter lots of wolves. It made a mockery of your hard won policies toward efficient, sane management. Yes, I AM a hunter!
	Most of it	Yes	I like how the individual wolves and wolves on the reservations are not being counted so we can publish lower population numbers. Very clever.	No population target goal. How do you achieve a goal if you don't have a target? Safety zones around the reservations. I could not find the zones listed in the treaty.	4	Once a population goal is set. Why does it matter what tools you use to achieve it? The use of dogs is the most efficient way.
Doug Frankenstein	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Hunting with dogs should be eliminated. That would make it easier to control quota numbers and provide more opportunities for trapping and calling. The number of permits could be increased allowing more people to participate.

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Scott	All of it	Yes	I like that MAYBE you will finally have a plan that has some merit to it. This doesn't look like the plan though, what you have here is more political based than anything based in science or to the wishes of the residents of Wisconsin. Which, was expected.	First of all your "plan" is counterproductive to your very own mission statement. In every way, I could take it line by line but you've quit listening anyway. I am not advocating for the elimination of wolves, but their numbers (like all animals) need to be controlled. Under your plan their numbers will continue to grow with little oversight. It's fine that there are wolves, but their numbers need to be kept very low. You do that through active trapping and hunting seasons. If honest you would admit your own estimates of their numbers are kept low. Truth is if it wasn't for the unofficial hunting season their numbers would have exploded beyond what they are now.	2	Other than your own pet employees have you ever considered the opinions of other wolf experts? Start with Valerius Geist and go from there.
David D Worzalla	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Thare just needs to be some kind of control on them.thay ant any better than cooties.	Anything is better than nothing		
Jim Seifert	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Elk/wolf mortality study and statistics. Wolves certainly play an important role in the rate of growth of the Clam Lake herd.	Wolf favorability study...academic sausage making. Survey the people in and around Mellen WI...the study/results would most certainly skew heavily toward unfavorable.	2	2023 buck board contest at Drop Tine Bar and Grill, Mellen WI: 162 entries, 19 bucks registered - 11% success rate. The wolf (and bear) population has decimated the deer population in Ashland and Iron Counties.
Cory Dellenbach	Most of it	Yes	I like it all. It leaves the decision in the hands of the DNR and the advisory committees, the experts in the fields and not anyone else, just the way it should be. Very well thought out plan. Great work by the DNR and especially the wolf experts there.	NA	10	The DNR is doing a great job managing the wolf populations and keeping the state citizens informed of what is going on.
Don Simon	Most of it	Yes		lack of a numeric management goal	4	I feel that a goal of around 350 wolves would allow a healthy population while minimizing the spread of wolves to less favorable habitat and reduce predation on livestock.
Susan e Thaller	All of it	Yes	-recognizing wolves as an essential part of our ecosystem -allowing special focus on Native American input and explanation of sacred role wolves play in several cultures -recognizing ways farmers/ranchers can decrease wolf interactions with livestock -not naming one kill quota for wolf hunts	-Focus on hunting, especially with use of dogs and traps -Almost no focus on responsibility farmers and ranchers have in initiating interventions to prevent wolf/livestock incidents	6	
Don	All of it	Yes	Nothing	Its a very typical bloated bureaucratic mess. I don't care for the surveys about what people who don't know jack care or feel about wolves. I want wolves in Wisconsin period. Your last hunt was a cluster XXXX of epic proportion where everyone knew it would blow through the limit because it wasn't set up correctly. I see nothing in this to correct any of that. Just let the wolves be. Nature takes care of itself.	1	It sucks and is WAY to long and very tedious to read through.
Mark Beeler	All of it	Yes	I like the fact that there is a plan for keeping the population in check and the managemnt units were divided up to have different objectives.	The plan was written up to try to keep everybody happy. there is no way all of the work mentioned in this plan can be accomplished. I can see there was a lot of work put into this plan. The big question everybody is waiting for is what is the total number of wolves the plan is going to maintain (science based is a cop out answer). If this was in the plan my answer to the next question would change a lot.	5	Wisconsin has a long history of deer camps, ranching/farming, hunting. I like the fact that we have wolves in Wisconsin. I feel that they fill a nitch that was missing for many years. With that said the populations have gotten way out of control (initally 350 was a good number). If you would just set a number of wolves that you are going to sustain, let the sparks fly between the special intrest groups and let the winners be winners. Currently there is a lot of upset people on both sides of the fence, unfortunatly, there are a lot of groups making this difficult that do not live in or spend time in "wolf country" that are weighing in on decisions. We have a very rich heritage in Wisconsin that dates way back. Lets keep it strong. As far as observing wildlife for tourism, Whitetails, elk and other small animals have been of major intrest in the northern and midstate forests for years, the plan thinking this will work for wolves don't have a clue how reclusive wolves are. To think we can view them like they do in Yellowstone is crazy. Lets keep this plan simple, it will have a much better sucess story. Thank you Mark Beeler

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TIM STAINBROOK	Most of it	Yes	I enjoy seeing SOME wolves when I am driving around. There is a need for some. SOME.	I think that there should be a goal, as a number of wolves that are wanted in each area. In the Central Forest area, you do not express the number of wolves that you want. I trap beaver through out the Central Forest area, and I can honestly say that you see many more wolf tracks than you see deer tracks. I did a 8 mile walk last spring, 2 miles north up a ditch, 2 miles west to the next ditch, back 2 miles south to the road, and 2 miles back to my truck. In that walk, I saw where 1 deer had walked. But the whole area, there was wolf tracks the entire way. I seems to me, that the DNR is managing the deer herd, or lack of it, for the wolves. If the DNR is truely interested in managing the deer herd for deer hunting, they need to come up with the number of wolves they want in the area, and reduce the number of wolves in the Central Forest area. I used to deer hunt in Central Wisconsin public forest, and I gave it up. When I started deer hunting, in the 1980's, you would see 20 or so deer each day. When I gave it up 10 years ago, you could sit and you would be lucky to see 2 or 3 deer a day. Now, it is even more depressing. You could sit all day and see a few birds. No deer. In the 80's, there would be cars and trucks parked up and down the roads. Now there are only a fraction of people hunting the area that there used to be. If the DNR wants more people to hunt, and buy licenses, they need to manage the deer herd better, and that means removing alot more of the wolves.	3	Some wolves in the Central Forest area are good. Nice to observe. BUT, there are way too many in Central Wisconsin forested areas. They are eating way too many of the other animals in the area. You need to set a goal, (Lower) as to the number of wolves, in the Central Forested area, and allow hunting and trapping of the excess to get the number of wovles back in control. It is also nice to see deer, turkeys, coyotes, etc., not just wovles.
	All of it	Yes	Acknowledging wolves need to be managed.	No population goal for each management unit.	3	Please develop population management goals for each unit. Legal harvest methods should be used to maintain a reasonable population at those goals. I believe without those goals there will be to much room for interpretation as well as social and political bias.
Brysn	All of it	Yes	You admit we need a hunt	Pretty much everything the zones are to big and the are no real numbers	0	It's amazing how you say that there are not that many wolves but we can hear from a warden how there are way more than the dnr will actually tell you about. It's just a political joke like every thing these days.
Ben Grohn	All of it	Yes	None	All of it	1	I don't know how you can have a management plan without a numeric value for the population goal. Is there not a numeric population goal for other wildlife in WI such as deer, turkey, bear, etc? Why would you not have one for wolves? Also the zones are way too big. Need to be smaller and more focused. This seems like little effort was actually put into this so called "plan."
Art Gruner	All of it	Yes	The population goal of 350	The lack of true population numbers and the fact that we give natives tags and they don't participate	1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Using a factor to determine a wolf population that is based on historical ecological landscaping Wisconsin is not appropriate…. with people living in rural areas, humans being involved in deer management and no other natural predators or competition makes this objective inappropriate. I think you should include a reasonable deer population in the northern half of Wisconsin as a consideration ….due to the reduction of value of hunting property, the lost hunting participation and outdoor experiences of many.	One of the elements should be how to keep the wolf population at a tolerable level based on deer population, hunter satisfaction and outdoor experiences of many. You are favoring the wolf population over many other species that they pray upon and many people by licenses support local communities and maintain valuable hunting properties. Wolves have no natural predators besides humans in Wisconsin anymore.	1	If you have any chance of increasing hunter numbers, outdoor revenues for the department and saving face…. I suggest you take a larger interest in maintaining deer populations in northern Wisconsin and not over emphasizing the importance of wolves in Wisconsin whose ecology is drastically different than it was 100 years ago.
	All of it	Yes			3	
Dan	Most of it	Yes	The implementation of a science-based wolf management plan.	I dislike the affirmation of using dogs to hunt wolves and other mammals as a rich Wisconsin tradition. It's cruel, and should be outlawed.	8	I would like to see the minimum threshold raised for what is considered a healthy wolf population. 250 seems low and meant to appease wolf hunters.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Most of it	Wolf management goal, and its implementation.	8	We need the wolf in Northern Wisconsin. There are to many deer. The wolf should be left alone. Only the problem ones should be harvested.
	All of it	Yes	There is nothing in the management plan I really truly like! This is not a fair plan to anybody but the people that don't want a season at all!	Not having a population goal is not a realistic goal! Mine as well not have a plan at all! Having such big buffer zones around reservations is ridiculous also! If they have buffer zones why can't other people hunt on the reservation?	1	This plan really needs to be looked at more fairly and not cater to the people that don't recreate in northern Wisconsin where there are many more problems! People that live in Southern counties and never seen the north woods or pay taxes in upper Wisconsin for that matter are basing things off of their beliefs and feelings not science at all!
Greg Graunke	All of it	Yes	NO! PART	No population goals are you kidding! You have one for everything else! Buffer zones, where did you come up with that one! Sounds like the tribes are running this and not the DNR, giving up management AGAIN? I was asked to fill out a survey along time ago and was told that 80 I repeat 80 was the population goal, what a outright lie that was! This whole thing sounds like a list of how the people that have no stake in the game get to run the show along with the tribes. The next question is 1 to 10 if there was a 0 or less that would be more on the mark!	0	How about letting the rest of us who have a direct stake in this have a say!!!!!!!!!! It is pretty obvious that this, I guess you can call it a plan, did not come out till after the election, just as predicted by just about everyone!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	The cap on wolves available to be hunted. Thank you. Relying on scientific data to determine cap. During wolf hunting season, the requirement to require harvest registration time to no later than 8 hours after killing the wolf. (C 2a) During hunting season, the license issued in only valid in zones (more than one?) specified on the license.(C 2c) After closing gun deer season, the hunting of wolves with dogs would occur only during daylight hours…not during the last season when they ran they dogs constantly, bringing in fresh teams.	Hunting wolves with dogs period!! Shame! Wolf Advisory Committee seems to have a lot of power. Do these member represent a diverse group? Non hunters? How long of a term do they serve? The hunting zones are confusing. Why would there be an encouraged hunt in more populated areas? Den and rendezvous site designation should be eliminated. How can there be ensured number of increased law enforcement to aid future wolf recovery? Why can wolves not be rehabilitated?	8	I like the emphasis on wolf public education and understanding. There should be more of an emphasis on a wolf's value as it relates to tourism and bequest. More should be done to eliminate the inbred hate of hunters toward wolves.
	Most of it	Yes	The cap on wolves available to be hunted. Thank you. Relying on scientific data to determine cap. During wolf hunting season, the requirement to require harvest registration time to no later than 8 hours after killing the wolf. (C 2a) During hunting season, the license issued in only valid in zones (more than one?) specified on the license.(C 2c) After closing gun deer season, the hunting of wolves with dogs would occur only during daylight hours…not during the last season when they ran they dogs constantly, bringing in fresh teams.	Hunting wolves with dogs period!! Shame! Wolf Advisory Committee seems to have a lot of power. Do these member represent a diverse group? Non hunters? How long of a term do they serve? The hunting zones are confusing. Why would there be an encouraged hunt in more populated areas? Den and rendezvous site designation should be eliminated. How can there be ensured number of increased law enforcement to aid future wolf recovery? Why can wolves not be rehabilitated?	8	I like the emphasis on wolf public education and understanding. There should be more of an emphasis on a wolf's value as it relates to tourism and bequest. More should be done to eliminate the inbred hate of hunters toward wolves.
Paul neste	Most of it	No	Using science to determine wolf plan	Using peoples"feelings" and sacred native American objections. To formulate a wolf plan.	4	I would say one only has to look at northern Minnesota or northern Ontario where the balance of predator prey relationship is so out of whack because of wolves. I thought the dnr job is to help balance that relationship. Your plan will have peaks and valleys no prey ,wolves will die on there own. Much like happens in Canada. We can manage both but not if we continue to keep people's "feelings" into account instead of science.
Matt Mackenzie	Most of it	Yes	The amount of science involved is very nice to see involved in part of the plan	We need to place a number for quota purposes. I don't like that there is no number like previous plans	2	Please respect northern Wisconsin residents in drafting a plan that affects us the most. Wolves have a place, but they have taken over in areas and now deer are scarce or nonexistent. A pack of wolves moved all deer out of our section of hunting land and we saw 1 deer over a 2 mile area. No other tracks. Hunting in northern Wisc is getting harder and harder to show any enthusiasm for doing and it's worse because I live here.
Logan Seipel	Most of it	Yes		Lack of numeric population goal. Without a population goal that is numeric, the goal is very subjective and often times a "moving goalpost" that will never allow goals to be achieved. Lack of defining where wolves are appropriate. Where wolves can exist based on biological carrying capacity should not be the sole factor of determining suitable habitat. Maintaining a wolf population that that promotes little to no conflict should be the goal. The draft plan does not utilize any data from other states that harvest wolves in guiding their quotas. The state also no plans of working towards delisting the wolf in Wisconsin. Finally, the desires of Wisconsin residents who live in areas populated by and in close proximity to wolves should have a much larger say in the DNR's wolf management plan.	1	Wolves should continue to be on the landscape in Wisconsin, however, effective population management is vey important. Numeric goals and adherence to the goals must be part of the plan. Special interest groups and non-residents should not have their voices heard above residents, specifically those who live with in close proximity to wolves and must deal with the effects of their rising population.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Very thorough history review, designated zones, issues, problems, populations etc. Designation of 6 statewide zones, noting differing habitat, wolf populations as well as wolf/human/cattle problems.	The movement away from a population number in exchange for the adaptive mgt style similarly used in the new deer mgt. where words like increase-decrease or maintain the current population are used. It appears that many folks feel that a number such as 350 wolves is too low for a sustainable statewide population goal and healthy wolf population. With the use of a goal such as X it can be used in light of noting increases-decreases in numbers due to many reasons such as trapping, vehicle as well as natural mortality and lends itself to being useful to defend a population level. X - (minus) then can also be used to set a population goal for the future based on mortality - natural and man made, taking into consideration cattle and human interaction and depradation and mortality to make a more defendable and acceptable population goal. These numbers are also more useful to explain that a harvest of wolves at a certain permitted level has not and will not be of great concern or in some cases any concern in diminishing the zone specific or statewide population as some have commented. Wolves need to be managed as any other wildlife species does by DNR wildlife managers using the best available data, techniques taking into account a controlled wolf population sustainable, defendable and managable in light of todays opinions, reality based numbers, wolf depredation, realistic goals and wolf - human interactions and coexistence.	8	Wolf management should be done at the statewide level using DNR management not legislative mandates or emotional driven mgt. Due to the continuing wolf depredation of livestock, dogs, wolf/human interactions wolves need to be managed and in some areas reduced to allow for a sustainable, defendable and realistic wolf population number for the future.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	Nothing at this point	Do not believe population model is accurate. Does not have a goal of 350 wolves. Plan has no numeric population goal. Thus, there is no timeline to get to goal. Plan does not seem to address any population control Do not like buffer zones near tribal lands. Plan does not identify what suitable habitat is. Plan does not identify where suitable habitat is. Plan does not address the fact that wolves are not appropriate everywhere.	1	Wolf range needs to be reduced so that human - wolf interaction is low. This would necessitate a reduction in population. Need to go back to the drawing board.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Don't like any of it.	Not setting a number goal.	1	If we do not continue the harvest of Gray Wolves in WI the entire Northern WI hunting population will continue to diminish. No trophy bucks anymore thanks to the wolfs! It does not even pay for me to take my grandkids to Ashland County deer hunting because of the low deer population. Set the harvest goal back to 350 and we may get deer back on the Northern WI landscape. At this pace deer hunter numbers will go down 3% this year and 5% next year. Then who will pay your bills!
Todd Schultz	All of it	Yes	The fact that there is finally a base plan is encouraging.	There has to be a population goal. Every other species is managed with a population goal. The Native Americans have no intention of harvesting any wolf's so why give them harvest tags.	1	Talk to the people that are most affected by wolves, not liberal beaurocrats from Dane, Waukesha and Milwaukee counties.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	that they finally came out with a plan	moving away from the single numeric population goal	1	if the dnr would of held to the original 350 wolves almost no one would have a problem with the wolf being here. As a dairy farmer in southeast WI we have lost calves to the coyotes and the wolves would be much more of a problem if they make it here.
Robert Knoll	Most of it	Yes	Data is easy to read and understand.	Appendix X. Delete the Ven Diagram and make public input the whole circle and switch the state and federal government take up the little quarter size piece of the puzzle. You all work for us and this management plan is for all Wisconsinites. Public input should be the main factor in this plan.	1	1.) Gray wolves are considerably larger than the Eastern Timberwolf, and as such they should be managed considerably more aggressively. 2.) I want a set population goal. 3.) Rural respondents input to surveys should hold a greater weight in the wolf management plan as they are more likely to encounter wolves. 4.) I am an avid outdoorsman and would much rather spend my time in the woods not worrying about a wolf stalking me. I can’t say I want wolves totally eradicated, but I think their population has exceeded initial goals and has no reason to expand. With the rapid harvest back in 2021 it’s clear there are a lot more wolves than what was originally thought.
Andy	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Delineating surveys between those in wolf areas and outside.	I had a hard time reading through everything. I wasn't sure if I was reading the management plan or everything ever written about wolves in Wisconsin.	4	I didn't read anything about why wolves live in certain places or if their distribution and management is planned in terms of habitat. I have observed a definite concentration of wolves certain areas that make the population seem higher than estimates.
	Most of it	Yes	Use of science based decision making.	The non number based goals. Without that it will be too easy to change how data is interpreted.	6	I have been a part time resident of Canada for 23 yrs and witnessed the devastating results of improper wolf management on other wildlife.(moose deer beaver) They are only starting to recover after changing wolf management back. Put the wolves back in urban areas and see how they like their dogs and cats disappearing. The wolves are showing up in small towns every winter. Without hunting the wolves lose most fear of humans. We have cabin in Price Co and a home in Wausau. We have wolves come close to our cabin in an open field in the middle of the afternoon. The wolves also killed a 3.5 yr old 8pt buck last yr on the field. So much for killing the sick and week.
kurt Alt	Most of it	Yes	The plan promises to be science based and decisions to be made collaboratively to maximize the wolf as a valuable resource	requires me to trust the Requires me to trust the DNR and NRB to be non political and treat the wolf with respect and maximize their numbers The plan does not provide specifics on herd numbers or hunter techniques (eg: I oppose hunting wolves with dogs). What you're offering is a is construct, an outline, a framework. The detail is yet to me determined and so the fate of the wolf	6	Maximize the states wolf carrying capacity. No baiting allowed. No hunting with dogs. No trapping. Local and regional quotas Tribal input om hunting quotas. Same day registration of a kill. Zone hunting on separate days
Daniel Bolan	Most of it	Yes	legally being able to harvest some wolves	There are way too many wolves . I would of assumed you would have realized that after how rapidly the quote was reached	1	I know some farmers in Marathon county that said they will shoot them on sight . When they kill a child it will be on you
	Most of it	Yes	Facts about wolves.	Lack of numerical population goal. Suggesting non lethal methods of control will increase tolerance.	1	Draft fails to detail a sound management plan to reduce numbers to tolerable levels of 350 wolves.
Randy O’Connell	Most of it	Yes	Removal of numeric population goal. The plan focuses more on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan represents more of what the public opinion on wolves is. The plan is more in line with Tribal requests. Lastly, a greater commitment to scientific findings.	Better regulation of hound training is sorely needed. Actually , I would like to see the use of hounds for hunting both wolves and bears ended. The plan appears to lack continual oversight so that adjustments for unintended results can be addressed , such as wolf livestock conflicts.	9	You should be commended for taking into account the February hunt results and what a startling impact it had on our apex predator population. Thank you.
Richard schlee	All of it	Yes	That your looking at finding a balance between the needs of the wolves and that of peoples use of the land.	Not really sure harvest of wolves is best. What else can be done first? Educate say that people should not let their pets run loose or be outside unattended persay. With the age of wireless cameras for ranchers and farmers keep a better eye on livestock?	5	I would like to see alternatives to harvesting of wolves. Wildlife is one of the reasons tourists come up to areas up north not just fishing and hunting

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			0	
Abby Frucht	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that it is science based and that it is invested in protecting wildlife. I like that it removes an arbitrary wolf population number. I like too that it remains cognizant of people's fears and needs.	I don't really dislike any of it.	8	
Jacob Zimmerman	Most of it	Yes	I thought much of the explanation of wolf population dynamics, the food sources/debits on the landscaoe they create quantified, and examination of what a responsible harvest % is was intresting, and learned a lot by reading it. Section 1 was my favorite.	The lack of either a population goal or range/density goal or a concrete explanation of harvest objectives. I am fine with not having a population goal if we say that every year a hunt is allowed, enough permits are issued so that the projected successful harvest rate will be equal to or less than 30% between recreational and deperedation harvest. I.e success rate of issues tags is 50%, we have 1000 wolves, the number of depredation permits issued in the previous 365 days prior to drawing was 50, you then issue 500 tags. Resulting in 250 wolves harvested, within the 30% non population effecting range they can sustain. This would ensure wolves remain at their current population level. A numerical population goal would be nice and appreciated by some people, but i feel that itself is too vague as the carrying capacity of given landscapes is different, if we say we want 2000 wolves in WI, theres no saying what that looks like and allows unlimited range increasing human conflict likelyhood. A better solution may be density per range quota similiar to how the zones are managed and set up. We lay out a goal of 2.5 wolves per mile (ex only) in a given zone or 1 in another or 10 in another and manage accordingly following the above harvest procedure. When wolves are protected by the esa and allowed to go over a given density goal, either depredation on private livestock or excessive depredation of public trust wildlife must be liberally enforced to ensure ecosystems remain in a combination of biologic and social harmony. I felt the quota setting section was vague and non descript of how a number is actually reached. A systematic process laying out how either harvest quotas or population goals are decided upon is essential. Whatever it is so that in 10 years we can say either a particular administration is following it or not. Taking a hands off approach and saying things are out of an agencys hands because of other factors is not ok, a management goal must remain the goal regardless of outside political factors.	4	
Bruce Prentice	All of it	Yes	I like moving away from a single numeric goal and moving toward an adaptive process that is more zone/problem area/Tribal boundary specific. I have to imagine however that at times, numbers would have to be considered, considering the circumstances. Continuing research, reaching out to/with the public with the results. More educational opportunities at numerous forums.	Information, cooperation and collaboration will be a key factor. Stakeholder groups may not be able to get everything that they want but should be able to meet in the middle.	8	The plan, as in any plan, has to be able to adapt, sometimes in real time.
thomas martin	All of it	Yes	a very poor written document	what population is Wi desire - no # is a joke. I dislike the increased protection area near indian reserations	8	I live in Bayfield County and we have too many wolves. Wolves need to be controlled and the DNR has no set limits. People who live where the wolves are do not like them.
Daniel K.	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				There should be a complete banning of the use of dogs to hunt wolves. Also the wolf population in Wisconsin is far from what the state can easily support, plenty of prey deer and other prey.A wolf is the only highly intelligent animal in Wisconsin that is also the member of a social structure or family in this case a pack. Wolves deserve are respect and appreciation for the vital role they play in the overall health of Wisconsin's natural areas.
Todd and Ellen Needham	Most of it	Yes	Focus on sustainable grey wolf populations especially in core wolf areas. Creation of protective buffer zones around native American lands. Emphatically support the commitment to science and continued research.	Strongly dislike the use of dogs for wolf hunting. as well as the amount of compensation for dog and livestock damage. Too much potential political influence; public policy should be science-based.	7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Daniel Trawicki	All of it	Yes	As part of the wold study committee I was happy that Safari club and other hunting organizations were able to provide input.	A number of things Safari club has gone on record opposing in the management of the State wolf. The biggest issue had to do with a lack of numerical population goal. As your aware for many years the established population goal was 350. Todays most recent population estimate is approx. 970 wolves, which is way over previously established numbers. As part of the population madel to establish the number of wolves it was explained that the average pack size has been determined to be 6 animals and that lone wolves are not counted at all which safari club very much opposes. This past season has shown that dog hunters released there dogs on single or pairs of animals only. The reason being is that any dogs released on a pack were endangered of being killed themselves. Those lone wolves not being counted has the potential to greatly increase the current population estimates. Safari club also feels that the average pack size number is under stated. In addition, its clear that while the DNR relies primarily on staff and volunteer ground tracking. We know from the reports returned that several of the units were "under tracked" or essentially not having a large portion of the unit tracked. In addition, several known wolf areas were not tracked by anyone.	3	Safari club remains committed to maintaining a healthy wolf population in our state. We are however opposed to a high popuation number that endangers our livestock and other domestic animals. We support hunting and trapping as a way of controlling the wolf population
Michael Glenetzke	Most of it	Yes	None	None	0	We do NOT need a wolf hunt PERIOD! Those wanting a wolf hunt are a very small minority that claim wolf conflicts and livestock and property damage. The deer overpopulation itself proves we need a predator animal as the wolf. Using archaic methods in any hunt is barbaric and needs to stop.
Mike Loveland	All of it	Yes	none of it	no numbers for maintaining population, don't like buffer zone idea	0	numbers need to be used as it is with other species hunted in this state
Craig Lincoln	All of it	Yes	-No specific numeric goal for the wolf population. This is the most important change that needs to be made. -A framework to manage wolves as part of ecological goals, but with caveats that public input could be improved. (See comments on parts I dislike). -Different management goals for different zones. -Recognition of wolf-human conflict and subzones to allow appropriate management where conflict is higher (specifically cattle farmers). -Recognition of tribal rights and delegation of management to them. -Better standards for hunting/trapping wolves; in particular, better reporting standards.	-I think we need more and better public input; perhaps something akin to regular meetings in town/towns to act as listening sessions. Part of what we're doing is similar to risk communications, and experience has shown that risk communications are improved when communicators start by listening to people. -We should start implementing something like the trappers' code of ethics with hound hunting. We have a long tradition of hound hunting here and in the country, but times change and all of us who use the outdoors have made changes to adjust to our culture and more users.	8	It can be difficult to find the people and money to do lots of listening sessions. Absent an appropriation from the state to pay for the expenses, perhaps the DNR can begin a volunteer program like its winter tracking surveys or educational volunteer network -- train volunteers to hold sessions, listen to input, and relay that input to the DNR and its management committee.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Steven Kelsey	Most of it	Yes	I do not like much of the plan. This appears to be heavily leaning toward making non-hunters and anti-hunting individuals and groups, that do not live in the wolf populated ares of our state happy! Get back to the biology, not the business of appeasing those that really do not have any real investment or existence with the wolf. Get back to the science, not the social bleeding heart management.	I am disappointed in the majority of this Word Salad/ Plan! I compliment everyone involved for the extensive effort, time and money spent in the creation of this is plan and information. However, it is my view the residents and sportsman that live in the Wolf Dominated Areas, that often own recreational land and have a high degree of passion for hunting, land management and overall recreation in Northwest Wisconsin, ultimately pay the price for adverse impacts of the wolf on species like whitetail deer and domestic animals. The vast majority of the individuals that are in favor of severely limited wolf harvests and controls do not reside in the areas where the wolf populations are located. The highest population that will never be directly impacted by the wolf population is not in the areas where the wolf exists! The local sportsmen and women with real investments in property ownership, year around wildlife interaction and an unappreciated understanding and passion for wolf population control or lack of control as the State of Wisconsin now reflects, are largely ignored in the final management of the wolf. The population in the State of Wisconsin that does not interact directly with the wolf situation will likely ultimately seize control of Wolf Management with almost no wolf population controls that are Biologically Based! In other words, it is my opinion that the final wolf management plan will ignore the local sportsman and women and residents that live directly in the wolf areas. The people in the metropolitan areas of the state that likely will never see a wolf or directly be impacted by a wolf, will garner the power to shove limited non-biologically based wolf management down the throats of the residents and sportsman of Northern Wisconsin. I have absolutely no confidence that the sportsman and residents that live in Northwest Wisconsin will see a solid biologically based final management plan. This whole process is very disappointing. I so badly wish that the science, not the BS emotions, would rule this ultimate plan. Given the track record of this whole process, the sportsman will end up screwed in the end! I am not for the elimination of the wolf! I have a strong desire to see biologically based management. The rights of sportsman, hunters, land owners and local residents should be highly respected and supported in the final management plan as in the end, we are the ones that ultimately end up directly impacted by the wolf or the lack of biologically based management of the wolf population. We desire logical biologically based management of the wolf only! Not Feel Good Anti-Management!	1	Unfortunately, in the end, I fear this is all a waste of time for people like me that have a strong passion and involvement for hunting and recreation along with land ownership and management in Northwest Wisconsin! Manage the wolf like all of the other wildlife in state. All wildlife is important! The wolf is really not any more special than any other wildlife. Cut the Crap and get the biology back front and center!
Mary Fries	Most of it	Yes	The hx of wolves in WI, the cultural significance to the Native Americans, the plan particularly as it relates to the interaction of species, most of those items that elicited an emotional response.	The statistical details. Although necessary, because I trust the judgement of the experts in the DNR, I tended to briefly peruse these.	9	
Ryan Schultz	Most of it	Yes	None of it.	No population goal.	1	Maintain the current 350 population goal and get the population down near that goal.
Mary Schultz	Most of it	Yes	None of it.	No numeric population goal.	0	Maintain the state population goal of 350. Work to push the federal government to delist. Tell the feds either delist or they can deal with the management of them. Once delisted, get the population down to 350.
Barry B. Phillips	All of it	Yes	Giving landowners and farmers the ability to use lethal force to protect their livestock and animals from wolf attacks if taken off the endangered protection list.	Giving out Indian tribal wolf hunting permits on tribal lands knowing they are not going to be used. I feel this is only done for political reasons to get leverage on Indian rights in our state. Not to protect brother wolf. All this will do is give problem wolves a save place that they can not be controlled by the state.	2	I own land and have hunted in northeast Wisconsin for over fifty years now. I no longer use a bird dog for fear of losing it or putting it in danger of a wolf attack. I hunted deer in the most remote forested areas I could find. In doing so I have enjoyed many good years hunting. I've seen the bad winter die offs of the deer herd in early 1970s and no doe seasons. Then as time went on the deer herd really took off, so did the coyotes and bear numbers. Still the herd could handle the pressure, lot of beaver, snow shoe rabbits and grouse. Then the first wolves started showing up in the mid 90's.After that every thing started to change first the rabbits disappeared, then the beaver, then the deer herd got smaller and harder to hunt now that the deer were hunted 365 days a year. I still hunt the remote big forest and have had a lot of experiences with the wolves in the area. So the wolf is a better hunter than I, my freezer has went empty many times lately. My big lesson here is if I want venison i need to hunt away from wolves, wolves don't really like being around humans. So i now hunt by our little settlement and my freezer is full. The other comment is if the gray wolf is ever delisted and farmers and land owns were allowed to drive off or use force to control wolf attacks on there property with a DNR follow up this is all we would need for a wolf management plan.
Mark McCune	All of it	Yes			1	Th wolf population is too great I. northern Wisconsin. It has had a dramatic impact on the adult deer heard in the Vilas and Oneida Counties
	Most of it	Yes	The ability to harvest wolves via trapping and hunting.	No items that I dislike.	9	The ability to harvest wolves should ONLY be available to RESIDENTS of Wisconsin.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	not much	catering to indians	1	where to you people get your credentials?
Concerned Citizen	Most of it	Yes		The lack of a population goal. The large tribal buffer zones	1	Do better. The wolf population in the north is out of control and we need to be able to properly manage it. This current plan doesnt allow that.
	Most of it	Yes			10	
John Wallendal	All of it	Yes	A less rigid plan to determine wolf Populations is desired. Biological communities are dynamic. Controlling populations via a static plan is less than desirable.	Development of a plan to include the hybrid coy-wolf should be considered	10	Our farm includes to den and rendezvous breeding site of the New Chester (zone 5) pack. We have had numerous encounters, including bird dog training, with these wolves. We view their presence favorably. The encounters, tempered with sane precaution, are part of our coexistence with the natural environment. Living on the terminal moraine of the glacier gives this region a patina rarely experienced!
Colleen Robson	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate that this plan is clearly based upon the most current scientific research. I especially like that it is focused on the ecological benefits of wolves and honors the Tribes requested low quota zones around their lands. I also think it wisely removes an arbitrary population goal for wolves in Wisconsin providing the needed flexibility to respond to changing needs from one year to the next.	I continue to question the use of hounds to chase wolves at anytime, but especially during the wolf breeding season. I also think a plan for regular updates should be clearly stated and a system for scientific oversight should be established.	9	Thank you to everyone for the hard work you have done to develop a responsible plan and for your commitment to implementing it.
Charles J. Larscheid	All of it	Yes	I found discussion of the Grey Wolf's relationship as a cornerstone species as most informative.		10	I looked but did not see discussion of protecting dispersal routes for the Grey Wolf. In particular, human highway upgrades that result in barriers to wildlife crossings due to fencing, etc. are increasing and could decrease Wolf and other large wildlife dispersal in the future.
Doug Aanes	Most of it	Yes	Comprehensive. I especially liked that a lot of the plan establishes context and the existing evidence and data. I appreciate the efforts to be inclusive of various perspectives and constituencies.	Not sure what I dislike at this time.	9	none at this time.
	All of it	Yes	None	It's basically a popularity contest for wolf lovers. While some facts are reported, most of it is biased justification for their existence.	2	Why would the state spend millions on improving the populations of elk, deer, grouse, & other desirable game only to now justify the wolves killing of them?
Simon Grahl	Most of it	Yes	Specificity & management approach.	A listing and geographical documentation of federal and state owned lands in Northern Wisconsin along with associated mortality, fertility and harvesting rates.	5	1.) Can the DNR specify the associated mortality, harvesting and fertility rates of wolf population on federal and state owned lands in northern wisconsin and has it any indication that wold populations on tribe-owned lands have indications of higher prey-predator interaction as a result of their geographical location? 2.) Has the DNR determined if in fact the wolf population (or for that matter predator - prey population) is unique for the geographical location compared to States such as Minnesota and/or Michigan? And does the DNR have any associated migration data for movement within the United States and/or into Canada?
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	none	all	0	kill them all
Henry Fuller	Most of it	Yes	Starting the hunting season again, like any animal they need to be managed and there are too many wolfs currently.	Not sure why we need to continue using funds/resources to "study" wolfs.	6	I own property in Adams Co and manage for QDM with my neighbors. I have seen a decline in the number of deer and fawns particularly as the wolf population has increased in my area. I understand the place wolfs occupy in a healthy ecosystem, but there are too many. I spend a lot of time, money and effort for deer hunting and wolfs take away from that. They need to be hunted and managed.
	Most of it	Yes	none	the goal o 350 was where we should be	0	the dnr is supported by sportsmans registration and liscense fees. how about supporting your customers
Deer hunter	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			1	We were promised never more than 350 wolves in Wisconsin when you sold this wolf reintroduction program. So live up to your promise. Get it to or under 350. When I see it, I'll believe it. When you make a promise, keep it.
barry wallace	All of it	Yes		too much input from the wolf protectionists.	4	the current DNR has become way too much of a political organization and not enough emphasis on managing wildlife. The hunters and fishermen of WI fund you, not the tribes or the protectionists.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Matt Kufahl	Most of it	Yes	Since the plan calls for a healthy, sustainable population, there's nothing positive I can take from it.	There needs to be a number for the population goal (350). No buffers especially around the LCO reservation. Protecting the elk and encouraging their growth is way more important than protecting the wolves. Elk calf mortality is at unacceptable levels right now thanks to wolf mismanagement. Don't get me started on the deer herd too. The age class is also suffering in northern Wisconsin from a number of factors, which includes wolves.	1	Please get this sorted out as quick as possible so the judge can reinstate the wolf hunt. I see the plan right now kind of mirrors Minnesota's wolf plan which is anti hunting, which is unacceptable. Many hunters will not tolerate a plan like that.
	All of it	Yes		Hunting plans, put it permanently to rest	5	Need more study of beaver overpopulation and plant and tree degradation due to deer
Leslie Ison	Most of it	Yes	objective c1	No population goal. no explanation of why the original 350 population goal has been abandoned no explanation of who pays for wolf deterrent methods in agricultural area (expensive extra fencing)	4	this plan is overly complex & requires hours of study. It seems that urban populations with no impact from wolves have an oversized emphasis in this plam
Virginia Metzdorf	Most of it	Yes	the inclusion of the Native American perspective in their own words--public education efforts--encouraging public involvement and citizen science efforts	Some of the vocabulary is off-putting. Referring to the hunt as a harvest for example--I dislike the whole management concept and would prefer more emphasis on co-existence	5	There is more of a need to discuss the fiasco of the last hunt and what can be done to insure that that doesn't happen again. Also hunting with dogs needs to be addressed
Lesley McKee	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Just keep wolves safe to make their natural contribution to the Wisconsin ecosystem.	Nothing that I read.	10	I do not possess enough knowledge to offer any salient comments. Just keep up the good work.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			7	I support the passage of this plan.
Norman Aulabaugh	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the input from groups with vestyed interests in this pln - especially Native Americans. I especially liked that the plan creates low quota zones around Native American lands.	I did not see any elements in the plan that I would be knowledgeable enough about to dislike.	9	I sincerely appreciate having the opportunity to comment on this plan draft.
Andrea Rodriguez	Most of it	Yes	It is generally felt that wolves themselves should be allowed to determine their numbers and distribution on the broader landscape, as opposed to having humans make this determination. In addition, taking a wolf's life is a serious consideration that requires substantial justification. Recreational harvest doedepredation necessitate that preventative actions and non-lethal approaches be pursued before consideration of lethal techniques. Wolf harvesting zones and designated zero quota areas in use since 2012 in Wisconsin. Overall as a Native American I like the plan	I completely disagree with the hunting of this species for sport. The unnatural killing of any animal simply for sport is not okay. The killing of animals to feed families is considered a way of life. I know of no one in my lifetime that kills wolves to consume them.	7	I like the amount of research provided in this draft. I grew up in very Rural Northern Wisconsin and spent 90% of my childhood living and playing in the deep unpopulated Northwoods. I only have one memory of all those years of seeing a grey wolf as a child. As one would appear daily at the edge of our yard and sit and watch us playing. It never entered our yard but it seemed curious as to our lives as human beings. I never felt threatened or afraid as my siblings and I often played alone on our 10 acres of land.
Nancy Pourciau	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1. No need to reduce to 350 wolves. 2. Buffer zones around Indian Reservations 3. Better education of residents about wolves. 4. REDUCE ILLEGAL wolf kills!	1. Don't want longer wolf hunting seasons. 2. Would like to see hunters using their own skills, and NOT those of the dogs. That is not hunting! 3. Make-up of state wolf advisory committee should be based on the science of wolf hunting, and not the desires of the hunters.	7	
Dave	All of it	Yes	Having a harvest goal	The only dogs I have are bird dogs, and the thought of losing them and only getting a possible $2500.00	1	Maybe find a way to get problem wolves placed south of hwy 10 which goes through the central part of the state then everyone has a chance to deal with them
Scott Schroepfer	All of it	Yes	The overall scope and structure	No wolf population target, not using lone wolf estimates in the population estimate, expansion of wolf buffer zones affecting private property.	5	Please emphasize the perspective of the persons that live in wolf territory (northern WI).

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Chuck Kolar	All of it	Yes	I like that the plan addresses the importance of encouraging forest practices that promote a healthy percentage of early successional forest.	I feel the expansion of primary wolf range and secondary wolf range doesn't serve the people who live in those areas well. Much of zone 4 is agricultural. Expanding it to secondary range will only create conflict between livestock and pet owners. Some of the buffer zones appear to be fairly wide. (Maps don't delineate scale or straight line distance) Since its an area of reduced harvest, seems like this may be onerous on agricultural producers and pet owners if conflicts arise in those areas. Fig 35 on Page 104 shows results for a question on the survey of desired public opinion. Yet the results should be considered invalid since the expanded wolf range into areas once not considered suitable wasn't data provided for the survey respondents. Pg 126 C2F. All trapping of wolves should be delayed until at least 12/1 if harvest is ever allowed again. Wolf fur is not in prime earlier than that so why would any harvest be sought - early harvest provides lower quality fur and taxidermy mounts. The animal deserves better if it is to be harvested. Its death should provide more than management control. There is also a high potential of resource user conflicts with wolf traps in public forest with hikers and their dogs, coon hunters, rabbit hunters, and upland game hunters. I have seen trappers hanging signs warning of wolf traps over large areas of prime upland bird and rabbit coverts as well as hiking trail areas. Warnings are nice, but I'm pretty sure that those hanging the signs were hoping to scare of other forest users to reduce human activity. I see no reason for traps or snares set for large canines in public forest during high usage periods for owners of hunting dogs and companion dogs for trail hiking prior to the end of Gun Deer Season. I also feel it would be more equitable for harvest tags to be issued specifically for trapping vs hunting. First season of harvest seemed to fill quotas before the dog hunters even had a chance and they are a stakeholder group that seems to have been saddled with a large portion of the conflict with wolves.	6	Plan draft provides a tremendous amount of information and clearly represents a tremendous amount of effort. If management authority doesn't return to the state within the next 12 months I feel the state may have to take a stand and provide livestock and pet owner with the ability to defend their animals. The reality is depredation occurs so quickly and unexpectedly that lethal defense would most likely never occur. But it would go a long way towards making those living in proximity to wolves to feel empowered instead of defenseless. It would also start to send a message to Washington that its time for management to be returned to the state and meaningful changes to the ESA to eliminate all the senseless litigation over an animal that has clearly recovered in the Great Lakes States. I also personally oppose national organization that provide no benefit to wolves whatsoever, are clearly just a PAC using wolves to raise funds, don't own any property suitable for wolf inhabitation to be on the wolf advisory committee. I specifically speaking to HSUS having a seat at the table. Disgraceful.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		all of it. need to regulate population more severely	0	
Chad Geissler	All of it	Yes	I've read thru this so called plan twice,and there is nothing in it I like.	Having no population goal. When reintroduction plans were formed every group involved was satisfied and agreed to a population goal of 350. That's what the goal needs to be set at. Johnson has come up with a tactic, NOT a plan.	0	We don't need input from other states or people who will never see, hear or have to deal with these animals. There's to many people and organizations out there that feel no animals should be managed. We need our DNR to work with Wisconsin sports people to keep our wildlife healthy and in check. Not work for the animal rights groups and tribe's that feel the state should be saturated with wolves.
Sue Menter	Just the parts I am interested in	No	The removal of the arbitrary population goal. Having low quota zones. The importance of the ecological benefits of wolves.	Any kind of hounding on wolves. This, to me, is sanctioned dog fighting. No mention of a timeline for review of this plan on a regular basis. Climate change can greatly affect wildlife.	9	We have been lake home owners in Burnett County for 14 years. We WANT the wolves to live unharmed in our area. The white tail deer population is out of control here and any way CWD can be combatted should be left in place. Wolves are known to hunt sick deer. Wolves are a no-cost solution to help limit this terrible disease.
	Most of it	Yes	Increases wolf population.	Want more protection for wolves.	7	
	Most of it	Yes	Using more non-lethal methods of control and increased education to improve relationships between humans and wolves.	The fact that you will still support hound hunting. There is no way to justify hunting a canine with another canine. It is a barbaric way to hunt and you have no actual way to control that method. If you must have wolf hunting, at least keep it humane and only allow hunting in areas that have had depredations. Secondly, the tourist aspect sounds interesting, but in reality, wolf hunting and wolf tourism can not occur in the same area. Yellowstone has a strong wolf tourism following but they do not allow wolf hunting.	5	There is a very, very small percentage of the population that wants to hunt bear and wolves with hounds but they have a disproportionate voice in how our wildlife is managed. Maybe it's time to listen to the majority of residents and ban the hound hunting altogether. If you would provide more education to inform people about that practice, you would see an overwhelming turn against it. Another point is that the DNR promotes food plots for deer and when the deer numbers increase in a small area, wolves are going to be attracted to that food source. Then the landowner complains about the wolves and possibly get compensation for other depredation.
Eva Kuzmanich	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Taking out of arbitrary wolf population goal. Low quota zones are good idea. Management focuses more on ecological benefits of the wolf		9	
Brett Weir	Most of it	Yes	I like the inclusion and diversity of the stake holder groups represented by the committee. I like the inclusion of Science, Biology and History as it relates to wolf management.		10	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Brian Bucki	All of it	Yes	Wolves being managed.	No reason for the lack of numbers in the new wolf plan. NONE.	2	SHAME ON THE DNR. I have always supported the DNR for the most part. I am a CDAC in the Northern Forest Zone and will be voting for zero antlerless on public land from here on out until the DNR does their job and straightens out the heavy toll predation is doing on our northern deer herd. You are turning the public on the DNR after years of improving your image. I will be encouraging other CDACs in all northern counties to follow suite if this wolf plan is not changed. If the DNR wants to over rule low antlerless tags on public land , so be it. will not be part of this and many other CDACs are coming on board. It will be embarrassing for the DNR at best. The CDACs have a responsibility. Hopefully the DNR will take their responsibility just as seriously.
Dennis jeffers	Most of it	Yes	None of it	All of it	1	Better start taking the people who have to live with them in to consideration and how they are affected not the special interests groups
	Most of it	Yes	I like that there is no exact population goal. I do worry though that the WDNR could be pressured under a Republican administration to pursue a high harvest goal. I like low quota zones around tribal lands	Hound hunting should not be allowed. I realize this requires a change in the law but at least the training window should be limited (1-2 months per year in the fall) not 365 days. Under Objective B (page 102) add: Non-lethal methods for wolf/livestock conflicts should be prioritized. Wolf subzones around tribal lands should be based on wolf home ranges. It doesn't meet the tribes goal if the wolves that occupy tribal lands are not protected. There should be a planned review every 5-10 years once you see how this is working and it should incorporate science and all stakeholder groups.	9	No hunting with dogs. This is inhumane for both.
Terence Noone	Most of it	Yes	nothing	I would like to see a population goal.	0	I feel that allowing only 2 months for public comment makes everything about this process look one sided. The plan looks very anti harvest.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Nothing. This is a non-scientific, emotion and religion driven document	Many many items, however you can bbegin with goals 1 and 3. As to goal 1: The wolf has no ecological role unless you are emotionally or religiously inclined to believe it does. There is no ecological role that a wolf can perform, that humans can't do better. Wolves would only have a needed ecological role if humans were removed from the equation. As to goal 3: there is no benefit to a wolf population unless you are emotionally or religiously inclined to believe there is. The wolf is no different than any other animal, plant or object. (Except for those needed to sustain life) The wolf is not necessary to sustain life.	0	The plan is a failure, created by emotionally and religiously driven people who have a pre-determined outcome for wolf management. That outcome is to the detriment of people.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	NOTHING! This is a non-scientific, emotion driven, and religion driven document.			
	Most of it	Yes	I like that the plan will be science-based. Picking numbers for a harvest was arbitrary, and counter indicative to the health of the wolf population.	I don't like that "harvests" are not being TOTALLY eliminated. Wolves are not hunted as a food item. A top predator is NEVER a good choice or reason to put food on the table because the loss in energy at each trophic level makes it prohibitive as a good energy source. Rather this species is being hunted to provide one thing only: Trophies. That sends the wrong message. People should know that the state and the MAJORITY of its residents value the wolf for many reasons, among them it's niche as top predator, it's value as being emblematic of wilderness and wild land preservation, and it's long relationship to native peoples in the state. Rather than continuing the counter-indicative idea of having a harvest, the state should redouble its effort to compensate residents and farmers for the loss of pets and live stock. (By the way, I AM fully aware that the state legislature and the Natural Resources Board have historically set harvest numbers in years when the wolf is not listed as a species of concern. These numbers have been put forth as a type of quota, with no scientific underpinnings whatsoever. This practice/policy must be changed, and management of wolf populations must be returned to DNR, the only state agency that can apply a scientific approach to that management. The citizens of Wisconsin deserve no less.)	9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Mike MacKenzie	All of it	Yes	A lot to cover on likes. It was a well thought out plan. D2= excellent, specifically D2c,D1a,D1e (getting specimen items to the right educational folks will be a plus; E2b, E2c, The plan of partnering w/ UW and educational segments mentioned will make this a stronger and a powerful too to support science based managment and harvest quotas. Hopefully it will work out that way. F2e Getting CITES authority I think is a smart move for several reasons. For education purposes also having cites tags on education specimans will be more transparent to general public and prevent illegally taken specimans less profitable. Attending wildlife/wolf conferences, having educational (qualified/articulate staff) at events open to general and sporting public (Milw sport show, trapper convention, school forest/educational facility....)etc will build strenght over time. Eco tourism built around wolves can benefit local areas with stable wolf populations. examples Yellow stone, Thompson Manitoba area. Also B3b is good idea; I don't have number handy but making sure accurate info pro or con is distributed, and when that info is abused or biased, it needs to be corrected. B1 was all good; B1e livestock carcass disposal should be done properly or abatement payments shouldn't be allowed if warned before. I worked in areas where farmers disposed of livestock in slobby ways which created problems, and in some cases to draw wolves in to possibly get payments for cattle the farmer lost due to negligence on their own. Same true w/ some hound hunters. A1 and A5 very good as was most of plan. I'll leave it at that, there was so much to comment on but overall very good plan.	Only dislike I could articulate too is the concern over season structure, It mentioned (don't have # handy, think it was in F part. In regards to baiting, night hunting (not until after deer season). and season start. I didn't see information on length of season. I believe strongly that having a season extended into the breeding season would be a strong negative for me and many others. It was mentioned and don't have the number handy. problem wolves, and problem areas should be strongly targeted, quotas and this areas in a zone need to be specifically targeted thru the process of setting quotas. So that this hunt wil provide a good result for hunters/farmers and the wolf herd. If that is done in this plan which I believe was mentioned that is good/important to the social aspect of the plan. The last hunt was a cirus which hurt the image of hunting to the general public; being a hunter safety instructor is more difficult when that last hunt happened the way it did. It is so important that the hunts are based on strong science. I think this plan will actually help educate more people about wolves and possibly help hunters understand more about deer, and deer/predator relation. Socially I think this plan is good. as long as science can maintain a fair role in quotas. I did have minor concerns on quota setting in relation to primary prey populations A1definitions. no problems there, understand why that's mentioned, but in many areas we have too many prey (deer) although not always perceived correctly by general population. I hope their false perception on deer numbers don't increase wolf harvest while reducing deer harvest. Iif deer population is higher, and CWD is present what do you do? A healthy wolf population, from a science-based hunt would probably be a benefit either way. so maybe dislike? Dealing with this was mentioned in other parts of plan. A1b was was good, long term sustainable management is key and hopefully this plan when approved can remain solid to prevent too much political change on that. Also not sure if carcass collection was mentioned but once w/no specifics. Maybe it's covered under an NR code, but would be more comfortable if carcass collection was more specific (for data collection) hunters/trappers can end up w/ skulls/carcass as long as data is available when needed. I understand w/ the covid issue the last hunt but need to avoid lost data.	10	the time it took to get this plan together was reasonable in my opinion, it's a good plan. I'm impressed w/ the work that involved accomplishing this plan. Next steps I hope don't change the plan much. I would support a higher deer kill which would possible lower wolf numbers for the people who don't want as many wolves. Wolves are important part of our landscape in Northern Wisconsin. I've targeted my deer hunting to areas with healthy wolf populations, that's what I learned to do from over 50 years of deer hunting in WI (20+ in Canada) that's where the best deer hunting is. I see great benefit in stable wolf populations here, not just for healthier deer herds, but for benefitting plant and forest diversity. In my lifetime I've personally witnesses what the lack of predators and wolves have done to our landscape. I've also witnessed in a short term, what reducing wolf numbers to quickly have done to destroy top quality native plant and forest habitat which benefitted deer and diversity. I have also witnessed how quick a reduction of a healthy forest and native plant community can happen because of a poorly planned and rushed wolf hunt. I've witnesses how much negative impact there was as a result of hunters shooting (illegally) a breeding pair of wolves in an area I had hunted for several years in Canada. the deer in that area over concentrated in that area the following winter and grossly over browsed the deer habitat where we hunted. The deer hunting went to hell for ten years after that in this isolated area of NW Ontario. I see that happening here, I feel strongly that this wolf plan will help prevent damage to our ecosystem here. It will benefit so many things in the process; native plants, regenerating forests, birds and other animals as well as people and tourism. We need a healthy wolf population. Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan. Keep up the good work.
Nick Ninneman	Most of it	Yes	None it is vague in its terminology and seems to exclude any studies or actual management statistics. Nothing is mentioned for preferred quotas and a balanced population size.	It doesn't represent any past studies done. It doesn't provide statistics of the wolf population or a preferred population management. It was drafted in a short timeline and has for the most part been hidden from the public eye where only wolf enthusiasts would know of it. The majority of hunters and farmers in Wisconsin do not even know of this draft. The draft has catered to the anti wolf hunting groups and reservations with little input from hunters and farmers. All of which seems intentional.	1	Provide numbers for the current population and what the dnr believes is a managed population size. Something that is sustainable between hunters and conservation. Provide actual study information.
	All of it	Yes	the fact that you are recognizing a wolf problem.	should be state wide hunt, including the tribal areas.	4	The wolf cannot be protected. Northern Wisconsin is being overrun with the animals, need a season to eliminate many !
Steven Lutzke	Most of it	Yes	Zones, and zone specific sustainable wolf populations with harvest goals harvest goals		7	Appreciate the work that has been done. I feel that having specific sustainable population numbers with legal harvesting goals like is done with so many other animals is the most desirable plan for all involved. In my experience (only) and as a hunter, I have yet to meet a hunter who is totally against having wolves in the state. By having real number sustainable goals with real legal harvest goals I believe is the best way to placate and be respectful of everyone's views. The success of reintroduction of elk and wild turkeys are two examples, both which appear to have successful management plans. Coyotes are found statewide now and have been legally harvested for years. Again thank you for the effort extended and encouraging public comment.
Peter Cyganiak	Most of it	Yes	I like the science based approach referenced many times in the draft.	1. No population goal. Whoever has the largest voice wins population. 2. Subzones around Native American reservations. Separate zones around their land hurts the residents in that area. If Tribes do not want a goal that is their right. Don't push that to neighboring lands	1	See above
Kate	Most of it	Yes	Attempting to balance the needs of humans and wolves; zones; compensation for livestock loss	no specifics on nonlethal means of controlling problem wolves; the term "harvesting", they are not a crop	6	Details about nonlethal means of dealing with problem wolves i.e. livestock guard dogs. California has a newer plan on dealing with mountain lions that is excellent.
Zachary Krueger	All of it	Yes	That we will allow a sustainable wolf population.	Dislike that there is no set target number. This allows the DNR to not take anything seriously and just allow the wolf population to grow with no lethal management strategy.	2	DNR needs to reinstate a wolf hunt and lower the wolf numbers to the original agreed upon wolf population of 300-400 wolves. There needs to be a management number that takes deer hunters wishes of decent northwoods deer hunting into consideration. You are negatively affecting the tourism industry by having the deer hunting being poor and not having a serious management plan with serious management numbers. I am not anti-wolf by any means but they need to be managed like all other wildlife with sustainable numbers.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Nick Kufalk	All of it	Yes	Hunting be used as part of the management plan.	The subzones around the reservations. If they don't want to kill wolves on their reservations that's fine, but I don't think we should be limiting private property and public land users around the reservations that want to hunt wolves because the tribal groups don't want the wolves hunted.	6	I feel like the wolves should be harvested at a greater number to bring their population number closer to 350. Given that was the original management plan population number. I think that is a fair number for everyone involved because they are still on the landscape, but not at such a great number that they negatively impact people's livelihoods and personal enjoyment of other activities (Ex: Bear Hunting, Deer Hunting, Running my Dog). Majority of the people who complain about the wolf hunt are people who have never spent anytime in wolf country and have never had to deal with them.
Stephen Constantine	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None, it's an ambiguous action that skirts any wolf population management kowtows to uninformed non-rural folks and animal rights (antihunting) groups.	1. Lack of an actual population goal. Where is the science based management goals that The DNR longs for? 2. People in non-wolf areas carrying equal say on wolf management. The ones affected most by the wolves should carry more of a voice. 3. Areas not inhabited by wolves should not be deemed primary or secondary wolf range. 4. Expanded buffer zones, especially around reservations. 5. The 350 population goal was supported by many, many people and entities; and the will of the people was completely ignored.	0	The Feb. 2021 wolf hunt (considered a slaughter by the uninformed) had no impact on the wolf population. However, it's no coincidence that the 2022 deer kill was up in almost all areas, including most wolf zones. Obviously, the thinning of these critters, allowed deer populations to rebound quickly. A sensible science based wolf hunt is needed in the northern wolf zones in order to maintain acceptable deer numbers and also help out the hunting related economy up there.
Josh Kolasch	All of it	Yes	I like how the DNR is moving away from a specific numerical population goal, as this is old science and we have seen how special interest groups can use a number for whatever their goal is. Allowing for a population to fulfill their ecological role while still allowing for human harvest and lethal control is the most sustainable long term management solution. The buffer zones around reservations, increased harvest areas around high depredation zones and lower quotes in core wolf range all lead to sound science management that addresses multiple issues.	Some of the boundaries for zones follow highways and interstates, which can cut off some core wolf areas. Also, I think that emphasizing a lower wolf quota in zones 1-2 is important as these areas will likely see some loud disagreements from anti-wolf groups.	9	Having more tribal say and input over the total ceded territory will respect the tribes sovereignty as well as allow for a more resilient management plan, just like with walleye management from GLIFWC and the DNR partnership
Cindy Pope	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Education and stabilization	Conflict management- until the barbaric practice of harassing bears with dogs is outlawed, conflict will continue.	7	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. Hunters should NOT be able to use dogs to chase down wolves. Thank you for removing a cap on the wolf population.
Jeff	All of it	Yes	I liked the concern for diversity and recognizing the importance of having a wolf population in Wisconsin.	I dislike not following the population goal that was originally set. I got the impression from reading the plan that the purpose of the group was to justify expanding the wolf population. I also did not like how the survey allows people who have never seen a wolf and will never set foot into their environment to weigh in on this subject. I also did not like the dismissal of what would happen if we continue to not curb the wolf population.	0	I hunted in Rusk, Iron, Vilas and Marinette counties this year. My hunt was disrupted by wolves in each of these counties. The hunters I know are all disgusted with the DNR lack of concern for the effect wolves are having on our hunting. No money for game wardens but enough to monitor atvs and study wolves, easy to see who the DNR prioritizes.
Rick Cassel	All of it	Yes	I like that you are taking a look at reporting on wolf hunting and limiting the time to report a killed wolf. I like the elimination of a specific number of wolves that will live.	I do not support any wolf hunting. I do not support hound hunting of wolves, and extended hound training. Baiting, and trapping of wolves is also a negative thing.	5	I would like someone to look at the imbalance of power on the Conservation Congress. This group is heavily stacked with bear hunters
	All of it	Yes			3	1) Lack of population goal. There should be a total population of 350 or less. 2) Citizens living in wolf country should have a greater voice than non-wolf areas. 3) Areas currently not inhabited by wolves should not be considered primary or secondary wolf range. 4) Spring hearings overwhelmingly support a goal of 350 or less wolves. Listen to there voice. There is a reason for their vote. 5) Buffer zones around reservations effectively allow tribes to manage private land outside of reservation boundaries. This is simply a bad idea and does not allow for overall proper management. 6) Wolf impact on deer and elk populations should be a major consideration; especially as it applies to hunting.
	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	Areas that should improve: The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn't recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
jerry adamovich	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	the fact that dnr would continue to monitor populations	That a population number be determined. Extremely lower than our current population. In the plan it said it helps tourism, I disagree because in Northern Wis, I see less deer, causing less hunters to come north, and more dog kills so less hunters getting involved. I also know from experience that if wolves are where you hunt you are not finding deer. I encountered a wolf turkey hunting and they are not afraid of humans no matter how much you scream at them. Also because of over population in the north some irresponsible people put out poison and killed dogs that people were just taking for a walk. My point here is that if a reasonable number was met, some people would not try taking matter into their own hands.	2	
Michele Saridan	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that “keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem”	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don’t have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn’t recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	9	I would like to thank the WDNR for writing a wolf management plan that centers science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources, especially gray wolves in Wisconsin.”
John Saridan	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners.	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update. There should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn’t recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	9	I would like to thank the DNR for writing a wolf management plan that centers science, public input, and Tribal engagement- the core tenets of the best way to protect, conserve, and sustain natural resources, especially gray wolves in Wisconsin.
ELizabeth Bolton	Most of it	Yes	Thank the state for removing a cap on the wolf population.	I urge the state to eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. I demand that the plan disallow hunters from training dogs to chase down wolves.	4	
Sarah Aslakson	Most of it	Yes	Advice from multidiscplinary sources	management = hunting. Wolves are historically a historic part of the environment and should remain so		There is no control over hunters, as seen from the last hunt when they went crazy and killed every wolf in site. Without real management of the hunters it is all lip service
Janet Fischer	Most of it	Yes	Compensation for verified wolf attacks. Cattle, calves, and hunting dogs.		7	Very thorough plan. History provided for better understanding. Impact to native Indian lands protected. Impact on elk population most important
David Selby	Most of it	Yes	Regulated Hunting is still a consideration, pending state and federal approvals	The disregard of the significant reduction of mature bucks in zones 1 and 2 coincident with the introduction of wolves in the 1990's. The National Forests formerly offered a quality hunting opportunity to apply woodsmanship skills in large tracts of forest and the hope of encountering and harvesting a mature buck. Large rubs, large tracks and scrape lines have all but vanished in your wolf management zones 1 and 2 rendering 100's of thousands of acres of public land. This is not anecdotal evidence. Note the winners of buck pools at local bars in the north. Odds are that a 10 inch wide 6 or 8-pointer will collect the pot out of 75 or more entrants. If the mature bucks were still out there in huntable numbers, someone occasionally would stumble upon one. Deer have moved closer to towns and dwellings (as you noted in your report). If a rare mature buck sighting occurs, it is usually close to more "urban areas" where it has found safe bedding cover because of the presence of humans and dogs. The northwoods deer hunt is but a pale shadow of what it was in the early 90's and prior when newspapers were filled with photos of 18 inch wide 10 point bucks and larger. My "big woods" hunting partners and I are now travelling downstate for most of our deer hunting because the promise of taking a nice buck is an integral part of the hunt. I and my partners have logged hundreds of hours (possibly1000's) scouting and hunting wolf zones 1 and 2 over the last 35 years such that we longer believe its feasible to take a mature buck in the national forests. I understand test design and that correlation is not the same as causation but no one within DNR circles seems to be addressing what's happened to the mature bucks that used to roam the national forests prior to wolf introduction. Private property owners within zones 1 and 2 also have a re-occurring story. "We bought our 80 acres for hunting and planted a food plot. At first we attracted some deer but then wolves moved in because we inadvertently created an easily killing zone for them." The damage to "the great traditional northwoods public land hunt" cannot be over-emphasized and it deserves a strong voice in wold management discussion.		Wolf tourism is a bit of a joke as well. I spend well over 100 hours each fall skulking around the national forests in scent controlled clothing and sitting quietly on deer stands. I have NEVER observed a wolf while hunting even though the areas I hunt have a significant amount of wolf tracks. They will never be a tourist factor nor will they ever be at risk of having their population decline to below a sustainable number. The horses have left the barn so to speak. Its PC to study and protect wolves but I think they do just fine on their own!
Joyce Frohn	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The time people put in to the plan and the oppertunies people have to comment	Any increase in killing wolves. We need wolves to help fight wasting disease in deer.	2	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Amy Rambow-Larsen	Most of it	Yes	Effects of wolves on their biome are considered, and effect of disruption of family units are considered in the introduction - although a large portion of the data seems to come from Spain rather than from studies of the Wisconsin wolf packs.	Despite surveys that indicate a preference for having the DNR perform any wolf killing, the proposal still calls for a wolf season. It is clear that most people do not consider wolves a true game species. Additionally, trapping is an especially cruel way to kill. I am surprised that the section on public perception of wolves failed to address the public view of methods of killing other than hunting.	1	The thought of murdering members of an intelligent family group such as a wolf pack for fun is abhorrent. Wolves should be regulated by the removal of problem individuals by affected farmers or the DNR. More data is clearly needed to determine the wolf population that can be supported in Wisconsin. The argument that wolves need to be slaughtered to protect the deer population runs counter to the oft made argument that deer hunting is required to control the deer population.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Mortality rates	Nothing	7	
	Most of it	Yes	I liked that there was a public survey, though it wasn't broad enough to cover public opinion. I feel the counties with higher wolf populations/depradations should have more input than counties with no wolves. If you don't feel the impact of the wolves, your opinion isn't based in fact.	There needs to be a set number of wolves for harvest in the plan. There needs to be a complete counting of the wolves - I don't feel that to date the count has been accurately reported. The Tribal buffer zone, in theory, is a good idea, but if you own the property adjacent to it, your voice is neutralized - that's not fair, not should it be part of the plan.	3	Those not impacted by the wolves should not have such loud voice in this plan. Perhaps the wolves in high problem areas could be transplanted to areas where there is high support for them - to balance the issue.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The use of scientific means to determine actionable quotes per zones.		7	
	Most of it	Yes	I like that you evaluating input from where people live in proximity to wolves.	There is no goal number	2	You are not managing to a defined goal
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			10	
Kat Molitor	Most of it	Yes	The removal of the cap on the number of wolves in our state. Limit the hunting of wolves around our indigenous peoples reservations, the wolves are sacred to them.	I have always been totally against the use of trained dogs in hunting to run down wolves.	5	I live in southwest WI and would love to have wolves in my backyard. We struggle with too many deer on our farm. We need wolves to keep a check on the deer population, just like the wolves were needed in Yellowstone to keep the elk in check.
Glenn Beaudoin	All of it	Yes	I liked seeing comparison in population estimates between Fuller and Adams to ensure the newer methodology was statistically accurate.	I did not like seeing the two population methods not being compared using the same data year. Are the Fuller and Adams methods really comparable? It's like comparing apples and oranges. You should know better!! So, what is the goal for the number of wolves? Are you waiting to see what the ecological system will support and then use the same system as deer? Less, maintain, or more classification for each zone or go right to that once declassified? This is not clear to me.	7	The first part of the document is difficult to read since all references are cited in the text. Use an appendix to cite references for easier reading. The background should have been presented first, then the plan. I can also see why done the current ay, since many will not care about the background information. I felt as if I was reading the same information multiple times, just worded differently. Alot of what was provided could have been condensed. It's as if you had a minimum number of words to present to sound intelligent or you were trying to ensure no one would read the entire document.
Kathleen Knoeppel	All of it	Yes	I like that the plan is science based. I really like the removal of cap for the wolf population.	I do not want the state to allow wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. Demand that the plan must not allow hunters from training dogs to chase down wolves.	7	I do not want a vocal minority to have the most influence over this plan. I want it science based and humane.
John Barton	All of it	Yes	Not much!	Not settling a number to control wolf numbers.	1	This plan will continue to cost millions of lost dollars in Northern Wisconsin, in land value and deer hunting opportunities.
Angela	Most of it	No	1.Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2.The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan around tribal zones. 3.The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	I am especially in favor of reducing hound training on wolves. Also, revisiting the plan every couple of years to be sure it is on track.
Steven Meurett	Most of it	Yes	SHortened registration period for registering a wolf harvested. There is no reason not to register within a short period of time. Zone specific harvest authorizations. It makes no sense to kill excess wolves in zone where they do not cause issues. Disrupting packs can lead to greater issues research has found. The best thing is eliminating the "goal" (which there never was a hard goal number) population number. It's proven that WI can support over 1000+ wolves in a stable population. Population trends are leveling off as saturation is reached. I do like the number of licenses to be issued for each zone based on evaluation of zone-specific harvest rates, success rates, zone-specific	The continuation of hound hunting for wolves and training hounds on wolves. This will be difficult to remove because the oversize influence of the WBHA. No other state allows this and WI should not as well.	8	Good: the plan sees value in having wolves in the state and public support for them. It's science based instead of emotion based. Problem wolf areas are targeted instead of a state wide quota, which never made sense. Shorter registration period. Concerns: against hound hunting of wolves and training, "managing" in areas there they don't need to be "managed."

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			quotas and timing of past zone closures. I also like the science based approach for research and management.			
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that the population cap was removed. I like that the indigenous tribes were consulted on making the plan.	I'm concerned by having the zero quota areas being the boundaries of reservations instead of a slightly larger area would mean that if a wolf from a reservation happens to cross the boundary it could get killed.	7	
Tom	Most of it	Yes	Graphic charts	Compensation for stock loss is undervalued.	2	Have an annual hunting season to take 15 to 20 % Of the statewide population. Those who live in dense urban areas cannot understand our rural concern because they have no physical presence in wolf territory.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	removing a cap on the wolf population		1	Demand that the plan disallow hunters from training dogs to chase down wolves. eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations
Heidi	All of it	No	The Mission Statement is what I like...with hopes that each statement would be supported	I dislike "management" being used instead of slaughter. Call it what it is. The killing of wolves. I can't understand why humans feel the need to "manage" wildlife, other than the fact they feel wolves, or other animals are dangerous. Wolves are VITAL to healthy ecosystems. CWD is spreading and wolves are the natural managers of such diseases~ taking out the sick animals. Less wolves~ more disease, overpopulation of deer, etc. I feel that humans just like killing.	1	Leave the wolves alone to do their jobs. Nature takes care of everything. Whenever people meddle, they create imbalances.
	Most of it	Yes	Build a CWD “No Kill Zone” where no hunting can happen as well as a “Research Zone” Tighten up the fall hunting regulations, if a hunt is held. A hound-training season is unacceptable to the majority of Wisconsin voters—that is, using packs of radio-collared hounds to track, chase and ambush wolves—is not sound policy and is akin to state-sponsored dogfighting. Outreach and education	Determine location where the dogs can be used on small parcels to pursue wolves leading to increased conflict with land owners.	6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	removing the cap on the wolf population, thank you	using dogs to hunt wolves, and hunting close to tribal lands	7	studies have shown that healthy predators make help the prey animals, and the land prosper
Mathew Christianson	All of it	Yes	Removing the cap on the wolf population	any take of wolves not associated with livestock depredation	5	Eliminate all trapping and use of domestic hunting dogs.
Josef Anderson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Non-lethal management	Hunting		I don't want any wolves being killed by hunters. So inhumane when they kill their pups
James Eichman	All of it	Yes	All	None	10	
Cameron Reece	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best available science is centered in wolf management. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.		8	
	All of it	Yes		no set number of wolves , need to be 350 or less !!!	1	
Bethany Peterson	All of it	Yes	Protecting some wolves is better than none,unfortunately.	All wolves need protection after years of persecution.Not just some of these amazing creatures.	6	Wolves are important to our ecosystem and lives.
John W Cerkas	Most of it	Yes	Living in Forest County I am favorable to wolves. Never lost any of my livestock to wolves, nor had any unfavorable contact with them.		6	I support limited licensed control of wolves. Not a full scale hunting season open to all.

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Erin Spoehr	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	-Removing a cap on the number for the wolf population	-eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to tribal lands -do not allow hunters to train dogs to chase down wolves	4	Wolves are important to our natural habitat and help to balance the ecological system. Please keep this in mind and eliminate wolf hunting.
Gregory Sipla	All of it	Yes	Pretty much none of it. It's a very disgusting slap in the face to the license buying sports men, & women that hunt, fish, camp, etc., in WI, both residents and NR's. THIS is what we get for our license dollars? Pathetic! Real cute releasing it the day after the Nov. 8th election, too.	1) Ignoring question 42 from the 2022 Spring Hearings, where 12,978 people voted for a population goal of 350 wolves or fewer. That's a TWO to ONE margin over the 6,410 that voted against it. The question passed in 63 of our 72 counties. What does that tell you? Not much, I guess, since you decided to go with no numeric population goal. Where did you get that crazy idea from? 2) Six mile buffer zones around reservations. Who's running this state, license buyers, or the tribes? 3) Extensive expansion of primary and secondary wolf habitat designations. Where is your science based data, to support your changes? 4) Again, nice going on your "almost" secret, 8 page survey, sent to 8,750 addresses. Lopsided sampling of addresses mostly located in concentrated areas of lakes, cities, and villages. Mostly left out were rural addresses in wolf counties that would 'tilt' the sentiment against wolves. Figures don't lie, but liars figure. More DNR credibility lost, if they had any to begin with.	1	There are more wolves in WI, than you have any idea about. But, of course, you won't admit it. Randy Johnson will take most of the flack for this report, but he's just the messenger.
Ellen Marie Lindop	All of it	Yes	Like:Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
	Most of it	Yes	All	None	10	
	All of it	Yes	showing the important role wolves have in ecological management,	I noticed how compensation from depredation has increased over time as ¨hunters¨ have been sacrificing their dogs as the hunters in order to compensated for the loss of their dogs. This is shameful and unethical treatment of animals being used as ¨bait¨ more or less so the owner can collect compensation.	1	Although the cap has been removed from the wolf population, I do not see the need for a hunting season on wolves. The idea of using dogs (canines) to hunt other (canines) is comparable to using bait dogs (canines) to train pit pulls (canines) to fight. It is the greed of the humans who sacrifice their canines in order to collect profits from their demise. I think there should not be any compensation to hunters for their dead dogs that they chose to use to do their evil bidding. I know there has been some depredation to livestock over the years from wolves. I know they are compensated for it. My suggestion to livestock owners would be to look into using Great Pyrenees as they were bred to guard livestock and do a fairly fine job of it. Livestock owners need to be more responsible for their livestock in keeping them safe from predators. Lastly, I find it disrespectful that zones for hunting are so close to tribal lands. Again, Native people are being disrespected by the whites who want dominion of the Earth. Wolves have been villainized way too long; it is time to respect them as keystone species and to not put delist them from federal and state protections.
	All of it	Yes	You finally did your job and drafted a plan.	Not managing population for specific number of wolves on the landscape. Not soliciting opinions of the appropriate Wisc landowners that have direct and routine involvement with wolves on the landscape. You have sugarcoated this draft to your own liking and not the appropriate stakeholders.	1	It is clear and evident you drafted this plan based on politics. I could be specific, but you already know exactly how, what, and where. Not about the science. Not about what benefits the wildlife as a whole. Instead about your own personal ideology and what makes you feel good. The DNR has been corrupted in your decision making by a minority of peers.
Sue	All of it	Yes	The idea that the Wi DNR has more stakeholders in how we will preserve and conceive our apex predators other than hunters	That the plan includes any hunting of wolves. This is not conservation. Recent years when the wolf has been put back on the endangered species list has shown that hunting is unnecessary as the wolf population will self regulate. We also should not be reimbursing bear hunters for their dogs that are killed by a wolf pack while they are “training” their dogs during pup raising season.	5	We need a different philosophy on how we live with and interact with wolves. Hunting them is not the answer, we need to learn to coexist with nature, not kill something we have little understanding of. We almost caused extinction of these incredible animals in the past. It’s time we changed our paradigm on wolves. Thank you, Sue
David Zuckerman	Most of it	Yes	Protecting wolves near Indian Land	Using dogs to hunt wolves	6	As a retired Biologist I understand the value of wolves on the environment.
Cathy Diers	All of it	No	Adjustment for tribal adjacent lands. Recognition of ecological benefit of wolves. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management	There needs to be continued oversite and connection with environmental and scientific data to update the plan.	10	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	nothing	no maximum number of population of wolves listed (it was to be 350) we all know that there are far more than that now!	1	we do not need wolves in Wisconsin. If we have wolves we don't have deer

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Mark M Giese	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Please eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. Please disallow hunters from training dogs to chase down wolves. Thank you for removing a cap on the wolf population.
Jeffrey Szymanski	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Factors that take into account both sides.	Not sure.	7	As a lifelong resident, I urge Wisconsin to eliminate wolf-hunting adjacent to Tribal reservations. I Demand that the plan disallow hunters from training dogs to chase down wolves. Thanks for removing a cap on the wolf population.
Christine Farrell	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Section 1 regarding keeping the species populated and guarding against unwarranted killing	Too drawn out before action "do" part is implemented	5	
Jaime Lardinois	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The historical info was good. The graphs were easy to follow, especially the showing the small amount of pet dogs killed by wolves.	Any part that allows traps or use of dogsfor hunting wolves.	3	
	Most of it	Yes				Implement plan that outlaws trapping or hunting w/dogs. Both are cruel and inhumane. Place no cap on wolf population. Aim for plan that protects the wolf population while still protecting people. Wolves are an intrinsic part of our ecosystem, and we all will be better off when they are protected.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Eliminating using dogs to hunt wolves, wolf protection barrier around tribal lands. continue monitoring and using biological science to support the health and welfare of the wolf population		5	
Jeff	Most of it	Yes	I like that DNR appears (or at least claims) to be developing a science based wolf management plan.	11 of the 22 groups that DNR is collaborating with have a religious objection to wolf harvest. These groups have no place in a science based management plan.	5	The tribes made DNR look stupid last year. Either force them to show their hand or stop consulting them.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			8	
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			10	
	Most of it	Yes	My heart hopes that the right thing is done for our environment so that ALL living can live their life🙏🙏🙏♡💗♡💗			What if YOU were a wolf, how would YOU want to be treated and live YOUR life?
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Want wolves left alone. Let nature be nature. It's their land too. There are non-lethal ways to co-exist with wolves used all over the world.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			6	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I do not like any attempt our WDNR makes to manage anything in the state. Their track record concerning CW D and invasive species in our lakes speak for their incompetence.	The entire plan and any other plan that comes from behind a desk in Madison's top heavy political arena.	1	Any thing our WDNR attempts to manage or control is based on money and political influence which destinies it for failure. Wolves were here long before the white man set foot in Wisconsin and did a much better job of controlling themselves and wildlife than any appointed political hack in our Capital.

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Thomas E Nelson	Most of it	Yes	Apex predators (except Humans) are essential	Protect Apex predators almost everywhere with very few exceptions		
	Most of it	Yes	population goals of 350	Media portrayal	1	We are spending way to much money to maintain a population that city dwellers and tourest think we need, I would love to see the wolf population move into the cities and start eating their dogs.
	All of it	Yes	data, though outdated, data is nice to see, unbiased data that is.	The lack of new data, too much from the 70's-90's. practically nothing from 2015 on. The borders of the reservations, look at it in detail would you. Public/private. It's mainly public, you sub boundary is biased from lacking proper data.	2	Get rid of the sub boundaries, your council biased not balanced. Why is it that my friend on the GLIC says that they don't care about killing or not killing. AIM, yes they are still around, tells them that if the whites want to kill them say no to killing them. You practically have a mafia, this is first hand knowledge from one of their own.
	Most of it	Yes	While not federally protected, as naturalists we are focused on the wolves and the benefits of the wolves to the ecosystem	I would lie us to be more active about eliminating dog hunting of wolves. This is simply wrong,	7	
David Zielke	Most of it	Yes	The historical data was very thorough to the point of being overwhelming.	I don't agree with the added buffer zones around reservation lands. I disagree highly with not stating a number goal (350 wolves state wide). Lower harvest goals appear to be the future, and I very much disagree.	2	The plan is overwhelmed with historical data that distracts from the "plan". It makes reading the plan very difficult. It appears there is an extreme effort to appease the anti hunting public. The plan complicates wolf management far beyond what it's intent should be.
Al	All of it	Yes	Impact on CWD	Natural population limits would be much higher than a hundred years ago because timber wolves are an apex predator and Wisconsin's environment changed.	3	I had hunted for over 50 years in many areas of Wisconsin. I've seen the changes in deer populations in areas where I began to see wolves sign and heard them. I've seen the WDNR wolf den sites and noticed wolves in many area that were not included. I think there are many more wolves than are estimated. I think this plan should include the issues coyotes are causing the deer population and offer a plan on coyotes limits.
Kelli	All of it	Yes	Removing a wolf population number goal. Including public education. The more you understand, the less you fear. Listening to the public opinion and scientific research about wolves being a useful part of a healthy ecosystem. Realizing that the deer population controls the wolf population and not vice versa. Acknowledging that responsible farming practices can reduce predator conflict.	Needs more support for non lethal wolf control/deterrent. Guard animals such as donkeys or certain breeds of dog provide sustainable deterrents to predators. Limit the training period for wolf hunting dogs. 365 days a year is outrageous when wolves are not federally protected. Limit wolf hunting dogs in general. Hunting with dogs means the rest of the hunters/trappers don't get much of a chance. A clear plan for updating this plan so we don't go by very outdated information in the future.	9	Thank you for for writing a management plan for wolves focused on scientific, public and Tribal input!
	Most of it	Yes		to open ended peple do not understand wolves eat everthing used to see tons of small animals when that the wolves coyotes and bear got out of control the landscape died	1	should not expand no hunting zones
	All of it	Yes	Not much too vague	Too vague on numbers like the real population which I'm told off the record is well over 3500. But for people to keep there jobs it's under 1000.	1	
	Most of it	Yes				No trapping at all.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		Wisconsin is the only state that still allows hunting wolves with dogs. Additionally reimbursing owners for vets bills due to injury while hunting. I strongly disagree with practice of using dogs for this plus the state paying for injury. How does the state afford this? If this practice was done away with, the stats could potentially safe some $ and keep up with other states that realize this is very outdated and ignorant.	5	
[redacted]	Most of it	Yes	None	No management numbers	1	Quit sucking up to libs
Greg Mitchell	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None	All	0	The tribel nation should not be able to get a bumper for any kind of hunting or fishing season
Curt Loew	Most of it	Yes	Not much where have you stuck with the original plan 350	The boundaries around the reservations.come on land owners people hunting public land.We all know where this is going.	1	Stick with the 350 Or less Stop taking hunting lands away from hunters we pay the bills for wildlife! Stop trying to appease the antis
Kathleen Camilla King	All of it	Yes	I do like the new limitations on registration and harvest permits because these should reduce kill. I like that all agencies and stakeholders and tribes are included. I like the government to government collaboration Ensuring a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role.] --EXCELLENT!!! like the new aspects that appropiately support the wolves' ecological role. Revising wolf management zone boundaries to better reflect current wolf distribution and habitat.]--Excellent!! Once again, consistent with real world. I think it's very wise to include different agencies and tribes and	trapping]??Hopefully !!Not!! with the steel jaw traps!! I like the *idea* of scientific research and science-based, !Of Course!,but science has generally been acting so goofy-nutty lately I'm not comfortable reading just "science" without specific backup statements. Reducing harvest registration times and issuing zone-specific wolf harvest permits to improve the department's ability to effectively meet harvest quotas.---Im concerned about the language here because the first half of the paragraph describes creative new strategies that would reduce kill,but the second half of the paragraph implies that hunters have to keep on killing the wolves *Until* they meet the quota. I'm pretty sure that in the real world they would harvest the wolves until a quota, but the wording is weirdly contradictory. I'm alarmed that no mention is made about changing the wolf hunting season so that it's not at the same time as their mating and pregnancy season.	8	

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			stakeholders are being included and collaborated with because this may prevent future red tape barriers.			
	All of it	No		Why can't a group of the wolves be relocated to another state? I am totally against killing any wolves. I like them a whole lot better than man. I am not a fan of beef at all, so if the wolves eating them, is fine by me. As for pets.. if you guys want them then put them in your homes with you. I keep my dog in my house. Or do you guys up there not love your pets ? !	0	I would love to see the red wolves that were murdered in the past reestablished here in Georgia again. You guys don't really think this out, do you? If they become no'more, you will regret it , and so will the generations after you.
Larry Polenske	Most of it	Yes	background information	No specific target population number.	3	We need to be more aggressive in controlling the population at number around 500 wolves in the state. That is enough to ensure their survival and lessen the negative impacts of a larger population.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Dividing the state into different zones to recognize that various parts of the state are very different - land type, land use, human population density.	1. No specific wolf population goal.previous plans quoted 300-350 wolves. That is specific, reasonable, and achieves targets goal. 2. Trying to expand wolf habitat well beyond previous areas. 3,. Including non wolf impacted people in surveys. Only directly impacted people's opinions should be considered if any opinions at all. Otherwise wolf myths and non scientific beliefs will drive survey results.	1	It must do a better job of balancing wolf population ecological goals with current realities of human modified land conditions and use.
Nick Toth	Most of it	Yes	Nothing is good about the draft plan!	I dislike that the goal of 350 wolves has been removed, we have way too many wolves and the population needs to be knocked down to no more than 350 wolves in the state. Expanding primary and secondary wolf habitat designations is unacceptable and the last thing this state needs.	1	It is clear that the DNR wants to expand the wolf population instead of reduce i This plan does not value hunters or farmers. The deer herd in the Northwoods continues to suffer and the DNR cares more about the wolves. It is clear that you do not care about us in the Northwoods and care only about appeasing the pro-wolf crowd, many of which do not live in wolf country. This plan is a slap in the face to Wisconsin residents.
Karen Ackroff	All of it	Yes	Emphasis on science-based decision making and inclusion of all interested groups.	continued support for leg-hold traps	9	I appreciate the thoughtful and thorough construction of this plan.
James White	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Depredation , elk recovery , money spent on reimbursement .	Tribal influences on ceded territories outside of reservations .	4	Federal Government needs to put management back in the states management plan . Current population estimates are off skew , while scientific and counting it is not close to real numbers . Non-residents should not be allowed to draw a tag .
David Anhalt	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	The plan ignores the survey of the people through the spring conservation hearings. The plan marginalizes the people living in zones heavily affected by high wolf populations. The plan ignores the 350 wolf population goal. In fact it doesn't even state a population goal. The plan expands wolf zones into areas that shouldn't be suitable for wolves. The plan creates large buffer zones around Indian reservations that disenfranchises private property owners who shouldn't be under Indian rule.	1	The DNR needs to scrap this plan and start over. The wolf surveys presented to the DNR show that the people most affected want action to reduce the wolf population to the 350 wolf goal. A 350 population doesn't eliminate the wolf from Wisconsin which i wouldn't support. It does create a reasonable population that residents, ranchers and hunters can work with.
Jodi Koehler	All of it	Yes	Low quota, but it should be 0. We do not eat wolves. People kill them for the joy of killing something. Protecting breeding areas and seasons, and no hunting on tribal lands also critically important	We should not hunt wolves at all! They are an extremely intelligent species with strong family values. And we should never use barbaric traps or dogs to destroy these beautiful creatures	5	Again wolves should not be hunted. There is no reason to kill a wolf. It one is running livestock, farmers and ranchers already are allowed to murder them. There should NOT be a season in an animal that we don't need for food! How barbaric is our species? What does that say about us as human beings?
Gerard Makovec	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	protecting wolves	Any part which permits a wolf hunting season.	7	I support paying farmers for animals they lose to wolves. I oppose wolf hunting, especially using dogs and baiting. Let them be the part of the natural environment that they have always been before humans endangered their existence.
Marvin Thorell	All of it	Yes	Not much.	Most. You've overcomplicated everything.	1	It's a very simple issue. Wolves improve the deer herd by eliminating the weak and sick. They also decrease the herd by eliminating healthy and young animals. Set a maximum number of wolves as a goal, that goal being simply to prevent their extintion. 100 seems reasonable. Use a VERY willing public (e.g. hunters) to control the overall deer population. We're done, here. I own 80 acres in northern Wisconsin. I have 8 elevated stands on my land. I spent three full months deer hunting this past fall on my property. In that time I saw but a single small deer on my property. I killed it, but felt badly since the population seems to be so low, already. How many months will I need to hunt next year to see a deer now that I killed the only deer I saw in 3 long months this year? You do the math.
Bailey lee	All of it	Yes	Very good historical data on wolfs.	Too many to list but here are the top ones. 1. Where is the population goal? Without this it isn't a plan. 2. Tribes controlling wolfs outside of the reservations is wrong. 3. The word Holistic has no place in this document. 4. Too many anti wolf hunting groups on the committee. 5. People living in wolf country need a bigger say in this plan.	1	Needs to be heavily improved.
Kevin lee	All of it	Yes	Very little of it. Except some good data points.	Where is the population goal? Without a goal this is not a plan!	2	None

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Fruhwirth, Scott A.	All of it	Yes	First of all, I like that there is finally a wolf plan. The report is very detailed and shows that there was allot of hard work that went into it. So many different perspectives. There was allot of great information. The overall review of the wolf's history and repopulation of Wisconsin. Along with discussion on the different viewpoints and perspectives. The science behind the wolf recovery process. Great work by the men & women on the ground.	1) That there is no wolf population goal. The original 350 goal was never sought after, or the end game. People don't forget. The objectives sound good, but whether or not the objectives are meet will be very subjective. 2) Wolf numbers are sure to rise further, I don't see how conflicts stay the same, much less decrease. 3) I don't have land within 6 miles of a reservation, but don't like it that private landowners who do, will have more stringent hunting restrictions than others. 4) That people that live in wolf country don't have more say. They have the skin in the game. 5) Deer are the primary prey. Improved forest management should be a main objective. Increasing the amount of early succession forest, would improve deer nutrition, plus greatly increase the species diversity of the whole forest. Good for deer, wolves, and hunters.	6	
Randy priem	All of it	Yes	The fact that you actually created a plan that had management zones.	No population goal. Impossible to manage anything in life without a goal. Really amateurish. Buffer zones around Indian reservations. That's giving the tribes the de facto ability to manage non- native land.	2	Recognize the needs of the population and hunters of northern Wisconsin not just the anti hunters in our big cities. I've hunted in northern Wisconsin for 47 years. I the need to manage wolves is a necessity to save deer hunting in the north
Tina Congdon			I'm not sure since it's not written in PLAIN ENGLISH!	The fact that it's not written in Plain English!	2	I think we should leave them alone! Nature takes care of itself!
Dennis Lenzendorf	Most of it	Yes	Science based Very thorough Includes tribal input	Maybe not tge plan but The amount of compensation for loss of hunting dogs is concerning	9	I think the DNR has done a very good job in updating the Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan. It is based on science, research covering predator research, human interaction, history, and good plan to move forward in insuring Wisconsin maintains a healthy wolf population while addressing conflicts. Tolerance of wolves will require a huntingcand trapping season into the future. No special interest group or political ientity should dictate how the plan should be implemented. Being aware of Tribal history and input is well addressed in the plan. I am a wolf advocate but also have a strong understanding of wolf management. Years ago I was fortunate S a college student to observe David Mech's wolf study in the Superior National Forest and worked in Yellowstone National Park before retiring from the Park Servive.
	All of it	Yes	not much if anything	no end goal for population. What happened to 350! why are you designating areas that should not have wolves as protected areas?	0	not acceptable for those of us who live up north in :"wolf country" You people who reside outside of "wolf country" have no clue about the effect of increasing wolf populations on our lives. do not pander to the ponytail crowd!!
Scott Jacobson	All of it	Yes	The in depth study and information gathering.	The reluctance to reduce the number of wolves.	2	I think that the wolf issue in Wisconsin is being politized. Wolves need to live in remote areas such as Alaska and Canada. The Wisconsin DNR has failed in wildlife management. Wolf interaction is a problem to anyone that uses the public and private land to hunt on. Farmers always have the threat of wolf depredation and it is only amatter of time before our farm is raided by wolves. Our flock of sheep has been decades of development and we could loss 40 years of work in one attack. I also hunt with bird dogs and have had one wolf attempt to kill my best pointer. Every time I go into the woods I have to be on guard for a wolf attack. I am a farmer and a public land owner. I feel that having wolves running throughout the state impinges my rights and safety to my livestock and hunting dogs. How many people actually see a wolf in the wild. I did not see that in your report. Seeing tracks is easy if you spent time in the woods and swamps of Wisconsin. My opinion of wolves is this. They need to be wild and live in a place that provides them a natural habitat. A National Park is a good choice. Not roaming in my pasture at night. I think we have to protect the wolf from people. We can't do that by having wolves interface with high populations of human and livestock. I would like to see in the meantime the DNR and USDA allow hunters and livestock farmers to use lethal force to protect their property. When the wolf is out of prey it is their instinct to find it wherever they can get it. They kill dogs because the view them as competition. One more point I would like to make is when you live trap a wolf and release them they learn from that experience. They no longer fear humans. I seen that first hand when my pointer was being ran down by a wolf. He looked right at me and he was 30 feet from me. I shot my shotgun over the top of him and got the wolf to turn and breakoff the attack. I found out later from the local game warden that the wolf I described to him was released a year prior to my encounter. I don't want that to ever happen again. I am 63 years old and have been in the woods of Wisconsin since I could follow my father on walks. I have learned a lot and still see things the truly amaze me. Please take my opinion and comments seriously. Managing wildlife is not easy. But you need to have an open mind. If anyone that think wolves are cute and cuddly show them pictures of what they do to livestock and dogs and then ask them if they have every seen a wolf in the wild. It may change their mind. Regards, Scott Jacobson Cushing, Wisconsin Yes we have wolves.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Catherine	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan is focused on the ecologic benefits of wolves.	There is no guidance for review and updates.	9	Thank you for writing a plan that centers science on protecting an important part of the eco system.
Dennis Stensberg	Most of it	Yes	I like that this topic is being addressed and that we are finally getting an opportunity for input.	You will not consider this 'specific' but I don't like the fact that the overall tone seems to be to increase the wolf population.	3	I live near public land in Wood County and have hunted there for over 50 years. There was a time when deer were abundant and deer hunting was an enjoyable extended family activity. Since the appearance of wolves, the deer numbers have plummeted to the point that hunting has gone from enjoyable to challenging to frustrating to nearly a waste of time. Things like antlerless permits, which once guaranteed a likelihood of success are nearly impossible to obtain. The survival rate of fawns has dropped from the former level of 80+% to somewhere closer to 10%. Our group's next generation has quit hunting. "It's boring!". I once dreamed of enjoying the sport with my grandchildren. Now, I wouldn't even try to encourage them to try it. I can endure on past pleasant memories, but newcomers to the sport would only experience long, cold, lonely, boring hours of seeing nothing. Once the generational link to hunting is broken, it will be very difficult to grow it back. I used to think hearing wolves howl was music to my ears; seeing one was magical! Now, there's so [redacted] many of them, I view them as a disgusting pest. Nothing ruins a hunt like hearing wolves howl. You might as well pack up and leave; you will not be seeing any deer. The wolf numbers NEED TO BE CONTROLLED!!! As hunter numbers decline, license sales drop and the connection to nature and conservation continues to fade. Healthy numbers of deer can do a lot more to slow the trend than an ever increasing scourge of wild dogs.
	Most of it	Yes			7	I support nonlethal management techniques. NO use of traps, no dogs, no hunting by air. I support indigenous peoples' concerns and interests.
Nancy Wiegand	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The DNR seems to be trying to safeguard the wolves, even when the legislature/laws may make that difficult.	Using hounds to chase wolves is bad practice, and if it cannot be fully stopped, it should be severely limited, that is, only in a small space and of very short duration. Also, I'm wondering who will be closely monitoring effects on wolves and who will be in charge of changing the DNR's recommendations if needed, and at what frequency. Wolf scientists should be in charge, assuming they are committed to preserving a natural ecosystem with a healthy wolf population.	8	I personally am against hunting wolves. And, I'm absolutely against using hounds. I'd like to know how farmers are compensated for wolf damage and whether other means could be used to avoid damage by wolves, thus avoiding the need for compensation.
Steve smits	Most of it	Yes	Elk kill from wolves appears high		1	I owned a cabin and deer hunted in Florence and forest county. After seeing wolves follow my tracks as I went to my stand and the deer population non existent I sold the cabin in 2021. I kept 12 acres but there are no deer in food plot. Deer appeared for about 3 weeks and then wolves moved back into area and no deer present for the next 4 weeks. Vecause of the wolves I no longer deer hunt or ride atvs in forest and Florence counties. The wolf population is significantly higher than your estimates.
Hannah Lee	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	I have to say that I am in support of whatever you support because I trust The Sierra Club's analysis. I love wolves and want to support them, but don't have the time or the patience, regrettably, to read stuff like this. I count on you for that.	I guess just based on what I read in your email, I would say I dislike that there is no plan for review or guidance for updating. Further, I would like to see some specific suggestions in the plan for how farmers and others could implement non-lethal and more responsible practices, naming and describing those practices and asking the DNR to require them.	8	I would also like to see the DNR publicly display an attitude of respect for wolves rather than a simple-minded "hunt-or-don't-hunt" public stance. A more humane DNR that respects the land and its inhabitants as more than merely a resource for hunters, farmers, miners, industrialists, and recreation-seekers would be more likely to make better decisions about the issues in their purview. Wolves are iconic; how and why, and what does this tell us about why they must be respected? e.g. (I know; when pigs fly....and yet,.....)
Kelly Williams	Most of it	Yes	I like that the plan focuses on the ecological benefits of wolves while also keeping Wisconsin residents' opinions in mind. I also like the focus on science and research.	I don't see any content relating to when the next review or update will be. I think it would be in our best interest to revisit or update the plan more frequently, and each revisitation or update should require inout from science committees and tribal nations.	9	Thank you for writing a plan that takes the science and Tribal input into account. Those things are very important to me.
	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn't recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	10	Thanks for a more progressive plan!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"			
	Most of it	Yes	The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn't recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	9	
C. Zook	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1. removal of fixed number goal for population size makes sense 2. focus on benefits of wolves to the environment 3. commitment to science and research to determine the best ongoing management strategies	1. would like to see more emphasis on non-lethal options for population control (such as farming practices) 2. would like to see better regulation and control of hound training on wolves	9	Thank you for this survey and for including science-driven considerations to preserve and protect our state's natural resources, especially the gray wolves in Wisconsin in the draft management plan.
Lauren Flottorp	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that the plan removes an arbitrary numeric population goal. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these low-quota zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves. The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem."	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. It would be best if wolf-focused hound training is limited to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There should be a plan for regularly reviewing and updating this plan. And stakeholders and a science committee should be a permanent part of the ongoing review. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options, to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but these options should be recommended as priorities over lethal options.	9	Thank you, Wisconsin DNR, for creating a plan that centers science, public input, and Tribal engagement!
Laura Herzog	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves The plan is reflective of the public opinions survey that was released along with the plan and finds that opinions toward wolves have grown significantly more favorable There is expressed commitment to science and continued research with partners and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – this oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but doesn't recommend that these opportunities are prioritized.	9	
Steven Lindstrom	All of it	Yes	At least it is being updated after 20 years	Reimbursement for hound dogs Nonlethal methods to limit human, livestock, and wolf contact should be first and foremost in the plan	4	Please use best science based practices to continue quality wolf management
	Most of it	Yes	It was great that this survey is put out for public comment. The scientific aspects of the management plan are very helpful.	I would like to see plans going forward to review the wolf management plan sooner than in previous years.	9	Thank you for considering my viewpoint.
Ella Kinney	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There should be a plan for regularly dating the plans (approx. 7-10 years). There should also be permanent, ongoing stakeholder and science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin - this oversight is critical.	8	Thank you to the WDNR for writing a wolf management plan that centers on science and our tribal communities! They are key members of this plan!
	Most of it	Yes	Finally getting a somewhat plan for managing wolves. Long overdue.	Surveys should be for the people who live in wolf zones. I'm sure the southern half of the state has no clue on the impact wolves have on the deer herd.	1	Need a population goal of 350 or less. Tired of paying high taxes for hunting land that is overrun with wolves.

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Chad Wenzel	Most of it	Yes	-Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management -The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan -The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities, which it should do.	9	
Heidi Cassel	All of it	Yes	I like that we are not using a number quota to determine populations. I also like some of the the new wolf hunting regulations, even though I opposed wolf hunting.	I am unhappy that we are allowing wolf baiting, wolf trapping, hound hunting, and hound training. I believe science shows that is bad for all animals in the forest, and it is inhumane. Hounds and wolves suffer. I do not support the method for monitoring wolf populations. There Is is huge amount of error possible. I am very upset regarding the imbalance of power in agencies making decisions regarding wolf management. There are huge numbers of decision makers from anti wolf groups, who do not reflect the majority of Wisconsin resident's opinions. Wisconsin people support wolf protection when they have correct scientific information as is reflected in surveys. The Wisconsin Conservation Congress is a group of bear hunters, hounders, trappers, and wolf haters.	5	Try to do the right thing. Hounding is really wrong. Be a humane state.
Barb Frank	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Science based. Multi prong action+	None	10	
	All of it	Yes	The plan reflects the recent public survey showing the public opinion of the wolf population is growing. The plan focuses on the ecological benefit of the wolf population The plan removes a numeric population goal	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The plan does not prioritize non-lethal solutions for livestock depredation. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update and does not have a committee to permanently oversee wolf management	9	
Stafford Kramer	Most of it	Yes	Not killing so many wolves because of random misinformation or listening to the loudest voice in the room. Science and unbiased info should determine wolf population. Native people's wishes respected as well is a great step forward.	I wish this was the original plan implemented years ago.	8	
Brian Porter	All of it	Yes	Table of contents is well organized. A few meaningful Objective metrics are provided.	The overall theme is that the "plan" is meant to encourage expansion of the wolf range, the wolf population and to encourage public support for wolves. This is NOT appropriate for a Management plan. The writers of this plan were clearly biased to the themes I mention above and it has polluted the entire plan. Even the release date of the plan speaks loudly to the bias present in the plan. The absence of a numeric goal for wolf population is the most obvious indicator of the weakness and bias of the draft. There are many, many other indicators, such as the use of opinion based terms such as "relatively" or "adequate" or "ample". You're supposed to be highly educated people, based on science. You ought to use metrics to drive decision making, not vague words that you can twist to your own purposes! Finally, I'll use a quote from the document that is another clear indicator of the bias in this document...from your discussion about the relationship between deer and wolves...."support efforts to manage for healthy white-tailed deer populations to ensure prey abundance does not become a limiting factor for the wolf population nor cause public support for wolves to erode." So, you're telling us that the purpose of the deer in Wisconsin, and the management of that herd, is to feed the wolves. And we need to make sure we have enough deer so that wolves aren't limited. Really?	1	Why did not someone involved in the writing and review of this plan call out the "elephant in the room" when you were working on this document? It had to be very obvious to the people involved that this whole thing was designed with the purpose of wolf expansion and toting to the wolf-favoring constituencies. Shame on you all...nobody had the guts to stand up to this nonsense and write a truly fact based and balanced plan. Would you really want this on your resume? I think not. I used to be very proud of our DNR. I'm still proud of the guys and gals in the field for doing the job they do. The people involved in writing this document should be ashamed, I am sure the folks in the field are embarrassed for you.
	All of it	Yes	Monitoring wolf population information.	Plan should not include any deer harvest.	2	Wolf harvesting should not be part of plan. Hunter conflicts should be reduced by banning hunting with dogs and eliminating payments to hunters with dog death or injury due to wolf encounters

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Shayna Vendela	All of it	Yes	I want to start by saying that the management plan draft was incredibly thorough and well written. It took me days to read in its entirety however I was busy when I started reading it so I am sure that's a factor. - I like the idea of changing from 24 hr notice down to 8 however I think 12 would be sufficient for the goals. - I appreciate that you mention the introgression of coyote dna into wolves in the great lakes areas. I think there should be additional expansion in the draft on what that means for wolves in our state as well as implications for management. I wrote a proposal when I was still in college, a research proposal on the introgression of coyote dna into Wisconsin wolves and part of the paper included the dnr taking samples from all wolves shot in the future. Since personal have to look at the wolves anyway it would not be too tedious of an additional step, if you are checking the teeth for wear to age the animal you could take a swab and some hair as well. if you would be interested in seeing my research proposal, contact me at [redacted] or s[redacted] - the addition of buffer zones was a good idea; I remember reading a report out of UW on the 2011-14 hunts that recommended including buffer zones. That report had a comparison picture of where the zones would be and where wolves were harvested and there was a few that were taken in the proposed buffers. I think this is a good way to mitigate conflict, and relatively "easy" to do. Similarly, the addition of more intensive management zones was a good idea too.	- I think there should be more emphasis on how attainable a hunting season is for Wisconsin wolves There was a lot of speculation that we reduced our wolves greatly in 2021 or that we would kill them off. I think it should be noted in the plan that the other distinct population segment of wolves (NRM DPS) was delisted with just 1700 wolves in their entire dps in 2009. All of the states combined. routine harvests since then, some of them pretty intensive, and they still have a healthy wolf population out west. In idaho alone they experienced over 50% more harvest one year, but just had a population count of ten less animals the next with their single state's count being over 1500 animals, close to the population the entire DPS had at the time of delisting, 10 years previous in 2009. Their numbers have grown while being hunted. They are dispersing into new states and breeding there. They are now in Washington, Colorado, etc. - I think there should be more mention on the social carrying capacity of wolves and the fact that they have spilled into less than marginal habitat. The wolves at the cedar creek reserve in Minnesota have shown us that, while not a true "wilderness species", wolves do need some space to keep themselves out of trouble. Without that they pose a danger to pets, and people. There was a beach in Canada that actually had to be shut down because wolves were attacking people's pets while they walk them on leashes. Allowing wolves to spill into less than marginal habitat for the sake of recovery is dangerous. We have states like North Dakota nearby us saying they do not support wolf expansion; they will shoot wolves. Wolves are shot accidentally as coyotes in states like Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, most recently one was shot in New York. Due to the admixture of Eastern Coyotes and our wolves there was some debate on that one. There are implications of this, wolves that disperse can and occasionally do interbreed with coyotes- see "Coyotes in Wolves Clothing", a report on a few pups captured in the lower peninsula of Michigan. The implications for management should be clearer, are coyote hybrids protected as wolves under the ESA? Its clear that our wolves are heavily admixed, what does WI state law say about hybrid animals? Could there be an argument that GLW are in fact descended of coyotes & gray wolves similar to the way red wolves are, and if so, does that mean they should then be listed under their own entity and not as gray wolves at all? If they were, what does that mean for management? Gray wolves in the WGL DPS are genetically distinct, this is not a state issue now that I bring up but there should be some disconnect of our states and the rest of the lower 48 similar to how the NRM is its own dps (I know that is under federal control, still going to mention it as we could continue to collect evidence and argue for our dps being disconnected from the rest of the lower.). Also, there's strong evidence that we could have our wolves down listed like Minnesota does to threatened so that it at least opens up management for wildlife services personal. We are well past recovery, however the judge that put our wolves back on the list did not agree with the part of the petition that questioned the regulatory mechanisms in the great lakes. He thinks that our state departments are sufficient, and I do too. I think that there is strong evidence that wolves are past recovery here, dispersing and we should collectively be making the argument, backing up the USFWS that wolves should not be protected past recovery in one area just so that they can spill into others for the name of checking some box on the ESA recovery list requirements. There are multiple species that do not inhabit their historic range that are currently still able to be hunted in areas where they do have sufficient populations. - I appreciate that the admixture of wolves was mentioned, like I mentioned earlier I think there should be more expansion on this. This is pretty serious for management purposes. Our wolves are smaller than the ones out west or further north. Originally, they had proposed releasing wolves from Minnesota in the Yellowstone area, which might have been a better idea and might be a better idea for Colorado since they already voted to reintroduce wolves. however, those bigger ones might just kill off any that were brought in. There's clear evidence that bigger wolves would have more advantages, we can see this with the recently reintroduced wolves to isle royale. the last-ditch effort to save the wolves on the island off the coast of Ontario might have swayed their entire plan. The goal was to mitigate the reduction of genetic diversity on the island. However, a last-ditch decision to rescue some starving wolves means that on that island those bigger Ontario Island wolves have now been the only ones to reproduce on isle royale. They even have killed off some Michigan and Minnesota wolves. these wolves were brought to isle royale starving because they had eaten all of the woodland caribou on their island, started at a disadvantage but have still managed to thrive. The Michipicoten island wolves are a grand example that genetics matter and have great implications for survival. - The supreme court Voigt decision solidified that the tribes have hunting fishing and gathering rights.	8	You can tell that a lot of time and effort was spent on this plan, I appreciate the combination of multiple viewpoints as well as how thorough the plan ended up being. Overall, this was very well done. Only complaint would be the amount of time it took, which is not reflective of this team in my opinion. It is not your fault that this is the first update in 20 years.

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				There is no right to preserve. There has been no right to preserve a portion of the identifiable harvestable surplus ever granted to anyone and there should not be. Following no tribal harvest in 2012 Cathy Stepp granted less tags to the tribes due to the fact that they were going against our management goals. When the department identifies the harvestable surplus thats the number of animals that can be harvested. It is NOT 50% of the number of animals that can be harvested. I think this needs to be stood on and hold our ground while remaining respectful. Implementing things like the buffer zones would be a step in the right direction. Allowing a portion of the quota to be reserved for preservation is against management goals and should no longer be permitted. However, steps to understand and mitigate differences should also be taken.		
Manley Glaubitz	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The plan removes a non-scientific population goal for wolves. The plan recognizes the public is more receptive to the balance wolves bring to the environment. People are beginning to accept that wolves are not as portrayed in fairy tales.	I would like to see hunting with hounds totally abolished. This is just harassment of a wild species. The plan should include a schedule for periodic review to insure best practices are being followed and new scientific information is included.	9	Thank you for developing an updated plan incorporating the knowledge and interests of the public, science and Tribal communities to insure a viable wolf population in Wisconsin.
Brian Giles	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone.	7	
	All of it	Yes	Making a maximum population goal of 350 animals.	Utilizing input from areas of the state that have no impact do to wolves.	7	Do to human intervention and interference in nature. The top predator can not be the only non controlled animal. Science needs to be used to manage wolf populations as it is with all other animal species. Guilt about the past is no excuse for not allowing controlled hunting of wolves. Even common sense says the if the wolf population is higher than their food source can support, the food source disappears and so do the wolves. Also as the food diminishes in the north, the wolves will be forced to move father south into higher human populations.
Liz Reid	All of it	Yes	Lots of good data	What is the specific target number of wolfs on the landscape by region? Without this, it isn't a real plan. Too many anti wolf hunting members on the committee. I don't see that on the Bear advisory committee yet many tribes hold the bear to be apart of their heritage "Holistic" Appears 7 times in this document and has no place in management of wolfs. Where's the wolf population by zone? Seems if DNR can't provide that then how does the public have confidence in the rest of management strategy by zone.	1	
Margie	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Limit the number of wolves killed.	We'll.. that any are killed. Natures balance is out of sync here. Too many dear cause more problems.	5	
	All of it	Yes	Plans to increase education about wolves, and to have a thriving population of them.	Plans for any wolf hunts at all, no mention of non-lethal methods, population cap of 350, not enough.	4	350 is not enough wolves, there should be no wolf hunting or trapping, especially after your last slaughter, wolves are essential and we need them. Non-lethal methods should be the only methods to use.
David A Broadwell	All of it	Yes	Commitment to supporting the continuation of a wolf population in Wisconsin. Use of scientific study/measurements to guide regulations related to wolf management. Limiting licenses to specific hunting zones. A wide range of educational efforts to inform the population about the value and lives of wolves.	Not being a supporter of recreational hunting of wolves, I would prefer that 'taking' the of wolves be for safety, depredation, and health reasons.	8	I found the statements made by First Nation spokespersons to be enlightening. These perspectives could be more widely shared.

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Drew Charpentier	All of it	Yes	A management population goal is the most important part of the plan. However, I disagree with the state/federal population estimates.	Much of the plans data references old data. I do not think the data reflects hunter input accurately. It represents residents of wolf habitat and range.	3	Deer hunting generates more money than any other recreational sport. Especially in northern Wisconsin. Wolf numbers are much much higher than the DNR/USFWS estimates would have you believe. Include input from 8-10,000 deer hunters in northern Wisconsin in the management plan and your graphs/survey results will show a much different opinion/consensus on how to manage the wolf population. Take a fair sampling of bear hunters as well. Bear hunters will attest to increasing numbers of wolves caught on trail cameras and observed in person at bait piles. Also missing from the plan, each wolf depredation incident by county. The draft plan is biased from a government/wolf loving point of view. Wolves and coyotes have clearly reduced deer populations in many northern Wisconsin counties, Minnesota counties, and Michigan counties. Countless Deer Hunting YouTube videos and Deer Hunting articles featured in Wisconsin Outdoor News, and other magazines clearly narrate how bad depredation has been for our deer herds. Many hunters in the three states I have mentioned would like a total wolf eradication, and many will not wait for a management plan to be passed. Many will defend and protect their families, pets, livestock, and other prey species at all costs whether regulated or not!
Michael	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Overall good plan but it means nothing unless the feds change things.	Anything involving government on any level and the HSUS is a bad mix.	4	No they can't. Government doesn't run things better and this for lack of a better term is heavy government controlled. I don't remember the people being ask if they wanted wolf reintroduction!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		There is no mention of a maximum limit of 350.	1	
jon peterson	Most of it	Yes	none it sounds like a bunch of no commom sense dnr staff spending way to much time coming up with this stupid plan	the whole plan lets get some common sense in the plan not just a bunch of bs	0	this is a typical approach by dnr to a problem in nothern wi if you would like to see how many wolf there really are ican show you a 15 mile area in trego with 30 wolves time for a hunt,
	All of it	Yes	I do not like the plan at all. Iv lived in Wisconsin my entire life and the wolves and DNR have destroyed the northern deer population.	Wolves need to be harvested every year. Also removed from the endangered species list	1	You need to clean up your responsibility before people start getting attacked by wolves and I hold the DNR personally responsible
Randall Ritchie	All of it	Yes	The Historical elements.	The lack of numbers for direct predation by Wolves on Elk. The Tribes statements do not represent the opinions of all First Nations in Wisconsin.	1	The historical impact of hunting on the Wolf population is minimal yet the hunting opportunities it provides are hardly mentioned. Unfortunately the deer population in the State will never rebound in many areas until large numbers of Wolves are reduced , not .04% in a season every four years!
Dale Nixon	All of it	Yes	Limiting the population of wolves.	I think the DNR should stay with the 300+ total population in Wis..	5	
	All of it	Yes	Setting a goal.	The population goal not being based solely on biology. Leave the "social value" out of it.	0	Keep and maintain the population goal of 350 or deal with the consequences of citizens managing the population on their own accord.
	All of it	Yes	That the plan is adaptable, flexible, and ways in public opinion. Above all it calls for educating the public by providing the most up to date information. It also recognizes occurring problems.	Original plan called for 350 wolves, population is now over 1000. Material provided says 29-30% harvest would provide balance. Why has the population doubled?	3	Wolf population has doubled, wolf range is increasing, and I personally feel as Numbers move towards southern Wisconsin in heavier populated area and agricultural areas. More problems and complaints will happen.
	All of it	Yes	Very little	Most of it	1	There was a reason wolves were removed from the landscape. The state didn't listen brought them back there was a goal of 350. As people spread across the landscape even more then when the 350 goal was set what makes it possible to increase the numbers. There was a reason 350 was set it should be no more then 350 and probably less. The size of the boundaries around tribes is ridiculous. I could see a couple miles but come on.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	Increasing education about wolves, maintaining a population of wolves	Allowing wolf hunting or trapping in general, 350 population cap, any mention of lethal management methods, no mention of non-lethal methods intended.	3	I can't believe that you still intend to have wolf hunts after that last slaughter. There's no reason whatsoever to hunt or trap wolves, there's plenty of non-lethal methods to keep wolves at bay. The small inconveniences of having wolves is completely overshadowed by the benefits of having wolves. Wolves don't require human interference, in fact in many cases that causes more problems. It's time to govern by science and proven facts. Wolf hunts are ant-science, anti-climate, anti-facts, and anti-wildlife. Wolves can prevent the spread of CWD, as well as prevent natural disasters and deforestation. They keep wildlife healthy and thriving. They balance ecosystems and we need them. On top of all that, wolves are a major tourist attraction, live healthy, thriving wolves that is, they bring people from all over the world and their tourist dollars. 350 is a minimum population, and not enough. We need to learn to coexist with wolves and end wolf hunting and trapping. Wisconsin is frowned upon and not looked at favorably after our last slaughter. Time to end the Zoosadism once and for all. There's nothing wrong with ethical prey hunting, but trophy hunting and trapping is barbaric, inhumane and plain sadistic, there's no place in today's society or our state for it. Let's evolve already.
Tal r Bodin	Most of it	No			5	I am an Illinois resident, but my family owns property in Washburn county and I keep a trailer seasonally on Petenwell Flowage at Adams county park. I am in favor of Wolves having 100% protection. Poaching takes enough of a toll. The attraction of Wisconsin is the lakes and wildlife, without which there is no reason to visit. Illinois has enacted laws protecting Wolves, Bears, and Cougars that are making their way into the state. The continuing comeback of Whooping Cranes, Elk, Raptors and other species is heartening and a definite plus to tourism. Moose and Caribou should also be reintroduced.
Michael Hilger	Most of it	Yes			8	Keep a healthy population of wolves Work hard to have and enforce the target number of wolves killed and avoid the fiasco of last couple of years. Listen to what Native Americans say about and think about the plan
Jerry Hamm	Most of it	Yes	Planning to manage areas where wolves are found based on human populations is a good idea.	I believe there should be a specific number of wolves identified where a harvest is allowed. More input from people most affected by wolves should be sought.	5	Higher wolf populations will cause more problems as they interact with people and their pets and domestic animals. There should be wolves in Wisconsin but they should be confined to lightly populated areas. Limited hunting can control the wolf population and ensure they have a healthy fear of humans.
Dave	Most of it	Yes	I like that there is not a population number to manage wolves.	Payments for injured hunting hounds.	7	Properly managed wolves are a healthy part of the ecosystem.
Deb Martin	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research and acknowledges that "keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	8	Thanks for asking and listening. Time to update the plan.
Jean	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				The draft is comprehensive, thank you. It reflects insight and an understanding of the impacts from no management to management. I would most like to say that I DO NOT WANT TO REPEAT WHAT HAPPENED IN 2021 TO HAPPEN EVER AGAIN. It was disgraceful, unlawful, and brutal. The hunters who killed all of these animals were acting without direction, compassion, and lawfulness. IMO, they were savages. There MUST be a system in place that ACTIVELY allows and monitors how many wolves are killed, such as by tag and lottery; there should not be a free-for-all and then an apology later when the limit is exceeded. Huffpost summed it up well: Wisconsin officials shut down a planned weeklong wolf hunt in just three days after 216 of the animals were killed — 82% more than the maximum that had been set by the state. "This season trampled over tribes' treaty rights, the Wisconsin public, and professional wildlife stewardship," a spokesperson for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission told The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. "It will go down as a stark example of mismanagement, and the problems that can be expected when the state Legislature and the courts embrace special interest groups over the public as a whole."

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	-Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management -The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan -The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		To high of population objective.		The least amount of wolves the better.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I didn't see anything to limit a season to times when pups are still dependent on their dams for nursing. To me it is beyond cruel to allow wolves to be killed when doing so will condemn pups to starve b/c they're not old enough to eat solid or semi-solid food.	5	
	Most of it	Yes	Zone management and listing as nongame species.		8	Threshold numbers for enacting control measures seem a little low but managing by zones with control for dealing with problems as they emerge is a plus. Please avoid the implementation of sny more " sport" hunts!
MARK ABBOTT	All of it	Yes	1. Nice historical data. 2. Nice charts and graphs	I dislike many areas. 1. Wolf committee is too heavily weighted to the tribes and other non hunting organizations. 2. Incorporating potential control of CWD is meaningless to those who know about CWD. Ave. 95% plus of deer in Wisconsin which have CWD will never make it to an age where CWD will physically impact them. 3, To say wolf tourism has potential positive benefits, is really a stretch. Whitetail deer on the other hand has HUGE tourism benefits by a factor of 5,000 to 1. 4. To state the "ecosystem services performed" by the wolf could also be stated "Ecosystem destruction caused" by wolf presence. 5. Unless I missed something, it says a statewide survey of public opinion was done, and when I reviewed the survey results, Groups 2,3 and 5 that were most in favor of wolf expansion, etc.. had 40% or more of respondents from out of state. It's clear the wolf advocates/anti hunting groups were heavily involved in the survey taking. Throw these people out, and the overall results would have been much different. 6. The term "Holistic" has no place in a document such as this. 7. Expanding some reservation boundaries for wolf control also has no place in this document. On the reservations, that's fine but not outside of them. 8. Tribes should be required to declare how many wolf they intent on killing, and after they have their season, the wolf harvest needs to be set. Giving them half of a quota and not harvest any isn't managing the wolf numbers in the state. 9. Bear also hold special meaning to some tribes, so why are tribes treated differently on Wolf. Several Tribes state that the health of the wolf determines the health of their tribes, well Wisconsin had been without Wolfs for decades and I don't think it affected the Tribes. I can respect their ancestors lore, but even many Indians within the tribes disagree on this. 10. Need to show the estimated number of wolfs by zone. Yes I understand they may intersect other packs but assign them to most prevalent zone so it takes some of the skepticism out of the data. If unsure, then you've lost my confidence in your ability to really know how many are on the landscape. 11. It's a stretch to say they create Carrion for other species to eat. I've found two Wolf kills on my property and the only thing they left was the hide. 12. The age distribution on the public opinion survey for groups 1,4 and 6 were more evenly distributed (groups that had the least favorable attitude about wolfs) compared to groups 2,3 and 5 who skewed heavily to older people which tells me they are not very representative of the overall population. 13. Not enough real data in here on the existing negative impact on the whitetail population in Wisconsin. The only real data was that it reduced car vehicle collisions by 24% in wolf territory to try to spin it as a benefit to the public. So did the deer population go down by 24% in this same area or more because of the wolf population? 14. Define Ecological carrying capacity better. When all whitetail deer have been killed to the point that hunters lose interest like what is/has been happening in the far north of Wisconsin? Coming soon to Central Wisconsin?	2	This is a wolf population expansionist plan. People living in Wolf country and whitetail deer hunters need to have a 70% say in what the right level of wolfs need to be once taken of the federal government list.
Ken Anderson	Most of it	Yes	No wolf number needed- We don't place a number on bear, deer, turkey, grouse, etc. So I SUPPORT NOT, REPEAT NOT, placing a number on how many wolves we should have.	Expansion of zones around tribal boundaries.	8	Wolves will expand-limit their own numbers. I fish trout and have seen wolf(?) dig into beaver lodges, I believe beaver are their 2nd most utilized food source so maybe we can stop my tax dollars funding govt. trappers.

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Jonathan Bloy	Most of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones around tribal lands are an important and welcome addition to the plan 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	1. There should be better regulation for hound training on wolves in this plan. Hound training on wolves should only be allowed when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. 2. There needs to be a means for regularly updating this plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades). There also should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder and science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical.	9	Thank you to the staff at the DNR for writing a wolf management plan that centers on science, public input, and Tribal engagement. Those three items are at the core of protecting, conserving, and sustaining Wisconsin's precious natural resources like the grey wolf.
	Most of it	Yes	To see how much the DNR bends to vocal minority groups that do not have to deal with wolf issues day in and day out.	Not addressing the over population of wolfs in northern Wisconsin.	1	I live in a Rual area of Bayfield. My property abuts both federal and state controlled land. The wolf population needs to be reduced. If the Madison people wants wolfs trap them up here and send them down state.
	Most of it	Yes	The 5.1 ratio for calf predation. the Michigan/ Wi minimum population # 200/100	I am concerned with the impact people and organizations influence wolf management that don't live in areas that are affected by wolves. The Tribes and asscociated orgs. are overrepresented of the advisory board. An individual has this survey and possible meetings they can attend and can be affected by wolf populations daily. It certainly from a stakeholder perspective is uneven.	4	I am looking for the portion where previously managed th Ag areas of Wi for no wolves. In that case our hunting/trapping season should not had a quota but a season of ie; 30 days. It would be easy to exclude the Central Forest, Mead Wildlife, Etc. Wolves that are hunted over time would learn where more appropriate range is. The affect on livestock is not easily quantified as wolves do more than kill, they stress livestock as they travel through the ag regions. They also stress Wildlife/deer by the regular pursuit of a meal. I was not comfortable with many of the explanations based on lack of understanding what the meaning was. I agree that significant work is completed. I have yet to see what the population goal is by region. I also would like to see present population estimates for those regions. I appreciate this opportunity
Susan Welch	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Population survey	It's very long, lol	6	I want to know no cruel trapping methods, like foot or leg traps are allowed. Nothing cruel. Also want to know about coywolves and mention personal siting of wolves near Union Grove
Robert E. Rand	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I'm concerned about wolf harvest methods. Dogs should not be used to track and kill wolves. It is inhumane to the 10th degree. There is no way hunters can keep up with dogs once they have run a wolf to ground. It is cruel to the dogs to suffer injury from the wolf, and extremely cruel for the wolf to be set upon by a whole pack of dogs and to be killed by being literally torn apart. As for a quota, seems to me to be pretty difficult to quantify number of wolves in the State, so why have a quota? I have no sympathy for dog owners who lose dogs to wolves during bear season. It's a gamble they take, as most sports involve taking chances. I've been a hunter for 68 years, in NW Wisconsin, and have seen 1 wolf in all that time. Seen tracks, but think that wolves kill a lot less deer than vehicles. Please, ban the use of dogs to hunt wolves. Thank you.
	Most of it	Yes	Getting rid of statewide population numbers	Hunters being able to shift zones once a zone is closed… feels like a hunting frenzy could ensue as hunters rush an area looking for a kill.	8	Outside hunting groups and hunters from outside of the state should have absolutely NO say in how the Wisconsin DNR runs its department including hunting policies. If they want a say in it… move here, vote and pay taxes… otherwise stay in your lane.
	Most of it	Yes	Getting rid of statewide population numbers	Hunters being able to shift zones once a zone is closed… feels like a hunting frenzy could ensue as hunters rush an area looking for a kill.	8	Outside hunting groups and hunters from outside of the state should have absolutely NO say in how the Wisconsin DNR runs its department including hunting policies. If they want a say in it… move here, vote and pay taxes… otherwise stay in your lane.
Nathaniel	Most of it	Yes	We need to base this on science and not tolerances of what people want. When it's based on that then the science is garbage. We have too many wolves and it's out of balance in my opinion and I believe if I understand the data correctly that it backs it up. If we are going to base the draft plan on opinions of different groups then I don't believe we are harvesting enough.	I don't like that we base it on all the groups. Farmers, Natives, etc. Science should be just that. Either we have too many or not enough. If that's based on farm kill, animals, deer numbers, elk numbers, then I think we need to harvest a large number to equal out the landscape.	2	
	Most of it	Yes	I've had problems with wolves for 20 years so I'm not a big fan.	Landowners should be able to kill wolves on their own property without fear of prosecution. This would lead to a more accurate count as to how many get killed. With present policy the rule of thumb is, shoot, shovel and shut up. Your policies create your biggest problems. You claim to promote forests but any patch of a farm that has a tree on it gets taxed as recreational land. This caused farmers to clear cut thousands of acres to make it farmland so they could afford the taxes. Much of it didn't even make it to the sawmill, it just got pushed into piles and burned. This truly made me sick.	0	Get an old retired farmer on your board so he can explain to you how half of your programs don't have a snowballs chance in hell of working BEFORE you dump bib money into it. Some of your projects could actually work with minor changes but you seem to be listening to the wrong people. If CWD is what you think it is, why are wolves not dying from it? They do eat the spinal cord too.
Jeffrey D Corullo	All of it	Yes	Nothing	For years, the goal was 350, now there is more than 1,000. I have young grandson who can do the math. The tribe's should have no say, except on their land.	1	plain and simple --to many wolfs. stick to 350 not 1,000 or probably more. The season should allow 500 to 600 for the first year and then see for the next year.
	Most of it	Yes	None	Very Liberalizied	1	

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Scientific data	Payment for sheep and cattle deaths should be increased but only if examined by DNR and proven.	2	When even the Guardian's international coverage labels the Wisconsin wolf hunt as a "slaughter" it may be time for the state to act in harmony with nature instead of clinging to outmoded procedures which are not the solution.
	All of it	No	Nothing. This does nothing to manage Wolf numbers as agreed upon when they were reintroduced.	This is a great plan for "Madison" but does nothing for those who live in Wolf country and see the deer herd being eliminated. We've hunting the same area in Northern WI for over 40 years and have never seen the population this low. We spent 24 days in the woods this fall and saw more Wolves then deer. PLEASE do your Job and manage Wolves to a numerical population goal. Keep politics out of the DNR and use real Data, not this made up political crap that "meets the needs of a diverse population ". Get out of Madison and get in the Woods and see what reality looks like. Thank you!!	1	Scrap it and go back to the old plan. I understand it's a lot more work to manage to a number and to achieve measurable goals. But at least your accomplishing something. This "Plan" will make everyone feel good in Madison but will accomplish nothing in regards to Wolf Management. Again, Do your Job!!! You manage everything else to a number. Thank you!
Jerry Shea	Most of it	Yes	Science based evaluation. Reduction of conflicts		9	I am weary of the road blocks of the anti-wolf groups especially the games the past appointees are playing. We need to get back to doing things in the Wisconsin tradition. Work together to get tough things done. This plan is a good start worthy of support.
Diane O'Krongly	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate that we are using scientific evidence to create a plan to manage the wolves. I found the following very interesting "Lethal measures may even increase predation conflicts because they can alter wolf pack structure and behavior (Borg et al., 2015), and because wolves expanding into newly vacant territories are more likely to be adolescents that are less acclimated to humans (Bradley et al."	If the plan does not consider focusing the harvest of wolves packs involved in predation of livestock or other behaviors incompatible with humans. Packs with a culture of avoiding humans should not be left alone.	8	
	Most of it	Yes	Thoroughness	Over Lengthy	4	The wolf population has been and continues to be underestimated. People purchased land with hopes and dreams of making great memorable hunts. The reintroduction of wolves has really had a negative impact on many families and groups trying to deer hunt. We really HAD a great thing going. Isn't it rich how a handful of biologists get to ruin so much for so many. Just another example of what the dnr accomplishes in Wisconsin.
Joel Verschay	All of it	Yes	I like the use of buffer zones surrounding reservations as well as the incorporation of tribal representatives in discussions. I think it is a positive relationship that should be furthered in the future in relation to wildlife management. The 100 plus mile buffer zone is good as is the expansion of Zone 2 south into the central part of the state.	There needs to be a clear plan limiting hunting and trapping of wolves. I've lived in Wisconsin, Michigan, and South Dakota. WI management of wolves has catered to revenge killings and reinforced negative sentiments mentioned on page 27 of the draft report. The report of public sentiment on pages 33 and 34 of the draft report overgeneralize the larger conversation of whether or not the DNR needs to intervene. I've encountered many people who openly admit to shooting wolves in Wisconsin at any opportunity and have experienced no consequences. The DNR has failed in policing communities in wolf heavy regions by allowing livestock and domestic pet concerns to allow humans to retaliate against a species that was extirpated from the state through bounties and mob rule regulations.	1	Please stop rolling over for the part of the population that doesn't want to share the woods with other predators. Humans are the greatest cause of environmental degradation and there is little to no management in place to protect wolves who are poached in the first place. Running dogs for bear and training involves certain risks. I'm much more concerned about the liberal allowance of deer farms throughout the state and the spread of CWD than I am of the marginal loss of game, livestock, and domestic animals that occur in wolf heavy areas. Enough already.
Yolanda St Germaine	Most of it	Yes	I don't like any of it.	I do NOT encourage the killing of my brothers or sisters at all. What has happened to one, (wolves or Natives) happens to the other. We are hunted, feared, hated and despised. I want to protect my brothers and my sisters.	1	I am furious about this plan. DNR has proven that it is no good at regulating anything.
	Most of it	Yes			2	
Chad Steckel	Most of it	Yes	There is very little in this current draft plan that I could support at any level. I supported the original wolf plan with a goal of 350 wolves, I felt there were limited areas for them to thrive and coexist. This plan does absolutely nothing to address the current state of over-population of wolves in this state, and completely fails to represent what the citizens of Wisconsin soundly portrayed by voting on the Spring survey and the results of that survey question.	#1, Failing to have a numeric population goal is irresponsible in the sound management of the wolf population, or any wildlife goal. The citizens of Wis. originally agreed to 350 wolves based on scientific information factors, including social acceptability, preferred habit availability, and depredation. The DNR has failed the citizens in the management of the wolf population by allowing the numbers to grow to unacceptable levels. #2 Expansion of the Preferred habitat zones is very careless. The social acceptability of the wolf population continues to decrease due to the depredation problems that have been created because of the over-population of wolves. Just because wolves have expanded their range does not mean that the habitat is preferred. #3 Utilizing improper polling techniques to achieve desired results is very unethical, and the DNR Biologist that is charged with obtaining information to help draft the next wolf plan should be removed from his position for inaccurately obtaining misleading information. The people and locations that were heavily polled do not accurately reflect the problem areas of the state. #4 The addition of large buffer zones in the state is completely inadequate to the proper management of the wolf population. Proper management will not allow "Safety" zones that will protect wolves from harvest goals.	1	All levels of the DNR are suppose to operate to protect the wildlife and resources of this State, for all the people of Wisconsin, with sound scientific information. The current draft of the Wolf Management plan that is being offered fails this miserably. The negative impacts that have been increasing every year due to improper management of the wolf population cannot continue. Western States have proven over and over that wolf numbers must be managed, and can be . There must be a plan brought forward that truly represents what the citizens, directly impacted by wolf numbers, can support. We cannot afford to continue to divide the citizens of Wisconsin over the direction of wolf management. The plan has to based on true factors and not feelings!

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	allow wolf population fluxuate naturally Buffer zone around reservations better control quota limits and stop hunt.	climate change affecting population in future not adequately addressed or researched.	7	I am not in favor of wolf hunts to control population. I think we NEED More wolves in WI. CWD and deer car collisions ar a major concern that wolves help manage.
Kristin Renley	All of it	Yes	I like no numerical quota, and everything is based on science.	I dislike that any potential hunting season could extend into the wolf breeding season.	9	I really like the buffer zones for the Indian reservations.
Aleks K.	Most of it	Yes	I'm glad that wolves are being acknowledged for their importance as an apex predator/the role they play in strengthening and/or maintaining the health of their entire ecosystems--it appears that scientific methods are being taken more into consideration. I'm also glad for the addition of 'low quota' zones and for the removal of an arbitrary approach to population goals.	I'm especially glad as well to see that the plan acknowledges responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but I wish that the DNR would make an effort to prioritize these methods. Also, I saw no guidance in the plan for a next review – there should be guidance to regularly update the plan (so we don't have to rely on outdated methodology for decades again) – scientific oversight is critical, and as conditions change, our plans should adapt to it. There should be permanent, ongoing science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin for all the preceding reasons.	9	Thank you for allowing public comments, as well as respecting Tribal sovereignty, and for listening to us! It's important that we can all take part in preserving our beautiful lands and biodiversity.
Gale Lueders	All of it	Yes			2	I believe we should have no more than 350 wolves in wi thus we need a hunting season!! I live in a non wolf area but I believe we should not have to pay for wolf damage claims to ranchers and dog owners!! (350 wolves Max)
Dale Heeringa	All of it	Yes	Meeting with all persons involved was good.	Have commented before that the maximum number of 350 or less must be used to trigger hunting/trapping. Additionally I feel the area where wolves are felt Tobe able to inhabit is not good and should only be in lighty populated remote areas. With out this it will be constant conflict. Also feel the current wolf count is off and on the light side. Douglas County where I'm familiar with has a very large population in town of Highland. Several separate packs with alot of wolves. Additionally I feel that to much weight is being given to certain wolf protection groups including Native Americans. Wolves are great and there is a place in nature for them but we have to many currently and that's a problem not management.	6	Represent management of Grey Wolf not catering to special interests
	Most of it	Yes	Sub zones in areas identified as livestock conflict areas.	Calling hound dogs hunting dogs interchangeably. Wolf conflict with pets and bird dogs is exceptionally rare. Education for hound dog hunters needs more emphasis.	7	
	Most of it	Yes	Respecting tribal wishes with buffer zones. Too large however	Need to respect original proposal…350 wolf pop goal. Deceitful to chg	3	
	Most of it	Yes	I like that fact that you have removed an arbitrary wolf population goal. We need to use the best-available science focused on wolf management and includes the ecological benefits of wolves. The low quota zones are also important, which I fully support.		9	
Joe Zacharias	All of it	Yes	None	All	0	Input should only be allowed from residents that live/co-exist with wolves in their vincinity
Martha Pings	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal The low quota zones The focus on the ecological benefits of wolves: Aldo Leopold would approve. Recognition of indigenous values and rights		9	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes				In my opinion I believe that we as hunters and land owners want wolf numbers to be down around 200 state wide. Yes I know that's lots of tags needed. However people are still going to keep killing them whether they have a tag or not. So the state might as will benefit and collect money for tags
Kevin Renley	All of it	Yes	I really like the fact that it is not based on a numerical number. I do feel it allows for a sustainable wolf population not necessarily based on a ridiculous number of 350 killing 2/3 of the existing population, addresses conflict, focuses in on education, and allows for the benefits of the wolf population. I also like the buffer zones around the reservations.	The season length potentially going into the breeding season.	10	I think the department has done a good job listening to all sides and helping to ensure wolf's are on the landscape for years to come.
	All of it	Yes	Using multiple factors and input from different groups is essential to the plan.	Wolves hunts in general as nature will always take care of itself without humans interference. Provide specific avenues of protection to wolves and livestock that does not include killing.	7	
Randy Hartl	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Multi zones. I hope for each zone to be able to tailor its wolf management program to that sounds unique environment and interaction with wolves.	Please strengthen local residents inputs for each zones management.	8	Overall wolves have recovered substantially in Wisconsin and therefore the federal government should allow Wisconsin to tailor it's customized wolf management plan in the state of Wisconsin

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
James Schwake	Most of it	Yes	I was not in favor of re introduction of wolf's or elk in wisconsin at all this is not the 1800s if you did not spend our tax dollars on this we wouldn't have to spend more tax dollars paying foarms for lose animals.	Everything	0	The human population of the state is growing and introducing more predators is not good just like bringing in elk there is only so much food for deer and now elk, the dnr brought in the Asian beetles and we know how the planning for that worked out
	All of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal.	there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin	6	
Ray Knoeppel	All of it	Yes	The expressed commitment to science and continued research and the recognition that keystone species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem.	Currently there is no guidance in plan for next review or update. There should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin. The scientific oversight is essential.	8	The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone.
Gordon Foust	Most of it	Yes		It is all political and does not take in to account the people that live in wolf country. To much favoring the people that live outside of wolf country and the dnr is very biased in favor of wolfs..our ancesters were not stupid they got rid of wolfs for a good reason.	0	wisconson dnr needs to be cleared out of people that have agendas and push them regardless of what the people want or what is best for the people. you work for the people and not for your own views.
Rod Dahlen	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	NA	There needs to be a population goal / limit. No wildlife population can be properly managed without it.	1	The plan as it's written is a joke. There needs to be an agreed upon population goal of 350 total wolves in Wisconsin!
	Most of it	Yes		No set population goal of wolves is in the management plan. Need to remove buffer safe zone around Indian reservations.	4	
Sharon Ford	Most of it	Yes	1,Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available SCIENCE is centered in wolf management. 2.The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. 3.The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.	I'd like to see added to the plan: 1. The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. 2.There is currently no guidance in the plan for a next review or update. There should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND SCIENCE committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin. The SCIENTIFIC oversight is critical. 3.The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	After reading the plan and understanding the Tribal submissions, it is vital to have full engagement from them.
Karen	Most of it	Yes	I appreciate the fact that there is no longer a focus on a goal number of wolves. Also the acknowledgment of ecological benefits of wolves.	I'm still concerned about the lack of regulations on hound training--it should be limited to the season when wolf hunting is allowed. Also, how often will the plan be updated/revised?	8	I appreciate that this plan has taken into consideration Tribal concerns, public input, and SCIENCE.
Jeff Hermann	Most of it	Yes	It is very comprehensive as written.	Specifically, how are you going to keep the levels down as they are pretty prolific breeders and have lots of animals domestic or not to prey upon? More emphasis should be given to the desires of the people who have to live with this animal in their environment.	5	The plan does not address the elephant in the room which is keeping the levels at the agreed upon 250 wolves. It is mentioned in at least one place, but how are you going to keep those levels down?
Frank Drew	Most of it	Yes	Nothing much good in it at all except the continuation of the State paying for livestock and other losses due to the overpopulation of wolves.	Almost everything especially no population limits on the wolves in Wisconsin. There should be a set limit close to 350 that was in the wolf plan years ago. I have nothing against some wolves in the state but the over population of wolves in many parts of the state especially in Forest County has wiped out the deer herd. You must take into account the opinions of people in the north that have to live with the wolves more so than the opinions of people from Southern Wisconsin who think wolves are so great. If there would be a season every year to keep the wolf population under control the people of the north would have a better opinion of the wolves and there would be a lot less illegal killing of wolves.	1	Start a hunting season for the wolves to lower the population. Lower the population back down closer to 350 like the original plan. If that was done I am sure that people from the Northern part of Wisconsin who have to live with the wolf in their backyards might have a better opinion and there would be less illegal killing of wolves. Please listen to the opinions of people as I am sure this plan is getting many very bad reviews from this survey.
Bob Phelps	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	• The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone.	10	
	Most of it	Yes	The plan removes a numeric population goal: Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it: These lands are treaty-protected with documented wolf packs. Making this update is an important and welcome addition to the plan. Ideally, the plan would expand these zones beyond just the few that are listed. There is expressed commitment to science and continued research and acknowledges that "keystone	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			species such as wolves are an important component of a healthy ecosystem"			
SArah C	Most of it	Yes	What needs to be eliminated are the wolves who seem to populate a majority of the WI legislature.	Considering the number of Wolves in WI there should be NO hunting or trapping or poisoning season. The damage done by wolves is so infinitesimal that it defies logic to kill wolves.	10	Do the people who are making an issue for the killing of dumb animals not have anything else to do in Madison? They are beyond pathetic.
bill bialecki	Most of it	Yes			8	
Scott May	Most of it	Yes	trying to preserve the resource	no population cap and disregaurd for the hunting public	3	need to put a population goal in place, the landscape can only support so many wolves
	All of it	Yes	That the DNR finally recognizes the FACT that the population is WAY ABOVE the initial quota. Of course, the DNR still underestimates the number.	The DNR does not address HOW they will get to their initial quota goal.	5	
	All of it	Yes	Protecting wolf populations and leaving it to tribal communities and science to dictate when government should step in and regulate anything wildlife related.	Hound hunting shouldn't be allowed at all. The irony of their own kind hunting their own...	9	Nothing more than already stated.
Joyce Frohn	Most of it	Yes	Taking a number out of the wolf plan. Let science determine numbers like this, not politicians.	Wisconsin needs more not fewer wolves.	8	Educate public so they don't fear and hate wolves.
Lance Green	All of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves 4. The plan creates low quota zones around Tribal lands where the Tribes requested it.	There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical.	9	Please adopt this plan soon.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I don't like that the draft plan doesn't have a numeric population goal. When the wolves were reintroduced into our state. The WI DNR promised the people that they would manage their numbers to 350 or less. They lied. The people of WI voted two to one, at the Conservation Congress spring hearings to control their numbers to 350 or less. It's way past time for the DNR to keep their promise.	1	The wolf zones that are considered wolf habitat should be based on suitable wolf habitat that is backed by science. Not because the DNR wants wolves throughout as much of the state as possible, because they want them there to control the deer herd. This is wrong.
Darren Blankenship	Most of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
Julie Foertsch	Most of it	Yes	It removes the arbitrary wolf population goal in favor of the best-available science at the time. It places low quota zones around the Tribal lands that have requested it. It focuses on the ecological benefits of wolves, which is critical when thinking about our state's ecosystem as a whole.	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. It should also do more to emphasize responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts.	9	Thanks for bringing all of Wisconsin's citizens and stakeholders into this policy-making process.
Aphrodite Bouikidis	All of it	No	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
M.Jackson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Positive changes from old DNR plan.		8	
Carol Buelow	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important, allowing a science based, flexible plan. The low quota zones are a welcome addition to the plan, responding to tribal input. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.	There should be more restriction on hound-training activities that impact wolves. I'd like to see a built-in time frame for updating the plan.	9	
Yvonne Besyk	Most of it	Yes	I like most that tribes were consulted. Secondly, I like the use of the committee of diverse perspectives. Though I lean toward objecting to wolf hunting, I recognize that if we don't listen to all sides we may end up with unfortunate and uninformed outcomes. I also found the plan to be incredibly education with regard to species, subspecies studies, history, etc. Inclusion of attitudes and perceptions	The plan could address wolf focused hound/dog training, when the review should be updated and non-lethal options to reduce wolf related conflict.	10	Overall a well done plan.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
			seems of great importance and well covered. I particularly appreciate the science-based approach.			
Douglas Johnson	Most of it	Yes	I like the in depth review of wolf history and current statistics within Wisconsin.	Sub units surrounding sovereign nations.	5	Sovereign nations have a zero quota within their boundaries. This can act as a population reservoir. Quotas could likely be increased surrounding these areas.
Don Hacker	Most of it	Yes	I love data, and this report was full of it. The draft plan at least makes it refreshingly clear that the "official" position on managing wolves in WI is that the parts of the state inhabited by wolves and other apex predators have a superior ecosystem.	The length of the report is daunting. Plans based on an "official" position regarding wolves in WI should not over-represent the opinions of people who appear to agree with the prevailing view that the parts of the state inhabited by wolves have a superior ecosystem. These views tend to ignore the the fact that the ecosystem they hold in such high regard is extinct. People moved in long ago and they still live there and appear to be there to stay. The health and safety and well-being of those who live in what have recently become wolf habitats deserve some consideration and protection in any plan. I may have missed something in this much too long report, but I did not notice much consideration for the emotional and recreational impact the threatening presence of these and other apex predators have on people. I know I have felt threatened and was concerned about my safety when recreating with my dog in the Bayfield and Ashland county areas. Studies and payments and compensation for wolf related losses do not constitute a program that has even the slightest consideration of public safety and well-being as a first priority. I for one nearly always carry a firearm these days when recreating off-road in wolf habitat areas due to the fear of an attack by one of the apex predators. There are places I no longer recreate because I know there are wolves there. I was rarely concerned with bears, except in the spring, because they tend to be solitary. I also notice there is a lack of detail regarding the impact of apex predator predation in micro-climate areas like the Lake Superior snow belt. The deer in this area still "yard up" and have been over-stressed by excessive predation to the extent that there are fewer deer in some parts of the national forest than in the past. Deer population studies seem to show that the deer appear to have moved toward the agriculturally developed areas in the northern tier of counties. I am sure some of that is due to the availability of food, but my opinion is that they were stressed in their traditional areas and sought an area with more open spaces. I can say for a fact that I have not observed any "deer yards" in areas where they were always found when hunting for shed antlers in the spring. Also, the studies selected seem to have a common "pro wolf" conclusion, and most of them say roughly the same thing with a few different words. Did we really need to include studies in other states? It seems like they were included because their conclusions tended to support the proposed plan, not because they contained pertinent information. Do we really believe that wolves are responsible for limiting car-deer accidents? Seems to me a conclusion that that stating a specific percentage reduction would require years of data collection. Seems to me I could say I saw a bald eagle carrying an Asian carp, and that is proof that a robust bald eagle population helps control invasive fish species! Also, it is hard to believe the committee did not find a single report or study looking into the negative impact of wolf populations with enough merit for consideration. I think it is important to provide more evidence that at least one paper presenting a cogent study resulting in a contrarian opinion was considered. I find it hard to believe that none exist. Without serious consideration and inclusion of even one contrarian conclusion, how can any proposed management plan reflect a balanced approach or even be sustainable? Seems to me that without one, the proposed plan reads like propaganda, reflecting a conclusion and a resulting plan that reflects only one view of a very complex issue.	1	Based on the image outlining the location of wolf packs in WI, perhaps it is time to spread the population around a bit. It it seems the area north of HWY 29 in WI has plenty of wolf packs to go around. Perhaps we need to relocate a wolf pack to the Arboretum in Madison and a few other packs on state lands in the southern and south eastern part of the state. Apex predators like wolves and cougars used to live there too you know. Why should the folks who live up north be the only ones who have to worry when they let their pets or children run outdoors?
Gayle Davis	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	the use of hounds to run down wolves at any time is cruel to both to the wolves and the dogs alike, and makes even less common sense when a hound owner gets paid ridiculous amounts of money by DNR if a hound is killed during the "hunt"	8	With a deer population that is absolutely exploding throughout the state, and subsequently disrupting the biodiversity of our forests, it is all the more vital we maintain a wolf population that will help reduce the deer population to a more acceptable level. This is particularly important as the number of deer hunters continues to decline every year.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like removing a specific wolf population goal. It seem very important to consider the science based facts on an ongoing basis. New information/ studies, climate change all make setting a specific arbitrary wolf population goal a bad idea. I like that the plan tries to focus on the ecological benefits of wolves in WI. I also like the low quota zones mentioned in the plan.	I really haven't read the whole plan - I just want to make sure the rights of Native Americans are considered and decisions are science based.	9	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Denise Vine	All of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	1. The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. 2. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. 3. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	
Kate Knudson	All of it	Yes	-Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management -The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan -The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	-The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. -There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update.	10	
Rebecca Cecchini	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	Its length and inaccessibility to everyone interested in this issue.	9	Wolves are an important link in the chain of balance throughout our natural environment. This has been proven with scientific measure in recent years with the reintroduction to wolves in areas like Yellowstone and others. Drafting plans that are meant to support the biased wishes of hunters, or an inhumane easy solution to conflicts with livestock - over the balance, rights, and whole of our living environment is not sound practice for any of us. We need good, balanced wildlife management that TRULY includes the voices of all of our Wisconsin communities, including and especially our Native Tribal Representatives, and that respects wolves as a valuable balancing presence, not simply a nuisance or a trophy kill.
Kathleen Knoeppel	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to ensure numbers of wolves are adaptable. Numbers must be based on best-available science and ecological changes.	The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone.	9	There should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is vital.
Jacqueline Sullivan	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves.	There should be better regulation of hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone.	9	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.
Dan Henderson	All of it	Yes	I like the buffer zones around tribal lands, but believe they are too large.	No numeric population goal. When WI residents agreed to wolf introduction, we were told the max would be 350. This new plan is a total contradiction to the original plan and demonstrates unaccountability by the DNR.	3	Original promises need to be honored and people being adversely effected need to have a major hand in drafting the new plan.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the numbers of wolves are adaptable, so they can be based on best-available science and ecological changes.
Michael Siebers	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the change in setting quotas for the wolf population.		10	It is better than the old plan.
Maurice Plummer	All of it	Yes	Tribal lands agreement	I like the entire plan	10	I like the hound training clause. We need to limit their harassment.
	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	No recommendations for non-lethal resolution of wolf/human or wolf/livestock conflicts No mention of when or how to update this in the future	9	This is a very good first step to managing the wolf population in our State. Turn this into an iterative process by providing guidance for regular updates to create an ongoing process for wolf management in our State as a way to follow the science in wolf management.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes		This reeks of an agenda and not sound wildlife management. A population goal should be set. 350 seems to be a number that most people can get behind from a social acceptance standpoint. Ranges should not be expanded. Just because wolves live in an area previously unplanned does not mean it should be added as range. All sorts of animals live in areas where they are not desired to be. The current overpopulation is pushing wolves into these areas.	0	I hate this plan. I marked zero on the support scale on purpose. If zero is not an option, please use the 1. I am not putting it past you guys to default the zero so you can say that is a "no response".
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
Ann Marie Waterhouse	Most of it	Yes	No arbitrary quotas	Other options for protecting farm animals need to be prioritized.	8	Please provide a mandate to review it periodically.
	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	The DNR should better regulate hound training on wolves. The DNR should limit wolf-focused hound training activities to only when wolf hunting is allowed in each zone. There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan (so we don't have another plan that is used for decades) and there should be permanent, ongoing stakeholder AND science committees to oversee wolf management in Wisconsin – The scientific oversight is critical. The plan acknowledges that there are responsible farming practices and other non-lethal options to reduce wolf and livestock conflicts, but stops short of recommending that the DNR prioritizes these opportunities.	9	
	All of it	Yes		I intensely dislike the weighting and feel it has radically skewed the findings. Particularly, how the survey discounted the people who had actual interactions with wolves such as hunters and farmers. This foolishly dilutes actual real world negative feedback and inflates the importance of uninformed emotional opinions coming from those having no skin in the game. This is biased and totally manipulative!	1	Adoption of this plan, without a reasonable minimum/maximum target number and regular, annual, managed hunts will further inflame the "redneck" wolf hating element in the northern half of this state and be tantamount to declaring an unregulated year-round open season on wolves! I think you have grossly underestimated the importance of this element. The landowners, farmers host the wolves and have skin in the game as do many lower income residents of the north, who hunt to supplement their family's meat supply. You are about to "unleash the whirlwind" if you don't throw them a bone! City folks, on the other hand, only offer their opinions and have no stake. You are sitting on a ticking time bomb. Q10
		Yes	1,2,3		9	
Juergen butt	All of it	Yes	We a plan finally!	No population limit or goal	1	The draft wolf plan needs a maximum population goal and a realistic management plan for hunting and trapping to keep the wolves at a realistic number to ensure the other animals in the forest also survive!!!
	All of it	Yes	1. Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management 2. The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan 3. The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves	There is currently no guidance in plan for next review or update – there should be a plan for regularly updating the plan. This must by specified in this plan!	9	
	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		10	
Amy	All of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		9	
James Butler	All of it	Yes	Science based.	Plan should be updated on a regular basis using latest sconce and input from public.	10	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	No magic number, low quota near tribal areas, focus on the ecology of wolves, science not politics leading the way.	Include in the plan a date by which the plan should be evaluated.	9	Thanks for doing this hard work.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Fabi	Most of it	Yes	Removing an arbitrary wolf population goal is important to make sure the best-available science is centered in wolf management The low quota zones are an important and welcome addition to the plan The plan is rightly focused on the ecological benefits of wolves		10	
Mark Pass	Most of it	Yes	Plan being based on science, removal of population quotas and creation of tribal managed zones	Recommending e hanced hunting dog training program.	9	The current draft is a vast improvement of previous years DNR management plan
Wes	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	removing specific numerical limits on wolf numbers in the State- I own 128 acre maple farm in SW WI and the deer are devastating our woods- the population is really out of hand and wolves are the best/only predator beyond hunting special areas around tribal property allowing higher populations or limited hunting more involvement of science in determining the future of wolf management in the State	Need to include in the plan for regular review and updating so the current plan does not go outdated in ten years and beyond. more emphasis on non-lethal methods to control wolf predation on farm animals, working more with farmers on helping them adapt to living with wolves in the area. Again im a farmer who desires an increased wold population so some farmers are interested in having wolves around and increasing in population/coverage in this state	6	appreciate its being worked on and improved
Brian Risinger	All of it	Yes	None. Written to support anyone that does NOT buy license to harvest fur or game.	Vague, no a quotas, no real way to accurately survey the true estimate of the wolfs, to kill 1/3 of a species in 48 hours is ridiculous, man is not that good of a hunter and the wolf is smarter. There's more than 1100. What is the goal of this plan? If it was court for debate and making money for lawyers it is perfect.	0	Plan is not even comprehensive enough to be considered. No quotas, no good methodology to accurately survey, redraw of boundaries makes no sense has has no "why" to support it. Apparently we have created more habitat that is needed to support a grossly underestimated population.
Brian Risinger	All of it	Yes	None.	New boundary expanded with no reason why it is suitable habitat. What is the goal for wolfs,was 350 now ?? Do we even have a valid way to count wolves? Killing a quota of 400 out of 1100 in two days is impossible. Kill 1/3 in 48 hours. They species is not that stupid and man is not that good of a predator. Figure out how many we have AND set a quota. Pretty simple.	0	See Dislikes as that tells you the why.
	All of it	Yes	None	Need a numeric population goal. I suggest 350 or less	1	Do not need to extend habitat range
	All of it	Yes			0	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciated the inclusion of tribal cultural perspectives on wolves included in Section 2 and the clear organization of Section 4 into goals, strategies, and products. It is apparent that a LOT of work (and science) went into this plan.	Nothing	9	I like the adaptive management approach very much and appreciate the inclusion of the ecological benefits of wolves. I am also glad that the plan recognizes and respects tribal sovereignty by establishing special zones around tribal lands. Thank you!
Dick Wolkowski	All of it	Yes	Adaptive mgt by unit. It makes sense to manage wolves site-specifically.	I believe you have find a way to really understand the misguided opinion of the non-wolf territory people that are so supportive. Unless they travel north their opinion is not based on any observable factors or experience. Find a better way to assess the difference between their opinion and that of those who live in wolf country. It's kinda like having a territory consisting of the states of Illinois and Wisconsin and then asking do you like Da Bears. I bet a greater percentage of those south of Beloit would say yes. Those north of Beloit know much better because they've dealt with a real football team.	4	In reality the issue boils down to the bad table manners of wolves who historically have eaten our livestock, game animals, or dogs...animals we value. This has been the issue since European settlers expanded their influence in the State nearly 200 years ago and the human mindset has changed little. If their appetite was similar to other predators who seldom cause such conflict we wouldn't be doing this exercise. I am a supporter of wolf number management based on a well defined carrying capacity, developed for the proposed units. Whatever management plan is developed it should be based more on biological and physical science and not soft sciences. I live in non-wolf country in S. Wis., but have two cabin properties in the north (Ashland and Bayfield Co.). I spend 6-8 weeks between the two each year. I deer hunt from each and have noted a decrease in deer numbers over the past 15 years. Coincidence, I think not.
	All of it	Yes		No real plan to help manage these animals for the people living with them everyday.	0	Needs to have specifics of when actions will be taken.
	Most of it	Yes				please do not let judges from other states determine what happens in wisconsin
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	recognizing that zone 6 will have greatest conflict and making B the priority to control herd size to reduce conflict with wolves.	There are no numbers for management objectives. When we manage deer we have numbers that are the goals. Why do we not have numbers for wolves? If we are considering science in managing the herd you would have numbers.	5	I think the people who are living with the wolfs should carry more weight in survey process. Otherwise lets move wolves to the cities and see if people respond the same.
Don Erdmann	All of it	Yes	I couldn't find any details that I liked.	It is unreasonable that there is no population goal regarding wolves. Not just any number, but 350 wolves or less statewide. The sportsmen and conservation groups of WI, including the CC and WWF, have been steady in this plan for years, yet they seem to be completely ignored.	0	In addition to the above, the changes in the wolf zones seem to have been made with no logic, other than to appease the tribal nations.
Michael	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like seeing the overall trends via charts, the ideals behind this all makes sense to some degree.	The draft plan is just simply too large to have any meaningful input for most citizens to read.	3	Overall I truly believe there was a reason our ancestors came in and killed every last wolf. Every year as a deer hunter I see fewer deer and have seen more wolves. While I think it's admirable to bring this population back and maintain the numbers I only see it from a hunter's perspective. I see a huge resource pool in wolves and the tax money that goes into managing them. I often wonder what it was like to hunt in the 70s, 80s, and 90s (being that I'm 30.) I feel wolves only take away from a resource we have statewide and leave the average person vulnerable to not using the land to live should he need to.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Pat Clark	All of it	Yes	It's wonderful that the 350 number has been dropped and I hope everyone learned something from. As it was used as a political weapon against wolves. Hunting groups abused it, using it to push their anti-wolf and anti-life agenda.	There are no concerns about away with hound training and ending the ridiculous practice of paying hounders for their deaths as they let the hounds run wild in wolf areas, insane. Also, I don't think enough was in the plan to address the Native Indian tribes, their science and concerns over the killing of wolves. The public view of wolves are changing, they don't want killing of wolves. The plan should state that the trends are away from killing wolves and should address the future when killing will no longer be allowed. Also, in many ways your survey was corrupt towards hunting and hunters, the general public, which now out numbers them should have a say, its their outdoors too. I do believe the poaching fines should be drastically increased as well, which was not addressed in the plan.	5	The use of more science in the plan would have been nice, as more studies are now finding that killing off wolves does more damage to the ecosystem than once known. Also, from experience, wolves are saving endangered plants that get over browsed by over populations of deer. On my property, endangered orchids have returned when the wolves returned. The DNR should know this, as by their own rules and hunts are destroying rare and threatened plants.
	Most of it	Yes	The history of the wolf monitoring and harvest.	There was not enough to discuss the effects of wolves on the deer herd, particularly in how the wolves primarily go after the old and weak and not the typical trophy deer most hunters seek.	6	I would like to see the wolf population increase in size. There needs to be better public awareness, or education, in the positive affects of wolves in the environment, as well as a better understanding of the (lack of danger) wolves present to humans.
Scott PItta	All of it	Yes	The buffer around the reservations and the elimination of the 350 rule. The plan is a well rounded plan that balances the interests of hunters, farmers and naturalists.		10	The excellence of the plan and the hard work of the citizen groups that provided the department the "nuggets" of data will serve as a model for others who design management plans.
Gerard Baugnet	All of it	Yes	Nothing	My opinion you have to keep it at 350 animals that's what we agreed on 8 to 10 years ago you have no management plans .	0	The deer population northern forest county is decimated we have to sell our land and Camp because it does not pay to do hunt up there anymore there's millions of dollars that Northern Wisconsin is losing tourist dollars
Larry Schoenemann	Most of it	Yes	The constant monitoring, public input. Hunting seasons to aid in regulating numbers.	None that I dislike.	9	
david haenel	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	nothing	the tribe buffer zone increase ,the changes increasing in primary and secondary habitat, no wolf population goal	0	I think you are political fop catering to special interest groups not to the people you are supposed to be serving. anyone who had a hand in approving this p.o.s. should be fired try, using an open scientific approach instead of political
ralph oppeneer	Most of it	Yes	well put together. i don't live in " wolf country" but this plan seems to address issues i might have if i did.	i can't say that i "dislike" any part of it that i read. i guess i would need to see it in use to give it a grade.	9	thanks for asking.
John Anny	Most of it	Yes	ALL OF IT REFLECTS A GOOD AND IN DEPTH STUDY AND PLAN		10	SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE I FEAR OTHER WISE PEAOPLE WILL JUST START KILLING WOLVES
	Most of it	Yes	That we finally have one.	There needs to be a maximum number in the plan. This what the land will support BS sounds like anti-hunting talk for there will never be a season on them.	1	
	Most of it	Yes				For the past two plus years we have heard nothing, but we need to follow the science when it comes to Covid 19. Now despite ample scientific evidence, including 26 leading scientists, saying that the gray wolf has recovered, the state government does not want to follow the sceince.
David Bailey	Most of it	Yes		Population goals are way too high. Wildlife management decisions are being overridden by political interference. There should be an open hunting season on wolves.	5	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None, where is the resident of Wisconsin in drafting this document	You not following the agreement in the original agreement for maximum numbers and ignoring it is over three times the agreed on number. Which my bites your number is far less than what there really is	1	Involve the citizens of Wisconsin and quit listening to no state groups
	All of it	Yes	Sorry but I don't like any part of the plan	Not sticking with the original 350 wolf goal Not taking into consideration the deer being killed by wolves Wolves not being counted on Wi/Mi border Wolf encounters in Northwoods by walkers, hunters, and wolves in peoples yards	1	This is not at all based on science. We need to have a wolf hunt to keep the populations under control. Please listen to all of us that are seeing wolves often. We have owned land in the Northwoods for over 30 years and had 3 wolves in our yard this year. This has never happened. The population has exploded.
Dennis Passmore	Most of it	Yes	The tribal summary of GLifWic was very informative , both from the Ojibwe point of view and as a summary of wolf behaviors. The statistical summaries of population alsol	N/A	8	While I can appreciate tribal /religion concerns, I have lived in the Northwoods for 77 years, and I enjoy my deer season. I feel that we as a society are continuously reminded to "follow the science", and should entrust the management of wolves to those who are educated in the subject and "management" should be more than let the wolf packs do it naturally---- thus leading to bringing the whitetail herd to a low enough level to , thru starvation, reduce the wolf population. Not to mention the economic fallout of destroying the whitetail population, and thus ending the traditional family hunt. I support using DNR personnel to lethally manage the size of the population

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jay Rosenbecker - Phelps, WI	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	That the DNR is considering ways to limit wolf population (i.e. hunting, trapping) if not hamstrung by over-reaching federal mandates.	The plan does not address the "gorilla in the room" - deer populations and effects on deer hunting. Deer hunting is one of the most popular outdoor activities in this state and has huge economic impact. Here in the northwoods, I have seen a tremendous degradation in the quality of deer hunting - both in numbers of animals seen and especially in the number of mature bucks. Coincidentally, this all seems to have happened in direct relation to increase in wolf numbers. It seems that the DNR is abandoning the interests of deer hunters in this state. The only reference I could find to consideration of the deer population was in "Objective A". It states "Consideration of primary prey populations including white tailed deer and elk population abundance, trends, and objectives." What does this mean? That wolves will be allowed to increase until the deer population falls to levels that can no longer support wolves? Or that wolves will be allowed to increase until there is just enough deer to support THEM while leaving the deer population too low to hunt? This objective is so vague that it is laughable. I think the question of how to support and sustain quality deer hunting in all areas of the state should be specifically addressed.	2	There needs to be clear and frank discussion between the DNR and people who live, hunt, and enjoy the outdoors in wolf country. Presently, it seems to fall on deaf ears that wolves are having a detrimental impact on especially the northern deer herd. How can this be denied? It stands to reason that if predator levels increase, prey animals decrease. In my opinion, the economic and recreational opportunities afforded by deer hunting far outweigh the "feel good" benefits of observing wolves. Nobody is saying that they want wolves completely eliminated but the numbers are too high in this area. The prevailing attitude of the "guy on the street" around here is that the DNR has their head in the sand on this matter.
000508424	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				Ten years ago your appraisal of the bear population from the last time I baited bears provided the WI citizens with a Springtime estimate of 13,000 bears in the state. By midsummer the changed estimate rose to 26,000. And by the time the season opened that fall, it went to 39,000. Amazing how the population could triple in three short months. This is somewhat bewildering and hard to understand. Second, about two years ago the DNR admitted that there were 10,000 more bobcats than the original estimate. Again, somewhat bewildering!! Now for about 15 years WI citizens have been told that the wolf population in WI was some place between 970 and 1300. I find this number to also be somewhat bewildering considering the last wolf hunting season took two and one-half days to kill 218 wolves. That suggests a very large population of wolves. I spoke with two hunters this week and both stated that they found multiple wolf tracks in their hunting areas. The tradition of deer camps and the deer hunting heritage has changed drastically in the last 15 to 18 years. Suggestions: Bounty on coyotes More bobcat tags issued - It took 7 years for me to get the last bobcat tag. It took 10 years for my last bear tag in zone B which was deferred to my great nephew, the tag being filled in one day. In my 50 years of residing in Vilas County, I quit trapping minnows and walleye fishing due to VHS, quit land trapping with a main focus on coyotes, no small game hunting anymore as the grouse sitings are limited due to too many predators on the landscape. My only sporting activity remaining today is gun deer hunting. All in all, I find it difficult to believe that the metrics that have been used in the past and proposed in the future are very questionable. Andy Schaffer PS - What was the monetary penalty for the 126 walleyes that were speared on Squirrel Lake last spring by the two Lac du Flambeau tribe members who did not have permits to do so? This incident is being sugar-coated by the DNR biologists who give the information to the Vilas County News Review. Thank you for the opportunity to convey my thoughts, even though I question some of the DNR policies and practices.
	Most of it	Yes			7	
Bob	Most of it	Yes			5	Population is to high
Peter Weinschenk	All of it	Yes	The plan is well researched, flexible, and, wisely, avoids stating specific population goals for wolves in Wisconsin.	The plan is dishonest. It starts with a presumption that wolves in Wisconsin can be managed. This is false. The wolf is protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and cannot be managed like other wildlife. The plan fails to state what the ESA demands the minimum wolf population needs to be before wolves are not endangered and can be managed like other animals.	9	It is extremely unfortunate that Wisconsin politicians, including federal officials, have so little regard for the Endangered Species Act, itself a federal law, and, like generations of politicians before them, use the wolf for political gain.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				It doesn't matter what your stupid plan is because we out here in the country will control the population ourselves because we are the ones dealing with the useless creatures not you over educated idiots.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	

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	All of it	Yes	That we finally got a plan way past due date.	No population target is a mistake!! No specific push or plan for a future hunt by the DNR is politically motivated. DNR knows we must hunt them but can't say that due to playing politics with Democrats and Anti Hunters. DNR needs to push for controlling population as they are the "experts" not the puppets.	1	Plan does not address population and need for lower number. Wolves have expanded their range, expanded the population, number of packs, number of incidents but we a political BS plan written to not ruffle feathers with the people who have no vested interest - non hunters. Hunters have a vested interest, pay the bill for all including DNR but get no say. DNR hides behind "they are federally protected anyway" stuff and gets a vanilla plan out that does nothing. IF they come off protection again we got no real plan to knock the population back. Deer hunting runs the state with $$$ so by all means continue to jeapordize it by letting the wolves eat most of the deer in the North.
Jeffrey Boville	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None	No specific maximum number of wolves is part of the plan. Sounds like the DNR is getting tired of getting animal population management wrong.	2	Looks like the insurance industry and the tribes are in charge with respect to managing wolf numbers. That is, when Federal judges in Washington D.C. and California are not getting in the way. Just know that if wolf numbers in Wisconsin get out of control, the problem will be handled by the the sportsmen and women in the state. And the DNR will make even more enemies among the citizens that use and cherish Wisconsin's woods and waters the most.
	Most of it	Yes	Specifically, education on wolves. Wolves attacks towards humans per your own admission on page 83 are rare, yet people still think of wolves as evil. More education is necessary to determine long term effects on pack mentality when members of the pack, specifically alphas, are killed decreasing pack size, the ability to operate effectively as a pack and hunt regular wildlife verses livestock.	I'm not a fan of trapping as I have seen firsthand what the animal experiences when getting caught. Trapping needs to be mandated better to be off all roads and trails and clearly marked so as to avoid pets vs predators.	5	WI is the only state that allows the use of dogs to hunt wolves! There is nothing sporting about using dogs to hunt and should be outlawed. If a hunting dog is killed the owner should not be reimbursed and this alone would save the state over a million dollars a year if I read the chart correctly. This should be mistreatment of animals and the owner should be punished by law. Don't believe hunting wolves is necessary. Wolves are not killed for sport, food, or necessity; they are killed solely for the sake of killing which is disturbing. Farmers should be allowed to protect the heard by killing wolves if necessary, but more could be done to prevent the attacks in the first place. If hunting is allowed, better management is necessary. No hunting when females are pregnant and only issue the number of tags that coincide with the number of wolves to be killed.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Not much, 178 pages of government bureaucracy. The plan should be to reduce the wolf population all the rest is bureaucracy!	Worrying about the Elk population, really, we will never have a sustainable Elk population with wolves in Wisconsin. Stop wasting money on the Elk!!!	1	The problem is the Madison DNR doesn't listen to the people in the field, these are not pet projects with gold stars you get on your report. Get to work and do something constructive. We can't have a sustainable Elk population with wolves and you can't have a deer population to keep Hunters engaged if you have wolves.
	All of it	Yes	I like that you actually put a plan together despite 95% of DNR Staff not leaving their couch over the past 3 years.	Wolf "management" is the largest boondoggle ever thrown at WI Sportsmen. Your staff has no idea what is actually going on in the woods. Eliminating the goal number of wolves has upset a lot of people who live in wolf range.	1	I don't believe you actually want to hear what I have to say about the plan. The vast majority of the WI DNR Wildlife Staff does not have a clue about management, nor do they care as long as they can sit on their couch at home eating donuts.
Kevin Jones	Most of it	Yes	None of it.	No management goals for the number of wolves.	1	I have hunted in areas where there are wolf packs; there are very few deer in the remote woods. All the deer seem to be close to peoples houses \ near the roads where there are plenty of illegal corn piles to eat from and for the most part away from most of the wolf pressure. Why is the DNR ignoring the deer hunters that are their biggest revenue source. Deer hunters spend lots of money every year and are a big boost to local economies. If you ignore them because they may not have the loudest voices they will either speak with their wallets by hunting in another state, quit hunting deer which is what I did or manage the wolf population on their own. Please cut the wolf population to a level where deer hunters can again see deer 350 - 500 is reasonable.
	Most of it	Yes	The maps and graphs are well done, percentages on responses was good.	Some of the statements were vague, and some of the responses were listed as positive or negative attitude rather than percentages in favor.	4	Not having a set population goal is a dangerous game to play. And although I agree that every Wisconsin resident has a say in the management, I feel as though there should be some weight added to those who live in the wolf range especially in rural areas. It is not fair that people who live in wolf range areas have management decided upon by those who live in cities or more heavily populated areas outside the wolf range. Essentially why should someone who lives in Dane County make management decisions for someone who lives in Douglas County. This needs to be addressed!
Daniel A Reinke		Yes		You wrote a 178 page DRAFT PLAN? If I write a 178 page reply would you honestly read the entire reply? This is a simple process and your making it political. Follow the initial plan that was written in 1999.	1	You wrote a 178 page DRAFT PLAN? If I write a 178 page reply would you honestly read the entire reply? This is a simple process and your making it political. Follow the initial plan that was written in 1999. Wisconsin still has the same area of land and 72 counties. Why have the rules changed regarding wolf numbers? "A solution is sometimes the answer you already have"
Dowe S. Tillema	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like the fact that there is a plan from which to work with.	I am completely against not having a numeric management goal. There should be no more than perhaps 500 - 600 wolves in the state. There are too many wolves. The plan does not include the negative impact of wolves on the deer population. There must be a maximum population goal of perhaps 500 - 600 wolves. if not, the DNR is creating an environment where the citizenry will be forced take management into there own hands. Not a tenable situation. Listen to the deer hunters. The state needs them first and foremost!	2	we MUST have a maximum numeric population goal.

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	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	Way to many wolves need at least half of what we have now which is 500 or less
paul hennes	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I appreciate the in-depth justifications of having the presents of a sustainable wolf population in wisconsin. a lot of sceintific work has gone into this draft	your rationalization comparing wolf attacks to other preditors. not enough focus on the fact that many rural residents are reluctant to go for a walk, simply due to the wolf presents. to me 74% of wisconsin residents who are not comfortable going for a walk near wolf habitat is a real concern, and one that could be controled.	1	sad to say but its only a matter of time, before a wolf attacks and kills a child in this state. they are intimidated by the size of an adult, but sooner or later, when a wolf gets hungry enough, he will take a child playing "in the back 40" and then the law suits will follow. you think you pay out a lot for animal loss now !! .... just wait..... it will happen. as a former vilas county supervisior, and city of eagle river alderman, please control the wolf population and keep that number at a comfortable 350 thank you...
Timothy Pattermann	All of it	Yes	That the DNR is actually trying to make a plan.	That there isn't a numeric cap on wolf population in wisconsin. Also that the DNR drastically underestimates the current wolf population. The public was told wolves would be managed to 300 or so wolves statewide when they were first released.	2	Revise it. Set a reasonable number. 500-600 wolves as a cap number for a sustainable statewide population. I'd like to deer hunt in northern Wisconsin and actually see a deer. I hunt there and see very few if any in a season. Especially since baiting and feeding is illegal.
Jeff Miller	Most of it	Yes		No cap limits. As a deer hunter in Vilas I have seen the damage 2 wolf packs have done within 5 miles of my house.	1	We need a wolf hunt by zone !
karen	Most of it	Yes	paying attention to ecology	when there are no surplus deer, you can say there are surplus wolves. until then, there is no need to kill wolves. stop calling it a wolf HARVEST. the wolves aren't something we grow to harvest. it is a wolf hunt, a wolf kill.	4	No dogs should be allowed in any. it is cruel to dogs and to prey and not sporting.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	The new plan is clear as mud. Please reduce the wolf population, especially in Northwest WI
STEVEN NINNEMAN	All of it	Yes	ADDRESSING AND REDUCING WOLF CONFLICTS PROVIDING HUNTING AND TRAPPING	MOVING AWAY FROM A NUMERIC POPULATION GOAL MOVING AND EXPANDING ZONES, INCLUDING THE TRIBAL BOUNDRIES.	2	For years the science said that the social carrying capacity was 350, many groups were in agreement. When it came to the management plan most of the science was used from previous years except for the 350. The expansion of the zones and tribal boundaries are an outcome of the DNR not having a November hunt when it should have. I believe that many of the sportsman don't even care about the new plan because of trust with the DNR and the political process to make it. And that not good for the Wolf and the sportsman.
Rob	All of it	Yes	Nothing	No population goal, no management plan. You guys basically did nothing for two years! This plan is just political pandering. Animal rights groups offer no scientific research. This plan should be focused on managing timberwolf populations so northern county and state forest deer populations can rebound, so we curtail livestock and pet killing reimbursement, and use the license sales for further management research and depredation expenses. We could make this species sustainable instead of being a chronic net loss. Some wolves are good, but they have dropped public land deer populations in northern WI to horrifically low levels. It is such an awful and preventable turn of events over the last 20 years that the WI DNR does nothing to rectify. If you want more deer hunters and more tags sold, we need less wolves in northern WI where the largest swaths of public land are, so the deer herd can grow.	1	We need a season. Deer hunting is a billion dollar industry in WI. Their needs to be better criteria for a season framework. You have decades of data from Idaho that has shown 40% of a wolf population can be harvested every year with little or no effect on the overall population year over year. We should be aiming for a population goal of no more than 500 animals. Anything more is a disservice to the actual people that spend money on tags that pay your salaries! We need 500 wolves harvested right away. Your population estimate is also perennially flawed as well. You don't account for the 10 to 15% of a wolf population that is made up of lone wolves. We have well over 1000 wolves in WI. Get us a season now. Do your jobs that we pay you for or take a hike.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No			8	I don't support wolf hunting
Brad Schaal	Most of it	Yes	Nothing	We cannot let wolves keep moving further South. Somebody is going to be killed	1	How does the "science" change that much in 30 years. We went from a population goal of 350 to basically unlimited. The DNR is basically shooting them selves in the foot. You think license sales are low now wait until the wolves make the deer population in southern WI look like the way they decimated the herd in Northern WI
Doug Drysdale	Most of it	Yes	Elimination of a numeric wolf population target and the use of science-based data to manage wolves. Strongly support Product C2a, C2b, C3a, C3b, Objectives D and E. I strongly support requiring farmers and ranchers to practice 1) good husbandry to minimize livestock depredation and 2) non-lethal methods to deter wolves like fladry, fencing, livestock guarding dogs.	Page 105. Zones 3 & 4. I don't agree with recommendation to have wolf harvest rates be generally higher with ample harvest opportunities. These zones provide connectivity between the primary wolf zones for genetic diversity. Subzones 1B and 2B: why not include wolves removed for depredation control and vehicle kills toward the subzone limit? Any known wolf deaths decrease the population and should count toward wolf kill quotas. Product A5c: I somewhat understand the intention to avoid having too many elk killed by wolves but why can't the wolf and elk populations manage themselves as predator and prey? Strategy B2: I oppose compensation for hunting dogs depredated by wolves while at-large in known wolf territory.	7	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Gisela Drysdale	All of it	Yes	I strongly support elimination of a numeric wolf population target and the use of science-based data to manage wolves. Strongly support Products C2a, C2b, C3a, C3b, Objectives D (this is great!) and E. I strongly support requiring farmers and ranchers to practice 1) good husbandry to minimize livestock depredation and 2) non-lethal methods to deter wolves like fladry, fencing, livestock guarding dogs.	Page 105. Zones 3 & 4. I don't agree with recommendation to have wolf harvest rates be generally higher with ample harvest opportunities. These zones provide connectivity between the primary wolf zones for genetic diversity. Subzones 1B and 2B: why not include wolves removed for depredation control and vehicle kills toward the subzone limit? Any known wolf deaths decrease the population and should count toward wolf kill quotas. Product A5c: I somewhat understand the intention to avoid having too many elk killed by wolves but why can't the wolf and elk populations manage themselves as predator and prey? Strategy B2: I oppose compensation for hunting dogs depredated by wolves while at-large in known wolf territory.	7	
Douglas Michalek	All of it	Yes	The plan covers a wide range of topics that appear to follow the science and overall understanding that the wolf is a valuable species that needs to be protected for a healthy environment. Recognizing this is the first step to maintaining a healthy wolf population. Also recognizing the importance of the Wolf to the Indigenous people of our state and surrounding states.	I don't feel that landowners should be allowed to remove wolves because of depredation of livestock. That should be done by state employees only if it is proven that the animal was killed by a wolf which also needs to be done by a state employee. Also there should be no compensation to hunters that run hounds if one of the hounds is killed or injured. These hunters know the risk of running these dogs and so should not in compensated.	5	Use science as your tool for protecting wolves. The majority of Wisconsinite want wolves on our landscape. Don't let the minority of hunters sway the DNR to make rash decisions. There is no viable reason to kill a wolf just for the sake of killing it. They deserve to be protected for future generations.
	All of it	Yes		I don't like that there is no numerical population goal in the plan. This plan is far too open-ended suggesting that there is no serious interest in actually managing the wolf population.	3	I hunt and recreate in wolf range with many days spent in the woods year round as well as monitoring over a dozen trail cameras. I strongly believe that the wolf population is underestimated. I would like to see the wolf population reduced and then maintained at a level lower than what we have on the landscape today. I can also tell you that wolves and coyotes appear to coexist just fine based on numerous trail camera observations showing routine presence of both species, contributing to a huge predator load across northern WI.
Bill Yingst	All of it	Yes	I like all items except the one item listed below.	Changing the Population Goal. Me an my constitutes believe the Population Goal should remain at 350 and the DNR should manage the Wolves to that number. That would really reduce the depradation costs.	5	
Martin Jacobson	All of it	Yes	Thoughtful approach to management of population based on geographic location of animals involved. Buffer zones, and allowing population more potential for growth in optimal habitat and more downward pressure in more problematic areas.	Continued use of dogs to hunt wolves, trapping starting at same time as hunting I would prefer hunting only (without dogs) before trapping starts. Season timing should be consistent with treating species as a trophy furbearer not a pest to be eliminated by having season align with pelt condition. I realize many of these elements have had control highjacked by legislative statute.	9	I feel that the payments for hounds that are depredated has created a perverse incentive that is demonstrated by WI having more hounds lost to wolves than Michigan has.
Justin Saari	Most of it	Yes			1	
James Newlun	All of it	Yes	I think it was important to identify the costs associated with Wolf conflicts.	I'm concerned the overall goals/objectives may not be achieved due the inability to manage populations.	7	I would ask that you review the plan goals. Let's makes sure these can be accomplished. If not, then that needs to be stated clearer or taken out. I may of overlooked if we receive any federal funding to our state to support any aspect of the plan or program. Also, it wasn't clear how many state or contracted staff work in this program. The cost's of staffing, equipment, and contracted work should be in here. Large plan so I may of missed this. Please consider adding these other costs if not included.
David Kuhr	All of it	Yes	This does seem to be a plan. To have a plan you need to arrive at a solution or in this case a method of control, which would ba a maximum # of animals on the landscape a Quota needs to be listed to fullfill that.	I live in your proposed Zond 2B and it is unacceptable that you think you have the right to establish a no quota zone just because the land we paid for, live on, and pay property taxes you are mistaken. This is leading towards another Boston Tea Party, basically stealing the rights for us to protect our land and livestock	0	At this rate next because you feel that their brother the wolf has more rights than we do you will have a subzone for their brother the bear. Or maybe their subclan the deer.
Travis	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		I believe the wolf harvest number needs to be increased. The Dnr needs to be honest with the public and themselves on what the estimated wolf population is in Wisconsin. The estimated number of just over 1000 is absolutely way to low.	1	We need to bring the population down to the original 300 mark. The native American tribes are not going to harvest any even though they have the opportunity. Therefore the permits the get shouldn't be counted in the harvest goals. Simple math says that in the next season allowed approximately 700 wolves should be able to be registered to get down to the original management goal. Going against all of your "surveys" the majority of the people I speak with about the wolves do not agree with your findings and have no faith that the Dnr is or will do anything truly positive to effectively manage not only the wolf population but any of Wisconsin's animals.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jesse Duhnkrack	All of it	No	I commend the DNR for being methodical and deliberate in developing the draft plan. From my perspective, I hope that the timber wolf in the Great Lakes area remains listed as an endangered species, and therefore is provided protection, possible population enhancements, and responsible management. Yes, there will be conflicts and isolated depredation, but the DNR must address these issues with active management. I like that the DNR has engaged the Tribes in Wisconsin. I like that the DNR has dropped a numerical number for "ideal" wolf population. I like that the draft plan shows consideration for the ecological role of wolves.	I would like the see the DNR more actively educate the residents of Wisconsin about the ecological role of wolves and how wolf populations can coexist with humans and current land uses through active management. The plan infers that hunting is a conflict resolution tool, which if used as managed in the past, is far from an effective tool. My greatest concern is the impact to pack social structure as well as unmanaged hunting during gestation and breeding season. If wolves need to be euthanized, this should be done by skilled marksmen in a methodical way, instead of (frankly) archaic, barbaric, and unethical (fair chase issues including hounds, snowmobiles, etc) methods. If current laws remain the same, the Wisconsin state residents need to know what is the purpose and intent of wolf "harvest"; it could be for active management, but if allowed as "hunting" it's not for food or sustenance, it is strictly for the act of killing, which has no place in today's world. I have concerns about the occupancy model used in the plan. Given the small (estimated) population size, the number of assumptions in the model is questionable; occupancy models are generally more useful for wildlife management when the population is significantly larger, as is used for deer. Keep it simple and stick with population counts and on the ground tracking, even if there is a cost. It is unclear to me how exactly the details of the plan will be implemented, and who is directly responsible for implementation. Will there be a Committee composed of balancing interests? Will there be an annual action plan? Will the residents be kept informed of management practices? It is important that the plan is in alignment with the existing wolf management plans in Michigan and Minnesota; while the laws are different in each state, the draft Wisconsin plan does not appear to take into consideration adjoining state plans.	6	I would like to acknowledge the enormous amount of work that has gone into developing this draft plan. Given the current hunting laws in Wisconsin and future uncertainty about the endangered species listing, it is a difficult task to develop a comprehensive management plan. In my profession as a wildland fire manager, I have developed fire management plans for many large national parks. One thing I have learned is that management plans must be reviewed and updated annually. Within policy and law, adaptive management strategies must be utilized. I do not support trapping or hunting. However, I recognize that active management must be utilized so that we can coexist with wolves on the landscape. Although Colorado is my legal residence, I live in Shawano County from May through October. We coexist with wolves in the nearby Miller Creek area of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Tribal lands. Thank you for considering my input.
	Most of it	Yes			1	There should be a hunting and trapping season on wolves in Wisconsin. There should be a limit on the amount of wolves. There should be no way some stupid judge from out of state can stop our hunting and trapping of wolves. We killed off the wolves for a reason. It should be done again.
	All of it	Yes		Re: Page 127, Product C2H/ "Pursue administrative rules to establish a designated season for dog owners to train for wolf hunting activities." Wisconsin is the only state that allows the practice of hunting wolves with dogs. While this practice is currently allowed by a law that was passed with almost no public input, there is no reason to further support this cruel practice. This form of hunting is akin to dog fighting, which under other circumstances would be considered illegal. This hunting practice is harmful to both wolves and dogs. The establishment of a training season merely supports and extends the cruelty that is currently limited to the actual hunting season. Unlike bears, which can climb trees, wolves have no way to escape these "training exercises". For wolves, a "training exercise" creates the same stress, fear, trauma, and physical harm an actual hunt would produce. The only difference is that during an actual hunt the tortured wolf is put out of its misery with a bullet. Just because hunting wolves with dogs is currently legal, it does not mean it is ethical or humane. The use of dogs to hunt wolves violates two primary tenants of hunting ethics: the idea of fair chase and the duty to kill your quarry quickly with as little pain and suffering as possible. Are a dozen hunters with a pack of six radio collared dogs against one hapless wolf and example of fair chase? Does having a wolf run down to the point of exhaustion only to be bitten and torn at by a pack of hounds sound like an effort to minimize pain and suffering? Do not support and extend the practice of hunting wolves with dogs by providing additional training days. Training days are not required by law. Do not let the practice of hunting wolves with dogs tarnish the image of true sportsmen and women who treat their quarry with the respect it deserves.	9	I support keeping wolf population goals at or near the current population of 800-1,000 wolves. There is no ecological or safety reasons to reduce wolf populations down to previous, outdated, artificial limits. The 2022 gun/deer season showed a 14 ½ percent increase over the prior season even with wolves at their present population levels. This supports the fact that wolves do not have a significant impact on the state's overall deer population. Our deer herd remains strong and hunting opportunities abound. Even with our increased wolf population, close encounters between wolves and humans remain minimal. While some people express fear of wolves, there are no supporting facts that fear is justified. Specific threats to livestock can be addressed through better farm management practices and lethal wolf controls can be applied when necessary. The entire wolf population need not be punished and reduced because of the behavior of a minority of wolves. Given the controversy and strong feelings surrounding wolves, the DNR has done an admirable job of taking into consideration the many interests involved. Wolf management should not be driven by a small group of special interests. I believe it is the DNRs responsibility to manage the forest and wildlife for the benefit of all the people of Wisconsin, whether they are hunters or non-hunters. A balanced, ecologically sound environment should be the goal of all management practices. It is my hope that the Natural Resource Board will honor the efforts of all who have contributed to this management plan and the science that supports it.
Melissa smith	All of it	Yes	sample	sample	4	sample
	All of it	Yes	Zone 1A development. The cattle conflict is real and worth a special callout.	No actual number listed as a goal population. This seems appropriate to not allow either side of special interest to influence one way or another. Why so much discussion on wolf ecology, that can be researched in many other places. This is a management plan, not a wolf 101 textbook excerpt. Stick to the basics of how and why the population needs to be managed.	3	I see no mention of setting an actual number as a goal population to be obtained. This seems important in development of a population management plan.
	Most of it	Yes	The ability to control the size of the herd	The fact that the original number of wolves to be allowed by re- interducing them is no longer the goal.	3	The plan needs to go back to the original intent. If wolves were running wild in Milwaukee and Madison, where the people veiw them as pretty little pet dogs instead of the natural born killers that they are, perhaps things would be different. Go back to the original goal of the number of wolves needed to sustain their population.
Roger heidtke	Most of it	Yes	None	All	1	Tribal imput is way out of balance

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jim Gozdowiak	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Glad that there is some DNR oversight to this issue.	Quota's should be reduce in the Central and southern zones.	5	The wolf has seen enough pressure in all but the N. West part of the state. Let them live and breed in the central and southern zones. They serve a purpose.
James M Johannes	Most of it	Yes	It seems to want to try to incorporate the wishes of different interests groups.	It is not a plan. No measurable goals, no action items, no trigger events.	1	A 167 page report plus an 11 page executive summary and preamble. 96 of the 111 pages are background information, data and survey or research results. Most of the "suggested interpretation" of information in these 96 pages is not objective and is slanted clearly to pro-wolf interests as the comments below will demonstrate, Overall comment: this is not a plan to manage a population. It is much too vague. There is no specific end result presented which means there is no definitive strategy and there are no actionable "triggers" which means there is no real strategy and there are really no "tactics" designed to achieve a specific result. If Eisenhower had a plan this politically correct, vague and non-committal for D-Day we would all be speaking German. The Executive Summary (page iv) captures the pro-wolf bias in the report quite well. "The goal of this Wisconsin Wolf Management Plan is to effectively balance the tradeoffs between the following key objectives: • Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role (Objective A) • Address and reduce wolf-related conflict (Objective B) • Provide multiple benefits associated with the wolf population (Objective C)" In support of these primary objectives… There is NO mention of balancing the wishes of hunters (shouldn't that be a primary objective or at least an important consideration?) in this summary (more on this later) and no mention at all about killing wolves to achieve objectives. Another sentence captures this bias and disregard for the wishes of hunters. This single sentence highlights the DNR's attitude that this is all about wolves, not people. "In early wolf recolonization in Wisconsin, it was recommended that hunters avoid areas occupied by wolves." Page 81 (92 of the packet) What is the wolf's ecological role? Vague reference (page 111, 122 of the packet) to keep nature in balance. Need to define "balance" to make this a real plan and also need to consider the wolf's role when there are other factors keeping nature in balance, like hunters. What is the balance between wolves and hunters specifically when it comes to deer? Silent on this. "Ensure the late-winter wolf population abundance is responsibly maintained above federal and state listing thresholds." (page 111, 122 of the packet) Silent on how much above? That open ended approach is not a plan and is clearly pro-wolf! (Page 114, 125 of the packet) says to maintain deer herd to feed the wolves! No mention of maintaining deer herd to feed hunters. Clearly pro-wolf again! There is no mention of what to do when the wolf population gets too large! There are no real triggers like we have in other regulatory areas when, for example, depredation gets too large. Only vague references to target "downward to stable trends" in conflicts! Stable? At what level? (page 117, 128 of the packet) Conclusions are stated in a biased manner. Here is an example. (page 36) "More people support regulated wolf hunting and trapping than oppose it and a majority support lethal control to address conflicts, however support was conditional." Using the word "conditional" in this context is a blatant attempt to undermine the view that people generally support regulated wolf hunting! Then the narrative does not even address what "conditional" really means! Farmers are going to be taught how to reduce conflicts! (page 118, 129 of the packet) . Doesn't this absolve wolves of their actions and put the blame on farmers? This is so pro-wolf. I also will take issue with all the tribal support. While we put great weight in this report on public surveys there are no public surveys of tribal members. In other words, the rest of the report wants to put considerable weight on individual responses but not so on the individual opinions of tribal members! The excuse for this sleight of hand, as explained on page 43, is that treaty rights mean that the final word comes from tribal governments not individuals. This convenient cop out may be legally correct but that does not make it right especially as it pertains to policy that impacts non-tribal members more than tribal members. What is the purpose of Table 11? I think the DNR is saying that we have a good model to help us predict the impact of a hunt on the wolf population. I hope they do but the truth is that all the data, except the reported wolf harvest from the hunt, is totally manufactured and unreliable by the DNR's own admission later in the report on page 97! This attempt at credibility is overstated. Moreover, what the table really shows, if it is accurate (which I doubt) is that human harvest has had no detrimental impact on the wolf population in Wisconsin. In other words one could conclude from this that hunting wolves is a GOOD idea and the DNR should be a champion of wolf hunting! Despite humans killing an average of 34% (highly debatable) of the estimated wolf population each year between 2011 and 2013 the wolf population has grown a very healthy

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						(from a wolf's perspective) average of 3% a year since 2011 (while the human population of Wisconsin has only grown on average by .4%.) This fact should be a rationale for regularly scheduled wolf hunts to control the wolf population but there is no mention of that in that report. The report seems to suggest that the only reason to limit wolf populations is to reduce conflicts arising from depredation of livestock and pets. That is ONE reason. The other, only obscurely mentioned in an appendix table but alluded to in a pejorative manner in discussion of hunter comments, is to maintain a deer herd for sportsmen and women. The tone of the report is that all that matters are wolves and livestock. The utility of sportsman and women who fund the DNR is ignored, almost totally. Page 97 contains this accurate statement which despite being accurate is a total cop out allowing the DNR to do whatever they want to do and for whatever reason. Further, estimating the abundance of wildlife populations with enough precision to determine whether the population is meeting a narrow numeric goal typically demands high resource and financial investments and may be impractical. These difficulties may lead to illusions of success or failure regardless of actual conditions on the ground. Therefore, although numeric population goals may effectively account for basic biological requirements, they can easily fail to account for other biological concerns and social factors which are ever evolving through space and time. An alternative to numeric population goals is to prioritize management actions in response to existing conditions as observed in the field and scientific data. This approach strives to find an effective balance between potentially competing objectives associated with wolf management i.e., facilitating wolf-related benefits while minimizing wolf-related conflicts." Let's dissect this for a second. First, to say "An alternative to numeric population goals is to prioritize management actions in response to existing conditions as observed in the field…" is probably correct but to implement it you need to consider all input on what is happening in the field. This includes hunter complaints of "no deer" but that is never part of this report! Apparently the only "observations" that count are reported (and I stress reported) predation and the DNR's totally unreliable (as admitted in this quote by the way) estimate of the minimum wolf population. If the DNR wants to ignore hunters they should just be honest and state that up front so that hunters can then vote with their license dollars which comprise a huge part of the DNR budget. In other words, if the DNR really means to use "balance" as indicated in this statement "This approach strives to find an effective balance between potentially competing objectives associated with wolf management i.e., facilitating wolf-related benefits while minimizing wolf-related conflicts." then use a balance that CLEARLY includes the interests of hunters, especially deer hunters in wolf management zones. There is only one mention of hunter satisfaction and it is buried in an appendix on page 102. Under Objective C there is an item called "satisfactory hunter/trapper satisfaction indices" but no mention that I can find of what these indices are or how they will be used. At a minimum one of the bullets under Objective E on page 102 should be designing an effective tool to measure the impact of the wolf population on hunter success. Apparently, that input does not matter as much as pro-wold education and surveys. The pro wolf bias in this report is captured in the fact that in that report on page 102 there is one mention of hunters as just described but many more objectives supporting more wolves: • high probability of wolf population persistence • no radical changes in wolf population abundance and distribution trends • ensuring regulated harvest does not jeopardize the security of the statewide wolf population • ensuring opportunities to enjoy other wolf- related recreational opportunities, including values-based enjoyment of the population • fostering public support for wolves through education
	Most of it	Yes	Almost nothing.	The plan is garbage and only designed to fit the wolf "anti-hunting narrative". The length of 134 pages is utterly ridiculous. The removal of a wolf population objective is just another ruse of the policy of the DNR leftist leadership and reflects no science whatsover. The entire plan is total BS garbage, but isn't that exactly where the DNR has been heading the last 4 years.	0	The are plenty of reasons for the public to no longer trust the WI DNR at anything. The DNR is simply another arm of the rotten Democratic party.
	Most of it	Yes	Having a State controlled plan instead of Federal control.	No maximum quota number for wolves.	2	Having safe zones around Tribal lands. Is bad for the overall plan.
	Most of it	Yes	I do believe there should be some level of wolf population within the state	Population goals removed. I supported the original plan of 350 but now have lost faith / trust that the State actually wants to 'manage' wolves.	2	You need to set a population goal and stick to it. Very little appetite for anything over the 350 limit originally set. I bought property in northern Price county for hunting purposes and consistently see more wolves than deer. The even interfered with my bear hunting. Perhaps with the litigation crazy world we now live in, I should bring suit against the DNR for lessening the value of my investment. And no, I'm not trying to be a smart ass but am consistently frustrated that the bureaurocrats who make up these policies don't have to live with the consequences. Enough is enough. Expand the wolf population in Milwaukee or Madison and see those residents tolerate it!

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	All of it	Yes			1	Its down right wrong for one what is said to be the population of wolves is wrong you people should come to iron co and see how few deer there are left Its almost to the point that iron co midiswell not even have a deer hunt and skip a year what needs to be done here is a september to jan wolf hunt!
	Most of it	Yes		A wolf management plan needs to have a population goal and an accurate population estimate in order to set harvest quotas. There was a reason that 350 was set as the number to indicate wolf recovery in Wisconsin. Wolves are increasing their range, and are encroaching on more populated areas. I do support wolves being apart of the ecosystem, but the plan doesn't state what an acceptable number is. I submit it should not be more than 500.	5	
Todd Scheel	Most of it	Yes	The overall plan looks good. I like that fact that you are asking for public input.		9	If you have hunts in the future, I hope you use County lines instead of zones. Vilas County, where we live, has had 1 wolf harvested since 2013.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				survey to some 8,000 people with 55% respond rate. So approx. 5,000 people had an opinion to your survey, Please don't set policy based on 5,000 people in a state that has almost 6 million residents! That's foolish and honestly a waste of tax payer money to do such a study.
	Most of it	Yes	How the Native tribes view the wolf	No population target for best acceptance of a wolf presence in the state.	4	
David Wesener	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	It was readable and understandable to me. I feel most people should be able to understand what was written.	choosing to use ranges rather than definite numbers, dislike the logic used in reaching conclusions, strong arguments for different conclusions could easily be reached and supported...	2	I believe the goals were predetermined by the DNR and the plan was then written to support achieving them. I don't believe that this plan represents the wishes of the majority of the citizens of the state.
Jeffrey Szymanski	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Zone assignment based on competing needs and values. Prosecuting poachers. Monitoring population.	Undecided.	7	The draft length prevented me from analyzing it as thoroughly as I probably should have to make valuable comments here. As a city dweller, I've never seen a wolf in the wild but understand their value in maintaining ecosystem balance.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Product A3c:Product A3d: Building partnerships and trust between the various groups interested in the outcomes of wolf recovery will be crucial to ensuring that management of this species reflects the needs and interests of the public and is grounded in science-based decision-making. science-based educational outreach. Provide leadership in collaborative and science-based wolf management in Wisconsin. Product C1d:	Product C1b: Continue to support the Wisconsin Cooperative Trapper Education Program	4	restrict foothold traps, period. restrictions wolf bait, period. poisons? really? that's so indiscriminate, it's disgusting.
Dennis Draves	Most of it	Yes	Effects on ecosystem. Effects of human intervention on pack survival	Percent of deprivation when over 29%	10	Very balancd
Edward Blau	Most of it	Yes	The value of wolves to the floral diversity and survival.	Slides showing wolf kills of dogs, cattle, etc were hard to read, The graphs were much better.	7	As long as the wolves have Federal protection, which I hope persists, there is little the WI DNR can do. I have hunted since I was 12 and see the large deer population as a Public Health and ecological disaster. I am sorry that wolves kill or drive out coyotes since they kill more fawns than wolves. Leave the wolves alone except to help them grow in numbers.
Gerald Kroll	Most of it	Yes	Informing the general public to what's going on with future wolf management plans .	You don't take in consideration the devastation wolfs are causing to the livestock operators. It's getting worse as producers have no means of protecting their livelihood.	3	Your wolf population numbers are way off… there are over 200 in Douglas county alone. If the general public was made aware of the horror wolves are causing as they kill or carry off all species of livestock and family pets maybe wolf enthusiasts will see the light. I alone have lost over 40,000$ in loses to wolf depredation with very little compensation. I don't want to join the ranks of those the wolfs put out of business. We appreciate any help to a complex situation.
Paul Hagen	Most of it	Yes	Very like.	19 deer killed by one wolf per year 1000 wolf wolves = 19,000 dead deer most in northern Wisconsin. If you put in most maybe doe and fawns what is the really total of lost deer.	1	The so called Committee is a joke all pro wolf.
Ross yeschek	Most of it	Yes	Limiting wolf populations	No plan to start population control immediately	1	Hunting season had made wolves fear people and human activity. They stayed in the forest. Without hunting they are much more dangerous to humans, pets, livestock. When they have no predators they pose a real danger to society. When they begin moving south the DNR will wake up. There is a reason no PETA meetings are held in the Chequamegon Forest.
Bruce Nelson	Most of it	Yes	Need to keep balance	Your estimate of Wolves in WI is not accurate at all. The county I hunt in probably has 900 in it alone. Other counties have wolves the DNR doesn't even know about	1	

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	All of it	Yes	That the wolf deserves respect. They belong in Wisconsin — but not in the ridiculous numbers that currently exist.	First, why give the opinion of wolf advocates the same if not more weight than that of hunters and farmers? What do wolf advocates do for Wisconsin's natural resources outside of having an opinion? Most don't pay license dollars nor do they contribute much to Pittman-Robertson funds. Your survey shows most of them have never seen a wolf — so they live in a wolf fantasy world. Hunters pay license dollars and contribute to the Pittman-Robertson fund. Farmers need all the help they can get. Thus, since hunters and farmers have a vested interest and their opinion should carry more weight. It's like giving Russians equal say in how the United States should be governed. Secondly, you have no population goal. Without one, you're leaving all future management open to debate, which leaves future wolf hunts open to lawsuits. It's like you WANT future wolf hunts to be disrupted by lawsuits.	1	
Mark	Most of it	Yes	None	There needs to be a set population goal. There also should not be buffer zones around reservations. Any wolf hunting or trapping season should be allowed statewide regardless of reservation boundaries	1	Pick a population goal and stick to it
Andrew	Most of it	Yes	They plan to actually manage them.	They didn't provide a specific number for the population of wolves once they start managing them.	5	We need to keep the population at their original goal of 350.
Kay Scharpf	Most of it	Yes	Stated goals and objectives. No simple numeric population goal. Zone specific management. Zone 2 management: harvest secondary to long term sustainability and ecological role of functioning of wolf population. Management based on science. Description of mutualists and traditionalists. Description of wolf ecology: keystone species creating a trophic cascade effect of wolf presence on wildlife, forests and humans. Explanation of wolf population resiliency. Mission statements.	Is not specific on how to reduce conflict with farmers and hunters. How will common ground management partnerships be built in science based decisions. Not clear on how to verify zone specific pack size. The study for wolf resiliency not done in Wisconsin and should be. Harvest to target dispersed wolves should be included in management plan as a general harvest impacts the social order of the pack.	9	
Dave Gerdes	Most of it	Yes	Facts and specific info, especially related to depredation and hunting	Good plan, I think a lot of irrelevant information, but what is irrelevant to me may be important to others so maybe the more info thrown out there the better	7	I find it interesting that those who live in areas without wolves are more supportive of more wolves and those who have to deal with them are not as supportive. More relavence should be placed on those who have to deal with them.
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes		No number given to managing wolf population		This is a joke!
Wesley Fietzer	Most of it	Yes	I like the idea that DNR and the management plan committee in particular are finally making an effort to manage the grey wolf in Wisconsin after many years of inaction.	I dislike the fact that there is no numerical solution to the grey wolf population to minimize the inevitable conflicts between the wolves and the human population of this state. In the event there are wolf conflicts that require lethal force and there are harvest tags available. There must be a guarantee that access is granted to the harvest tag holder.	4	
JAMES SAUER JR	Most of it	Yes	TRYING TO START SOME CONTROL OVER THE OVER POPULATED WOLF NUMBERS	NOT REMOVEING ENOUGH WOLFS BEING TO SLOW AND NOT AGGRESSIVE ENOUGH TO CONTROL THE OVER POPULATED WOLF # ..... IVE LIVE AND SEE FIRST HAND THE SIGN AND OVER POP OF WOLFS AND THE DAMMAGED THEY DONE IM A BIG OUTDOORSMAN NOT JUST IN THE SUMMER ITS TIME TO PUT THE BIG BOY PANTS ON AND STOP ALLOWING THE LIBS IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE STATE THAT NO CLUE OTHER THAN THEY LOOK CUTE	1	LETS START ASAP TO REMOVE SOME OFF THE OVER POPULATION OF WOLFS NOW !! JUST LOOK HOW LONG IT TOOK TO REACH THE CAP IN THE LAST SEASON THE STATE HAD 2 DAYS THAT SHOULD TELL YA SOMETHING
Mark Gausman	Most of it	Yes	Overall, I liked the extent and information provided in the plan. Very well done, a lot of information to read(178 pages).	The graphs that show "wolf range" and "non wolf range" does not show the actual population of respondents. Was it 1000 people surveyed? 10,000 people? I did not participate, nor was I contacted about participating. I live in southern WI.	3	Deer hunting is culturally important to the people of WI. The addition of over 1000 wolves on the landscape has had a negative impact on deer population in northern WI if one looks just at the population of deer before the expansion of wolves and today. Northern WI has the greatest amount of public land to hunt, the lack of deer in northern WI has driven a lot of deer hunters to quit hunting or move to areas where there are greater deer numbers. How does this plan address this issue? Establish a wolf population goal of 500 wolves.
	Most of it	Yes		The subzones around the tribal land areas is a joke. It's not enough that the tribal areas have a zero quota, but to then expand that reach to surrounding areas is ridiculous. This guarantees those owning land in this area to be unfairly subject to very limited Wolf management. Sure to reduce general recreation and enjoyment of the land, negatively impact local deer populations, and ultimately have a negative effect on land prices and local economy. Non-tribal lands should not be subject to tribal land concerns. This is a spit in the face to those with a vested interest in these areas close to but outside tribal areas. Management in non-tribal areas should absolutely NOT be subdivided to the behest of tribal areas that already have a zero quota policy. This portion of the new plan among not having a goal in general is shameful. Wisconsin residents have been subject to a bait and switch from the original 350 population goal.	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	None.	No wolf population goal numbers. Unlimited expansion of wolf territory.	1	Most of the attention is placed in northern Wisconsin. The central forest region has a severe wolf over population problem. The original goal of 350 just keeps getting moved higher and higher.
	Most of it	Yes	Finally we have a plan. If you want to call it that. At the very least this is a start to some form of management. With that said the plan and lack of goal establishment is shameful. This plan is a spurn to those with the greatest interest in the intended Wolf areas. The reestablishment of Wolves in Wisconsin has been the ultimate bait and switch to the people.	So much to dislike. The lack of a true goal is extremely concerning given the constant caving to public opinion and tribal management responsibility. The population was not managed in the past, it's been let to far exceed an agreed upon population amount in the state. Now the goal posts have firmly moved beyond that agreed population total. Talk about your bait and switch. To make matters worse, now we are made to live with a new management plan that doesn't even have the guts to place a population goal on paper. Not quite reassuring. The DNR seems OK to give into animal rights groups and liberal individuals that like the idea of wolves rather than the reality. The DNR is now listening more to those individuals than the people that live and have financial connections to areas with Wolves. They are content with the fact this will deter individuals from recreating in these area. Further, this will not have a positive financial impact on landowners in these areas. But who cares right? The DNR should look to cooperate with those most affected, and this is the polar opposite. Extremely disappointing plan or lack there of.	1	Its time to start working with the people most affected and with the greatest impact by Wolves. It's time to get back to the original agreement of establishing wolves in Wisconsin rather than a continual movement of the goal post. How about a survey to those living or owning land in Wolf areas exclusively? It sure feels that nobody is listening. You talk about building a relationship between the DNR and the people in WI, this is not how to go about it.
Daniel Paulson	All of it	Yes	Integrated plan The 6 goals and objectives are well ksupported and logical Strategy B5 is critical C3 is very important. The wolves can be a draw for people, Look at how many people seek out woves in Yellowstone NP, Strengthen C2. Strengthen D. Strengthen mitigation efforts. No compensation without effective mitigation efforts!	C1 is problematic. More control over any wolf season. C2h - No dogs!!! Out of state wolf huinting licenses should be very expensive to deter ego-centric trophy hunters.	9	Do everything possible to educate the public about woves and the benefit they provide to a healthy ecocosystem.
Stephen Musial	All of it	Yes	Nothing it's a terrible plan with no population numbers when this plan started max wolf population was to be 350 and that's what it should be	No population goal terrible idea	0	This is the most idiotic idea the DNR has come up with and huge protected zones around the Indian reservations omg in the last 2 years the Indians have killed over 160 bucks in the Boulder Junction area let them hunt their reservation oh that's right they killed all the deer there already 350 should be the maximum population of wolves in Wi PERIOD
	Most of it	Yes	continued compensation for loss of pets, livestock and hunting dogs to wolves	no numerical limit to the number of wolves in the state, somehow the wolf population has to be brought down so the deer have a chance.	3	Somehow the population of wolves has to be reduced in most of Forest County. Areas around Laona and Blackwell where our family have deer hunted for over 60 years are have about 10% of the deer population of years ago and are now over run with wolf sign. I have nothing against a few wolves but now I can go into many areas after a fresh snow and see wolf tracks all over and hardly a deer track. This is a sign the wolf population has to be brought down and this alone gives many people a bad opinion of wolves. Start a wolf hunt again and bring the wolf numbers down so the deer have a chance and I would have a much better opinion of this plan. I spend a lot of time in the woods and we are have just to many wolves in many areas!!
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes			1	There are too many wolves, especially i
	Most of it	Yes	It is nice to see all the graphs and maps that show the different data. I think the graphs and maps can show more than words can explain.	Already your draft is outdated. I happen to know of collared wolves that have set up territories in areas outside of data your plan shows. Alot of your references are from old, outdated studies. Certainly, there more reliable studies and published papers that more relevant then 14 years old.	4	I am confused why you don't list a population goal number or management population number. Just about everything fish and wildlife related is justified by numbers. Walleye and Musky fish per acre. Population of trout and salmon in Lake Michigan as it relates to stocking and baitfish biomass. The number of song sparrows nesting on a prairie. I could go on and on. So why not list a population goal for wolves. So is it ok for the state to have 6000, 7000, or 10000 wolves in the state. What is the number to scientifically state that wolves can have a sustainable population in the state and not have a biological effect, whether that is elk, deer predation, pet kills, or livestock kills. Until this state writes a management plan that list a population goal, I will not support it.
Bill Weber	Most of it	Yes	I liked the specific data. Although I feel it is under represented as there are no assumptions made when it comes to wolves.	I feel that there should be a higher management of this alpha predator. Although I do see that your hands are tied when out of state judges take away your management plans.	1	I think it needs to be recognized that when hunters shoot 200 wolves in such a short amount of time that the population is vastly under counted. I understand that we need to respect and listen to Native Americans and do feel that they have an overweighted input into the plan. I do wish you the best and know how emotional both sides are. I can tell you that I sold 300 acres of land at the end of Trappers Road in Price County in 2013 as there were lots of wolves and no deer left. This land is in MFL open and adjacent to a ton of other well managed MFL land and 500 acres of State Land. I grouse hunt here and always am very nervous with the amount of wolf sign and my Brittany's.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
brice	Most of it	Yes	charts	estimated populations	5	The process needs involvement from Conservation Congress and sporting organizations, not just DNR staff and indian reservation representatives, the model your looking to move to for management is different than what was originally approved. The total number of wolves is far from what it should be and needs management, which offers sporting opportunity to state residents. That process should be tied to the same process as bear tags but should be further weighted by those who have the ability to successfully and ethically harvest the amount of animals targeted to be harvested.
Marina Haan	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The overall objectives are sound	1. That funding to compensate for depredations comes from selling licenses. 2. That trapping is permitted. (=cruel & inhumane.)	5	I would like to see more emphasis on the value of wolves in the WI environment as being an attractive feature that draws tourists to the state. Using the funds from selling licenses to reimburse for depredations means pressure to increase license sales and therefore more hunts. Let's go back to funding through sales of the special license plates. There is no justification for the use of traps. It is impossible to trap without creating needless suffering.
	All of it	Yes	It does a great job of trying to justify doing away with a fixed number of wolves in Wis. It also does a great job of justifying spending more money on wolf management.	Doing away with the fixed number of wolves needed in the state. Justifying spending unnecessary money on a simple problem.	0	Keeping a fix number of 350 wolves simplifies the wolf management plan. Saving and making the state money by. One reducing the number of wolf damage payments. Less wolves less damage payments. Generating revenue by selling wolf hunting lic. Reducing the number of personnel needed for management.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None of it	Give us a Number you sold us on 350 where is this going to end. Do the Indians get to dictate wolf management?	2	What a bunch of BS A population that we are comfortable with. Manage the wolves
Mark	All of it	Yes	That the state will manage the wolves.	The fact that the state wants to move away from the original number of 350 and institute a plan that allows for a larger number on the landscape. State law must be changed before this should be allowed.	2	Hound hunters and trappers are the best tools in the states control, fast and efficient control. Work with groups to manage problem areas instead of issuing tags to those who have no intention of utilizing.
	Most of it	Yes	Not having a statewide population goal and being specific in terms of the actual areas that have wolves on the landscape	More metrics are needed.	8	More public outreach and education is needed to show the value of wolves in the ecosystem
Shannon Thielman	Most of it	No	I like the heavy emphasis on on-going scientific research. I like the emphasis placed on native cultural values.	I dislike the number of permits issued per targeted wolf.	9	My family has owned property in Lincoln County for 3 generations. My parents live there, and my son and I spend our summers there, spending much time in the woods. I saw a wolf this summer, crossing the road ahead of me on my walk, and it was thrilling. It made me reflect - I would have much greater fear of running into a stranger in the woods, than of running into a wolf. I know that top predators are extremely important in healthy ecosystems, and I appreciate the wolves' role in keeping the prey populations in check and especially the potential for them to reduce CWD in our deer herd. I believe that hunting during breeding season is unethical, but am not opposed to a hunting season that is very highly controlled and based on valid scientific population estimates. This wolf management plan is a strong step toward fulfilling the WDNR's responsibility to maintain a healthy wolf population in the state.
Don Baumgartner	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I am ok with a lot of it, I like breaking the state down to specific areas with wolves in them and managing them that way.	I have several dislikes mostly on the handling of the hunting, trapping and compensation. You have to get a handle on the supposaby hunting groups slottering the wolves. The bear hunters should not get any compensation for their dogs because they are not in there control and that is a chance that they are taking. In this day and age trapping should not be allowed. We need to do as much as possible to help the farmers to make their farms safer for their animals.	5	The last wolf hunt that happened in Wisconsin was a total failure and the state should be imbarassed at how it was handled. It just shows that the gun people can do what ever they want.
	Most of it	Yes			3	no increase of the population of wolves. reduce numbers to the original agreement of 350 animals located in NW portion of state.
Michael J Riegert	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The adaptivity	This plan appears to be a great improvement and involves admirable dedication and effort. Yet I'm afraid I can't take it seriously because of the use of the euphemism "harvest". eu·phe·mism noun a mild or indirect word or expression substituted for one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing. har·vest noun the process or period of gathering in crops. crop noun a cultivated plant that is grown as food, especially a grain, fruit, or vegetable. (Definitions courtesy of Google Dictionary) Wolves aren't plants that we've sown and cultivated. They're not a crop. And they're not harvested, but killed. I'll take these efforts seriously when proper terms are used and when it's acknowledged that our justifications and qualifications for trying to manage another species are inadequate.	5	"We need another and a wiser and perhaps a more mystical concept of animals. Remote from universal nature and living by complicated artifice, man in civilization surveys the creature through the glass of his knowledge and sees thereby a feather magnified and the whole image in distortion. We patronize them for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate for having taken form so far below ourselves. And therein do we err. For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours, they move finished and complete, gifted with the extension of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings: they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the earth." — Henry Beston, The Outermost House: A Year of Life On The Great Beach of Cape Cod Courtesy of GoodReads In appreciation and hope-free service: Michael J Riegert, Medford, Wisconsin

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Matt Lallemont	All of it	Yes	Very little	Several areas I Disliked. Missing a numeric population goal. Buffer zones around tribal lands unfairly restricted to harvest and give the tribes management authority of private and public lands surrounding them in a very clever way which will go public fast. Anti dog-hunting undertones implying dogs should not be used if wolves are present instead of manage the wolves so dog-hunters can use their dogs. Suggests restricting road access in the best habitat. Science is picked and misrepresented to tell a narrative. Ignores sporting and agricultural feedback from the advisory committee meetings. Assumes if wolves now live in an area it has become good wolf habitat. This appears to be more of a wolf expansion plan vs a management plan.	1	Expect a lot push back from all forms of sportsman, sporting groups, cattle and farming organizations for not setting a population goal and timeline to achieve it.
	All of it	Yes	Objective A is of utmost importance. Wolves should be restored wherever they can. They belong in our ecosystem.	I dislike any attempt to minimize their range or number.	9	Our habitat, and environment would be best served by having a healthy wolf population.
Logan Norman	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that harvesting wolves are part of wolf management			
Jon Peterson	Most of it	Yes	none it is obvious that the over population of wolves in wi will not be controlled	the whole plan does not adress population control a season to hunt trap is urgently needed	1	typical dnr approach to a major wolf overpopulation problem. time to take this problem into the hands of the hunters who have seen there hunting decline s s s
Sonya Dailey	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Follow the science	I am against hunting wolves at all	5	Stop hunting completely. Leave packs in tact so they can hunt naturally and not have to resort to livestock. Wisconsin forests need wolves
Robert Schultz	Most of it	Yes		Not having a set population goal. If you have no goal number, how will the public ever know that the DNR is truly managing the species?	0	
	Most of it	Yes		Removing the population goal	1	
	Most of it	Yes	My God, what is in this plan? This is not a plan!	Bunch of rhetoric	1	
Joseph Willman	All of it	Yes	The zones and sub-zones give the state a lot of flexibility moving forward. Being able to scale up or scale down management in those zones and sub-zones will make site-specific management much more effective. You can really tell the department made an effort to reach a diverse group of stakeholders, especially the tribes compared to the considerations for the previous harvest.	I think the wolf advisory committee should be broken down into two committees of scientists. Mixing the two seems like a recipe for conflict and not getting anything done. Sociology should be kept out of science. For the sub-zones around the reservations, the quota level of 4 still might be too high. If all four are harvested from one reservation it could wipe out an entire pack. (I acknowledge that the plan mentioned that this number will be revisited but this may be something that we just have to wait and see on)	8	Given the complexities of wolf management, I think this plan did a very good job meeting the needs of a majority of stakeholders and gives the state a lot of flexibility going forward compared to the previous plan. I look forward to seeing what changes are made and how this plan is implemented moving forward!
	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes			10	
Timothy Bailie	Most of it	Yes	It was well laid out and I could tell that a lot of thought went into it.	I disliked the public take (hunting) of this animal was more of a, if everything else doesn't work, instead of a management tool that is used for all other large game in WI. It is leaning more on payed individuals (law enforcement and government trappers) instead of paying individuals (hunters). This is counter to manangement practices widely used in WI and is financially unwise. I do understand this issue is controversial and this wording may be best as having them delisted is priority 1 as science seems to indicate that they are indeed recovered.	7	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	How comprehensive it is.	It lacks a population goal number.	5	The goal of the plan should be to decrease the wolf population within the State to a number supported by the majority. The current plan leaves too much room for population growth even to the point on non-sustainable numbers.
Paul Lemke	All of it	Yes	Nothing	All this plan tells me the liberals in Madison are up to same crap we usually see from them. The people in the northern parts of the state get dumped on again. Let's see some action and get rid of a lot of these wolves. They are taking over the state. Trap some and take them down in the Milwaukee/ Madison area. Bet you will come up with a good plan then.	1	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	historical look at the progam	NO poplulation number is the biggest failure of the DNR I have ever witnessed, clearly you are afraid to make a decision, this is a political hack job, you are clearly ignoring the hunters who pay for the majority of DNR law enforcement. this is unacceptable.	0	this will eventually become a public safety issue, you already have a dnr employee who had a dog killed within seconds of shooting a grouse, no fear of shotgun blasts- saw this article online. when a person finally has an encounter where public safety is a concern, the bounty on wolves will start. I no longer have any respect for the dnr with this fence riding plan, the end result is not a plan rather an attempt to please the anti hunters. sportsman will never respect the wolf unless there is a regular season to harvest the animals, look at all other species, whitetails unlimited, ducks unlimited, pheasants forever, these are all examples how wildlife thrives when sportsman respect an animal. I saw this mindset change when hunting was allowed in 2014, now with this plan with no goals, sportsman will continue to hate wolves and shoot them anytime they encounter one. Throw this plan away and start over. the landscape has changed since the 70s, I believe fewer wolves should be the goal, say 250 due to urban sprawl. there will be more conflicts as people have moved away from crime ridden cities and went rural. that means more pets killed, also potential for public safety concerns.
Jason	Most of it	Yes			0	I would like to be able to walk in the woods again and see more deer tracks than wolf track. The longer you guys wait around the worse it's going to get.
Ron Wilson	All of it	Yes	Very little	Valuing public input from people who are not impacted by the unchecked wolf population in northern Wisconsin.	2	If you don't make the decision to have an open season on wolves soon, you need to realize there are many who will do so on their own. These people are not only hunters either. The wolf is no different than other animals in our state - they need to be managed with some sort of hunting/trapping season since they have no natural predator.
CHRIS J BOUTON	All of it	Yes	none	stakeholder input. Who are these stakeholders? Are these national organizations ? Only wisconsin legal residents have any stakeholder share in managing wolves.	1	It appears to me that wdnr wants to obfuscate wolf management with the goal of eliminating any wolf harvest.
	All of it	Yes			4	
KATIE ABRAMS	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I believe promoting wolf harvest as a tourism aspect would be beneficial all around, it would be lucrative (hopefully) and help with nuisance populations. Educating the public is of upmost importance, in my opinion. I hope that aspect receives a lot of attention. The wolf population in Wisconsin, along with its benefits and challenges, is misunderstood by a vast majority of residents. There are many preconceived beliefs about wolves in the state and the only way to solve that is with education :)	There isn't an aspect I necessarily dislike, however, I think it would be beneficial to expand on the deer-wolf relationship. Possibly including the relationship between prey and predator populations (ex: rising white tail populations = rising wolf populations). Hopefully it would encourage individuals who are not fond of the wolf population to harvest deer.	9	Very informative, well organized plan.
	Most of it	Yes	Zone specific tags, subzones, goal of stable healthy population, and focus on science based decision-making.	8 hr registration requirement is a bit tight. 12 hrs would be better.	9	Good luck getting it approved!
john Fetzer (cdac)	All of it	Yes	60 pages and very little reference to deer populations. That is because DNR's matrix will never be correct because they will never have an accurate count until the last deer is gone.	matrix is solely based on speculation / It would take an army to collar every wolf to get a correct count.	6	it is a mute to talk about how wolves were transplanted into Wisc. But like DNR's matrix about deer pop. so is wolves. The harvest of all most 200 wolves would according to their matrix say that the population was dissipated to an unstainable level. At supposedly a 1200 pop and .25 breedable at 6 pup means that 1500 pups anchor the population. I don't believe it. I believe there is well over 2000 animals and at .15 300 breedable animals it equates to 1800 new borns. at 20 deer killed per animal it is easily 40k of deer dead a year x20 years equals a 800,000 ratio to put into deer numbers. Some may say my numbers are bloated but I say the DNR numbers are weak.
	All of it	Yes	Hard to understand.2	Didn't see any figures. All words.2		Go back to the original 350-400 max. Not the 1000(+,-).
	All of it	Yes	I like there is an actual plan so maybe now we can hunt them and knock the population back down to where it belongs which is low	I want a population goal and a plan for hunting to get it there period. Seems DNR has fallen pray to politics of this and are now catering to the anti's. Wolves need to be harvested heavily in Rusk county and all surrounding counties. The number killed last year in Ashland or Bayfield county I think was 49 in an attempt to knock them back was awesome and need needs to be done elsewhere. Also shows that the population is out of control!	1	How can statewide population be like 1097 when 49 were killed in a special hunt in Ashland or Bayfield county and that was after the last Wolf hunt. Hard to believe that many wolves taken in that area in a short period of time and I am sure there are many left so that leaves the question if that many in one country how can there possibly be that few in others when we know that's untrue!!!
Matthew Deinhardt	All of it	No	As a trapper and non resident trapper I want there to be wolves for years to come so that I can harvest them in a scientifically managed season. The wolf is sacred to me and my family and harvesting them is part of how we live our life and so not having a cap on the population makes this possible. I like that harvest will continue through scientifically managed seasons. I appreciate and enjoy that hunters and trapper are stakeholders in this discussion. Also like livestock compensation program, this will help with those stake holders whos cows, sheep, pigs, and goats get killed by wolves.	I dislike that the DNR is considering non hunting or non trapping public input. I want everybody to enjoy the wolves, even non trappers or non hunters. However its a little concerning to think that residents in Milwaukee could dictate animal management in places like Mellen, Mercer or even Eagle River. I disagree that tribal considerations should even be considered if they dont hunt or trap wolves, OR provide funding to the DNR. I have nothing but respect for other tribes, but to create pockets of no wolf hunting or trapping goes a little too far in my opinion. Again public attitudes should have zero to do with wolf management, that is the reason science exists, which will help drive management techniques.	8	If the tribal members dont want wolves killed, I recommend doing a lottery draw for their region. They should have to buy a license and put in for the lottery. If they get wolf tags, they can simply not fill the tag. This creates an equitable situation for all parties, I even would give tribal members applying for a lottery on their land a higher preference percentage point.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	I like the idea of having multiple stakeholders at the table and I would like to see strong representation from the hunting/outdoor community	Fostering public support for wolves through education...sounds like this would be a one-sided pro-wolf propaganda effort to justify never actually managing the wolf population	5	I feel like the push to move away from a numerical goal is an attempt to dramatically increase the wolf population in an open-ended manner with the intent to never truly manage the wolf population. I am concerned that the number of people living outside of the wolf range that are pro-wolf and anti-hunting will significantly outnumber those living, hunting, and recreating within the wolf range. Additionally, no amount of pet or livestock depredations, human safety concerns, nor decimated game populations will ever be enough for this pro-wolf and anti-hunting crowd to ever vote to manage the wolf population. Therefore, without a numerical goal, there will never truly be any control of the wolf population under this proposed wolf management plan. I would also like to see weight given to those that live in wolf range as these are the people that ultimately have to live with the results of the wolf management program. I am ok with having wolves on the landscape, but I strongly believe that they need to be managed to a population level that is lower than what we have today.
Joe Meyer	Most of it	Yes	Balancing the complex needs of wolves and people while focusing on ensuring wolves play a significant ecological role. This includes ensuring the "cultural carrying capacity" we place on wolves is not the only driver for wolf management.	We need to do a better job of utilizing our wolves as a major tourism opportunity for viewing, etc.	9	Great work! Finally we are seeing the major ecological role wolves play and the real ability for WI to sustain wolves near current levels. Thanks!
	Most of it	Yes	I like that you're using Hunting as a means to control the population. As a farmer in zone four the idea of having an uncontrolled population of wolves running on my farm seems like a bad idea. Pastured animals even inside fences get stressed from wolves which makes them loose weight. It's hard farming regenerative agriculture.	In zone four there is a lot of agriculture. If wolves populations get too high I think that people will take wolves out of season. Which will make the community look bad. I'd like to see the population in zone 4 and management included in zone 6.	8	Maintaining a small population of wolves in zone 4. Along with a hunting season so they fear humans.
Bruce HERWIG	All of it	Yes	It has no facts or numbers to the draft on what do you really want a wolf population at.	Nothing in that draft when you are going to take care of the problem with all these wolfs	2	You have lost all respect on the wolf population and people are just doing what they want to manage these wolves because you are not. They are over running the northern woods where it is not even safe for a guy to go bird hunting with his dog or people to let their dog out to go the bathroom in many areas. What is your goal ? When ? I hate hearing how people are managing our wolves I believe in managing but needs to be clean kills no animal deserves to suffer and because we have no control over them the people are doing what it takes to take care of the problem. Your numbers are so far off on what you think is in the woods and you have no plan no statistics nothing in this draft.
	All of it	Yes			0	Wolves have destroyed deer hunting and turkey in many areas of the north woods. Great job reintroducing wolves and then the elk in Jackson county to just supplement feed the wolves with expensive elk loins. What a well thought out plan that was. How many were killed over the past years by wolves?! You know and so do lots of us the answer to that question. Great waste of our tax payer dollars period. Wolves were not here for a reason. Our elders took care of the problem because wolves kill just to kill. Jackson county used to be an amazing place to hunt deer and other game and now it sucks and lots of others wont waste their time or money to hunt there either. You wonder why less people hunt now, well its because you are not doing your job protecting our natural resources. But hey dont listen to someone who hunted up there since the 80 and have seen what has seen the damage your policies have have done. You are supposed to be protecting our heritage of hunting and our best natural resource the whitetail deer but why would you want to do that?
	All of it	Yes	kill all wolves	anything leaving wolves around		kill em
	Most of it	Yes	lethal control of problem wolves, population reduction through hunting and trapping.	All aspects that contribute to a more wolves than the minimum amount to maintain a resident population	3	I live close to, but not considered to be in, Wisconsin's wolf population area and I get them often on trail camera photos (no these are not coyotes, I've trapped 100's of yotes and know the differance). There are too many wolves.
Duane Harpster	All of it	Yes	I, frankly, didn't see anything that leads me to believe population estimates will be more accurate and without faith in the numbers, no faith in the plan.	The zones remain to large to be effective in management. They should be reduced to county size at the maximum. There has to be a population goal number.	3	There is lots of information, but good management requires establishing a goal number and maintaining that number
Paul Noeldner	Most of it	Yes	The top 4 goals should have priority including supporting whole ecosystem benefits, letting wolf populations adjust naturally and state management where needed not private hunting. Goals 2, 3 and 4 will address goal 1.	Goals that put killing as sport above broad public interest and investment in fully restoring self managing wolf populations and major ecosystem benefits	5	Give goals 2, 3, and 4 the priority they were given in the survey as the best way to achieve goal 1 and other goals. Wolves do NOT 'need' to be hunted and the cultural heritage of most Wisconsin citizens is NOT killing for sport.
	Most of it	Yes	the use of zone-specific hunting areas and and extended buffer zone around reservations areas.	I have concerns with the use of dogs specifically the training of dogs on wolves. My concern is allowing the training of dogs while the DNR is monitoring wolves at the same time. Wouldn't dogs running wolves all over the woods make it difficult to get an accuruate wolf count?	8	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	First of all, I like the focus on population studies, the growth of the range and population, the impact of wolves on deer, elk and bears. Your extensive literature and background is admirable, so that people can truly understand the animal and their impact. Using a winter population count makes a ton of sense for wolves, and using the collar tracking mechanism to collect meaningful data is really neat. It is encouraging to see Wisconsin try to provide data and literature on these unique animals. I like the idea of the damages program and think it could provide a stronger framework to reasonable wolf range within the state. Encouraging an annual harvest season is an excellent idea to minimize human interaction while promoting financial opportunity in this space. I would really like to see this season become tighter with less dog chasing because I am a big proponent of relatively "fair chase" hunting. If you all can figure out a consistent non-hunting wolf business opportunity, you should be shouting it from the rooftops because these small communities that are mostly impacted by the prevalence of wolves have an incredibly negative perception.	I am concerned about the consistency of an annual wolf harvest, and the objectivity of a wolf committee. In today's world, it is apparent that political polarization drives too much decision making in science and fitting a narrative instead of the true scientific process (which is really frustrating as a Master's of Science prepared individual). Something that is prevalent in the plan is the "ecological benefit" of wolves which seems misleading since they were effectively eradicated for years and the ecosystem didn't collapse. Balancing the importance of deer hunting in the Wisconsin communities and culture with the presence of wolves is a difficult line to walk, and I do really appreciate the sincerity of reflection by the DNR. I am tentatively optimistic about the wolf program, and at the same time remain disappointed with the lack of consistency of hunting pressure in spite of increasing trends of population even with a hunt (which was completely misrepresented by NPR). If federal regulations remain in place, it would be interesting to see Wisconsin create more clarity of when it would be appropriate to harvest a wolf for protection of pets, children, self.	7	I'm sure you get some aggressive responses in here, and here's to hoping you maintain your enthusiasm for your job and department. I have worked with various fisheries biologist, wildlife biologists and forestry management agents within the WDNR related to managing my property and studying fishing habitats and have only worked with exceptional people that love their job and our resources. Good luck with this impossibly difficult program, and I hope the decision making leaders maintain the same integrity and conservation of their exceptional team.
	All of it	Yes	I like that no population limits are set in the plan.		8	
	All of it	Yes			1	
	All of it	Yes			1	
Mick Mlinar	All of it	Yes	Not putting a number on wolf population.	It's a long read. A summary edition would be helpful because you know most people will not read all of it. And that just leads us back to the misinformation era of the past.	10	Excellent job done by all. Professional, thought out, forward looking...if the legislature and barroom biologists can accept the overall concept of science based management, then this plan has done it's job. Again, thank you to all involved. Mick
	Most of it	Yes	The zone specific licenses and the plan to provide more education about wolves.	I'm not sure there is anything I dislike. While I don't really support a wolf hunt I understand it is needed in some areas. As long as the hunt doesn't get out of hand and respects wolves and their role in keeping nature balanced is the most important thing.	7	
Cory	Most of it	Yes	I like you are letting people harvest the animals	I don't like that you are still not letting people in the areas affected by wolves most manage them at their own discretion.	0	My dog was attacked in 2007 in my yard and you mother XXXXers swept it under the rug and stuck me with the vet bill. The wolf was drawn in by the sound of neighbor children playing on a trampoline and witnessed the attack. The neighbor also had his dog attacked in front of him, his dog died. Again you hushed it. As per usual the dnr has their heads up their asses.
Peggy McDowell	All of it	Yes	I appreciate the consideration of the input from the tribes.	I believe that hunting wolves with hounds should be completely done away with.	6	
	Most of it	Yes	Reducing the number of wolves due to deer numbers being too low in areas of WI	Allowing too many wolves in a "maintain mode" in areas were deer numbers are already too low in WI	2	We need to allow wolves to be shot during the Deer Gun season where wolves are having a negative impact on deer numbers. Some are ok but with bear, wolves, coyotes, and bobcat numbers being so high it is negatively affecting the deer population drastically. This year I'm seeing some does but none with fawns in zone #3.
	Most of it	Yes	1) The breadth - looking at all aspects of wolves in the state from history, to ecology, to population dynamics, human-wolf conflict, etc. 2) Science-based approach. Data, facts, references, etc. 3) Inclusion of the Native American statements. 4) The overall objectives seem right.	Nothing specific. It's always good to edit/ shorten wherever possible... It would be good to better integrate the Native American perspectives and requests into the plan.	8	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Starting real conservation tactics	Not protecting habitats and focusing more on non lethal measures	3	Please find non lethal ways to protect animals including deer
John Holman	All of it	Yes	The plan was released after the election. Although that is not is not something I liked, it does show that politics and not science still rules the DNR, no matter what party is in charge in Madison. However, it does show the need for an independent DNR secretary not appointed by the governor and that is a positive outcome.	I have two grandchildren living in northern Wisconsin (Wolf Zone 1) and I am disappointed in the lack of attention to "Human Safety" in the new wolf plan. There were only three pages (p. 81 – 84) dedicated to the risk of wolf attacks on people and it dismissed that possibility as almost zero. However, Human Health and Safety Conflicts have increased in the state as the number of wolves has grown above the 350 management goal. With the new plan eliminating any population goal for wolves the number of conflicts with humans will increase. My grandchildren's gym set is less than 10 meters from the woods and I fear for their safety. It's only a matter of time before a child looking for frogs down by a creek or walking with their dog in the woods is attacked by wolves. I only hope it is not fatal.	3	Livestock killed by wolves was not divided into categories like dogs (Pets / Hunting - species hunted). Were you trying to cover up the fact that wolves have also killed horses, sheep, pigs, lamas, goats, and poultry? The general public look at horses as pets and might not know that wolves have killed quit a few over the years.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Jerry Goddard	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	You say that the wolfs kill the weak. I see trail cams with hind quarters of deer being dragged thru the woods. These are deer I wiuld like to feed my family with.	The draft is way to long to protect this viscious animal	0	Stop wolf management. Kill them all so I can feed my family
Rev Chad Anderson	Most of it	Yes	I do appreciate that the state continues to look at all aspects of managing the wolf population.	I was already concerned that the wolf count was over 350, and even more concerned that it was over my VERY LIBERAL friend's information that the first meetings about wolves in the state were to be no greater than 75, to which he voted YES. I am very concerned about the future of outdoor recreation and hunting in this state. I am fortunate to hunting in an area without wolves right now, but I live where they roam and I know the pain of my congregational members that have lost so much of who they are and the chance to truly live as we should be able to in this state. Wolves are one of the main problems, besides other political issues of the day.	1	It is time to bring balance back to the DNR and other levels of government in this state so that it is not just the interests of those living in Madison or Milwaukee get to control the rural areas. This goes beyond wolves, of course, but I must stand up for the rural communities that I serve as a Lutheran minister in this state. To me, wolves are no political, this is just common sense that we need to GREATLY decrease their numbers. 350 is too many. So what does that say about 1000 or more.... Thank you!
Ralph Fischer	All of it	Yes	Thanks for all of your hard work. I found the Plan informative and comprehensive.	Allowing hounds to chase wolves.	8	It deeply disturbs me to see that the many people who worked on the Plan were once again bullied by the hound runners. My Father hunted coyote and fox for 75 years in the Fox Valley and never used hounds. They relied on skill and roads. It is true that Zones 1and 2 wouldn't be as easy but there are still plenty of roads. Besides it's zones 3, 4 and 6 where you seek the greatest harvest and those areas are not much different than the Fox Valley when it comes to roads. Allowing the use of hounds will give many people a very negative view of the Department and our State.
	Most of it	Yes	Afterall these years you finally produced a plan like it or not. What took so long.	The attempt on your part to produce a "population number" and not an estimate of the population knowing it is most likely impossible. Too many units and the idea of sub-units. I know drawing lines always leaves "haves" and "have nots" but trying to figure out which side of the line you are on, well? Why not just use the counties like we do for deer since the inter play between wolfs and deer is crucial to both populations and the deer committees would be a good place to include wolf conversations on a reoccurring basis.	3	Please clear-up the air regarding the 350 number. I read sometimes that this was a "cap", to my knowledge the 350 number was the low number for population sustainability and above which a hunt could be authorized. Then provide a percentage of the population above 350 which would be the quota for the hunt. The quota should be the number you expect to be harvested in total and not reduced by any treaty agreements.
Dan Wackett	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	None of it	Like most Government documents, it is intentionally way too long to expect anyone, including Legislators tp read and exhorb all of the content.	0	I don't understand why some ignorant people believe that species like this has to be maintained in every State possible. They have always been plentiful in Western States to the point of being shot when seen. We don't need or want them here!
Curtis Erdmann	All of it	Yes	Managing wolf populations near livestock problem areas.	Not working hard enough to get them unlisted as endangered.	2	The deer population has been dropping since hunting and trapping wolves stopped in northern Wisconsin. Deer hunting brings a lot more revenue than having wolves.
Laura Menefee	All of it	Yes	non-numerical population goals	"We can't please all crowds," especially when the "stakeholder committees" are stacked in favor of wolf removal interests by 2:1. One "group" awarded a seat doesn't even exist. The recreational hunting quotas arbitrarily assigned by WDNR disproportionately target prime habitat where there are few (if any) livestock producers and the only "conflicts" "wolves cause" are with bear hounds.	2	As long as wolves are recreationally hunted, this is an outdated plan. Use of dogs should be illegal even if you refuse to advance beyond the 17th c ideology that insists predators must be "managed" through recreational killing.
	All of it	Yes	Limiting the hunting to zone specific to address the problem area of wolf depredation. Use of scientific data and overall health of wolf populations. Use of nonlethal and mitigation problems to help livestock owners.		8	
Sarah Evenson	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I love that you consulted the tribes and included their letters. Understanding the sacredness of the wolf is much easier when reading their own stories. I'm grateful you are moving away from quotas and toward adaptive management.	I understand the recent attitudes many have or wolf hunting (as a right, and seeing them as a threat), but given their endangered status, I still feel that hunting should be majorly limited.	8	Thank you for the thoughtful plan. I appreciate the effort to educate and found the information about the elk population especially interesting.
Michelle Valadez	Most of it	No	Getting rid of the numeric population goal is a good decision.	Still allowing for a wolf harvest season is wrong when science has proven wolves regulate their own numbers and hunting does not increase tolerance of wolves nor does killing wolves reduce livestock depredation.	3	
Christine Walasek	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Ensure a healthy and sustainable wolf population to fulfill its ecological role.	I would prefer to eliminate wolf hunting for the purpose of elimination. Nature balances predators without humans killing for the fun of it.	8	I know this is unrelated, but I would like to see Fred Prehn step down of his own accord in the interest of fairness to all of us in Wisconsin.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	I like that the plan does present the cultural and ecological importance of wolves to Wisconsin. These sections are important for contextualizing the place of wolves in Wisconsin.	The exclusion of the 20-21 season from the analysis of human impact on wolf populations. The lack of an analysis of the impact of having an unclear closure date for a hunting season on the over-harvesting of wolves. The lack of an analysis of the impact of high harvesting numbers on sub-adult wolves on the overall health of the wolf population.	6	The plan should do more to analyze what impacts an annual 18%+ kill rate would have on wolves. The past analysis overly relies on seasons without hunting. However the past two hunting seasons have seen 200+ wolves killed in just those hunting periods. With a consistent wolf population in the 800 to 1200 range, this would represent a bare minimum of non-poachiching kills above 17% and up to 25% just during a brief period. The borderline frenzy of the 20-21 season should not be seen as an aberration, but rather the norm for how future seasons would look. 20%+ of the population killed in under 48 hours is an extreme shock to the population and should be more thoroughly analyzed for how it impacts wolves and their interaction with humans. Any future harvest plans should involve much stricter regulation of methods of hunting, as well as of the total number of wolves that can be killed. Due to the inherent lag between when authorities are aware of a zone total being met and when hunters are notified, authorities should close zones before totals are met to better manage the populations in them. Further much more should be done to deal with the poaching of wolves and the carry on effect it has on domestic animals, both though the poisoning of dogs, and through the proven link between wolf killings and packs targeting livestock.
	Just the parts I am interested in	No			1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	A science based approach pertaining to the hunting format and structure.	Conflicting goals between wolf populations and re-introduction of elk. Using funding to support both programs seems counter productive where habitat/range overlap. If investing time, money, and resources in elk, should hunting/trapping efforts focus more in areas of higher of elk populations? Please address in more detail how both elk and wolf populations can co-exist in WI.	8	
Dale Heeringa	All of it	Yes	Pleased the plan finally came out, way over due and shouldhave been our sooner. Thinking consideration of wolf hunt tags only valid in one zone would be good idea.	Don't like increased wolf population. Need to stay at originally agreed on total of 350 or less wolves.	7	Feel Wisconsin is not wild enough to support a large wolf population without decimating the northern deer herd and causing human conflict. Need to stay at agreed number of 350 or less either yearly harvest to stay at this number.
gordon jozef	All of it	Yes		no specific number that i could find as in previous plan WAY TOO AMBIGOUS !!!!!	0	so, after ALL this time you finish the draft right after evers is elected ? no mention of 300 population goal ? a committee to establish hunting numbers ? expanded territory around reservations ? a smaller dog than a wolf is 24 / 7 year round open season? evers and his dnr have done absolutely nothing good for the sportsman in this state. just made it more political.
Henry Nisiewicz	Most of it	Yes	Reducing reporting times of a wolf kill from 24 hr to 8 hr.	The fact that there still is a wolf hunting license program.	5	As the former experiment on Isle Royale proved, wolves manage their own numbers based on available food. Except for the occasional problem wolf, there is no need to hunt wolves. I thought they're being protected by the Endangered Species Act prevented that.
	Most of it	Yes	Very good background information and outlining the management objectives. It is spelled out that harvest is recommended to achieve objectives in zones.	I believe there needs to be some numbers on the plan 1200-1500 wolves. With no set numbers it is open to interpretation and easy for one to say no wolf harvest as Objective A is not being met. I did not dig out anywhere where the objective is well defined or measurable.	3	Again, the objective doesn't appear to be measurable I support a health sustainable wolf population, but the plan seems to leave that open to whoever makes the decision of what is a healthy sustainable population.
		Yes	very little	I felt you spent to much time try to make everyone happy and less time trying to actually manage the resources. I saw no population goals (other than the 200 MI/WI delisting threshold). It really is not much of a plan without GOALS. You did a great job of explaining the process however it really doesn't mean anything without an end goal	1	A really didn't see a management PLAN. Just a procedural rhetoric and lot of political correctness.
Loretta	Most of it	Yes	Not putting a number on Wolf killings	I abhore trapping of any animals especially wolves. Should not be allowed. It's cruel.	8	Continue to listen to the Native tribes perspectives. Keep big hunters organizations from other states out of the Wisconsin management plan.
	Most of it	Yes	None	The wolf population count to me is way off as is the bear population count. Unless you are out in the forest or have cameras as most hunters do now you have no idea how many of these killing machines there are.	1	There needs to be a hunting season every year not based on ones feelings these are just pretty to look at. We should not have to fear walking or hunting with our dogs just because urban people are not affected. Trap some wolves and bring them to Madison and Milwaukee and see how much youn love them.
Steve Beining	All of it	Yes	Pretty good historical summary of wolves in WI	This looks like a PR puff piece for the DNR to provide cover to the WBHA to chase wolves.What about expansion of home range in Wisconsin, and other non-lethal methods of redistribution?	3	We need to ban hunting wolves with hounds. The last hunt, a group called Wildcat trespassed to land to harvest wolves with paying clients. THIS IS ORGANIZED THEFT of hunting opportunities for law abiding landowners by the WBHA.
	All of it	Yes	Let the wolf population rise.	Limiting wolf population.	2	Stop paying dog and livestock owners compensation for wolf predation. Wolves were here first and animal owners should be responsible for protecting their animals.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes	It's very thorough from all aspects.	I think the wide berth of no wolf hunting around the reservations is not fair. I believe they can do what they want on their property, but shouldn't be allowed to dictate what goes on public and private grounds elsewhere.	2	I feel that unfortunately the wolf is more of a political topic than a real concern for the vast majority of people in Wisconsin. Personally I would not want to recreate in an area that is thick with wolves. They should be allowed to have a hunting season for those interested and it should be much better planned out and not just cater to people hunting them with hounds. How can someone have a chance to trap one or hunt a wolf without the aid of a dog when the season gets cut short after 2 days. Wolf management has been very suspect as to how well it has actually been carried out. Put this kind of effort into elk.
Jon Peterson	Most of it	Yes	none a total bunch of bs by a bunch of tree hugger types	promise of 350 population goal a big lie		lets get real. we have to many wolves. to much dog predation pets cattle ect
Todd Collins	All of it	Yes	I like that if there is a harvest it will be unit specific tag so a quota can be taken out of unit not all out of 1	I do not like that there is no population goal - DNR appears to be playing politics here to appease the anti and wolf lovers. The wolves are affecting our dee population in the north so like bears, deer etc we need a conservative max population goal!!!	2	Not aggressive enough to reduce the population of wolves. Need to be aggressive so when they are delisted again for the umpteenth time we can reduce the population. There should be an escalator clause in if no season for 1 year, 2 years, 3 years that more wolves can be harvested.
Joanne	All of it	Yes	Your plan to protect our beautiful wolves instead of eliminating them. It is always a treasure to happen upon one, although I do understand the cattlemen's objection to the wolves killing their calves.	I admire your courage and the time it took to draft this plan despite the risk of irritating some persons.	10	
Dan Russler	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	Likes: education, especially for people interacting with wolves like trappers, farmers, etc.; transition from population goal to a focus on negative wolf impact targeting and wolf population health; creation of multiple management zones.	I don't have any significant dislikes	10	This plan is a welcome change from the fighting over wolf issues in the past
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that the plan focuses on making decisions based on other factors besides just science. With this issue, more science is not going to compel effective management, action, policy, and decision making. Values differences are high and uncertainty is high in with regard to wolves.	Recommendations are very general. Need to focus more on reducing population up north and increasing population in southern WI.	5	This is probably not unknown information to you...and it is also very much hearsay...but I hear many stories of people killing wolves illegally. That's probably something that should be recognized. How many wolves are killed illegally every year? A lot if I were to guess and the population is still increasing.
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	I like that you are keeping a hunt in the plan.	I do not like that you have eliminated a number goal. For many, many years the state had said their goal was for 336 wolves. Now we have somewhere around 1000 and we are being told we over harvested them during the last hunt.	2	I have very expensive english setters that i hunt and trial with in northern wisconsin woods. i am also a landowner and i can tell you that we have no shortage of wolves anymore. i do not run my dogs on my own hunting land as the wolf count is far too high. i have actual sightings and trail camera pics on a weekly basis at my 130 acres that abuts 440 acres of public land. regardless of public perception in urban areas we have plenty of wolves so the number doesnt need to get higher it actually could stand to get lowered a bit. i am not suggesting we eliminate wolves what i am saying is we have too many right now.
Steve L	All of it	Yes				I'm all done deer hunting. You can get your money from the animal rights group now.
Jeff Adee	All of it	Yes	I like the idea of zone specific differing plans based on wolf populations, environment, livestock predation, etc. I like that it is scientifically driven and not political. Keep the dumbXXX politicians out of wildlife management.	The biggest concern I have is the statement about larger populations in the 3 zones. I own land in zone 5 and see wolves very often (cameras). I understand no hard goals have been set which in this political climate is wise. I think wolves are good for the deer herd as long as not too many. I also have land and used to hunt in Vilas county. Wolves up there decimated the deer herd from the mid 1990's to 2010ish. Probably part of the reason so many wolves are in zone 5 now. I don't want to see the same thing happen in 5. I'm in a QDMA group of 100 land owners in Adams County and we have worked hard to build up the deer herd and grow bigger bucks. Don't let the wolves destroy that like Northern WI.	8	We have 30 cameras on 200 acres just south of Hwy 21 in Zone 5. We see wolves on camera EVERY week. This year it is 4 to 8 wolves in the same pic depending on if the Colburn pack drops down. All the land owners around us see wolves all the time. The wolf population in 5 is very high. We need a hunt to get this number lower.
Cody	Most of it	Yes	None of it	We need a specific population number.	0	Wolves are destroying our deer and elk population. It's crazy dnr can't see this.
Tye Seeley	All of it	Yes	The consideration of all stakeholders and groups in identifying and ranking priorities for the management plan. Strategies that are dynamic and flexible with changing data and circumstances.	Can't say there was anything I disliked. The plan really considers and uses collaborative data to formulate strategies and concepts .	10	I appreciate the work and time everyone has contributed to this and hope that the variety of stakeholders and organizations will buy in and support the continued growth and application of this plan for many years to come.
	Most of it	Yes	I like the part of the plan that focuses on not just getting a quota number for how many wolves are to be killed but to balance sustainability	I dislike the fact that there are not additional restrictions being put in place to stop over harvesting as well as no increasing penalties for poaching or illegally killing wolves	4	

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	All of it	Yes	Overall, it is a very useful and well organized summary of WI wolf management, past, present, and proposed future.	Though the proposed objectives and actions are clearly laid out, I (somewhat ambivalently) wonder whether there should be more shared about alternatives considered.	8	1. The section on wolf health issues should be reviewed/edited by another experienced wolf health professional -- there is information available in WDNR wildlife health database and files that is missing, and the writing can be clarified for a general audience and made more scientifically precise. (Specifically, the sarcoptic mange section is particularly weak.) 2. Though the need for animal welfare oversight for the WI wolf population is acknowledged, I did not notice specific objectives/actions in the plan (which is important, given that many who are concerned about wolf hunting/trapping have welfare concerns). Examples include: acknowledging/addressing the frequency of injuries associated with trapping (documented in WDNR WH data); -- whether planned trapping for monitoring purposes, wolves caught in traps legally set for other species, etc. Also welfare issues related to hunting wolves with dogs. 3. Though I'd guess that interaction with federal regulations and federal/state judicial actions relevant to state wolf management is generally included in the objectives related to collaboration/partnership, should there be more specific objectives related to these sorts of interactions that have such huge effect on WI's wolf program and have been the source of so much of the heat wolf stakeholders in WI feel and generate?
	Most of it	Yes		the plan is to long	5	what is the managed number was 350 i read we have over 1,ooo
	All of it	Yes	Objectives:B & C	I thoroughly dislike that the individuals who do not live in a wolf pack/population range are skewing the overall numbers of a favorable opinion. I think Polar Bears are fantastic and should not be hunted. HOWEVER, I don't live among them or deal with them so my opinion should not factor into anyones decision.	4	I am not a fan of the zones of regulation nor the fact there is no established goal for management. I do believe getting a more accurate count of the total number of wolves in the state would be very beneficial. Have better numbers and science behind the actual number would help with the overall opinion of the DNR providing management of the population.
Rick	Most of it	Yes	The harvest total to harvest needs to be increased as there is more Wolves than the DNR realizes. It doesnt count for the wolves that are not counted in the algorithms.	Most of it, I dont believe most of it.	2	We eliminated wolves for a reason decades ago. That should not have changed.
Deborah Jackson	Just the parts I am interested in	No		Hunting, Trapping and Killing Wolves	0	Killing wolves is barbaric and short sighted. Cruelty is not needed to control the wolf population. Humanly sedate problem wolves and relocate them. Wolves are necessary to balance nature.
	All of it	Yes	Opening a season in the Midwest to harvest and control wolves over population of issues in the state.	I don't agree on most of what the DNR or members that make up the wolf management plan.	0	Wolves need to be below the original number of 350 in the state of Wisconsin.
	Most of it	Yes	The new flexibility.	The apparent disregard for the positive effect Wolf harvest of CWD Deer and Bird Flu Birds has on the ecosystem including the human population.	5	At this time of Wolf management in our State it should be considered that Wolves remain in a reintroduction phase for years to come.
Curt Wilson	All of it	Yes	I like the new approach to management, specifically: Moving away from a single numeric population goal and instead using an adaptive management process focused on balancing the three main objectives. Reducing harvest registration times and issuing zone-specific wolf harvest permits to improve the department's ability to effectively meet harvest quotas. Adding mechanisms to address localized concerns, including wolf harvest concerns near tribal reservation boundaries and focused wolf harvest in areas with a history of wolf-livestock conflict. Revising wolf management zone boundaries to better reflect current wolf distribution and habitat.	I do not have any dislikes with the plan as written.	10	I think it is important that the plan provides that DNR staff will continue to monitor wolves each year and address wolf-related conflict (consistent with current law). The DNR will continue supporting and conducting scientific research and science-based decision-making. Collaboration with other agencies, tribal nations, stakeholder groups and the public on items of mutual importance remains a department priority. Well done - stay the course. Wolves are an important part of a functioning ecosystem.
	All of it	Yes	The use of scientific data and studies	Most of the studies and data is old and out of date. The prejudices and biases of the past greatly influence the past studies making them far less reliable or valuable. Reliance on the old studies as a basis for current plans leads to inaccurate and dangerous conclusions.	0	update studies and get rid of past prejudices and biases
Joan Bell-Kaul (Lead, "Environmental, Nature/Wildlife" Group (800 members)/ MADISON AREA NEXTDOOR SITE	All of it	Yes	We felt that the most wolf-positive sections of your draft plan were those that favored Tribal attitudes toward wolves--and your concession that attitudes have become more wolf-positive over the decades...	Most of it. The WOLF is CURRENTLY on the US ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST....and your plan seems to disregard that listing as a major consideration in your myriad "studies" of wolves in WI.3	3	You have LIMITED our choices to only TWO EXTREMES--which is extremely unfair to those of us who commend the DNR for certain aspects of the report, but generally believe that the DNR's primary concern with hunting wolves is the REVENUE the LICENSES to HUNT will procure....

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
	Most of it	Yes			7	
David Stanley	All of it	Yes	Being site specific on resolving conflicts.		9	
Luke Schwartz	Most of it	Yes	1. The fact that the DNR is doing "careful integration of biological and social information when considering harvest decisions." 2. Shelton (2004) suggested that the value of depredated livestock from predators is the “tip of the iceberg” concerning the actual costs that predators can impose on afflicted livestock producers.Figure 22. Number of individual farms that experienced verified losses (depredation or injury) of livestock (excluding fowl) to wolves from 1974 to 2021.	1. If wolves are listed as a federally endangered species in Wisconsin, conflict response is limited to non-lethal abatement options (unless a wolf is sick/injured, or in defense of human life), regardless of state listing status.	4	Deal with landowners, farmers, hunters, and trappers more personally with surveys or some form of communication to get a better determination on the actual real population of the gray wolves in Wisconsin. I feel the population is greatly underestimated and so are the cause and effects of having too many wolves in the state.
	Most of it	Yes	I sincerely appreciate the elements of the draft plan that emphasize education on wolves and their importance to the ecosystem, I believe this was primarily in Objective D. Misinformation and ignorance is the cause of unnecessary death of wolves and fear towards them, so I believe public education is a great positive step forwards. Additionally, I believe that focusing more on poaching and illegal hunting is essential to keeping our beautiful wolf population safe.	I personally feel that given that our wolf population status is so fragile, any hunting should be extremely closely monitored or not allowed at all. I feel that of course there are extenuating circumstances such as accidents or self defense, but deliberate hunting of wolves seems inapropriate still. Especially in the case of wovles being deemed a nuissance in commuities, I think the efforts should focus on removing the animals humanely instead of eliminating them. I think that humans need to remember that this is the animals land too, and if we are taking over their historical habitats, it is not fair to kill them out of fear or to not respect that this is shared land. Again, our wolf population is so fragile, and as it is not by any means overpopulated, I feel these beautiful creatures need to be kept as safe as possible.	4	
Ryan Robinson	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes		The lack of a population goal	1	Need to have a population goal and stick to that goal
Chad McGrath	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes				I plan to read the entire plan, but reading the just published news release, I have a comment about one of your three main objectives: "Addressing and reducing wolf-related conflicts". There's a simple, guaranteed way to reduce such conflicts, simply abolish the bear hunting with dogs season. Certainly the small cadre of such hunters, and a fair number of hunters in general, would object and raise a ruckus, but you'd have the support of a large majority of the non-hunting public and maybe even hunters. "Hunting" bear with dogs is disgusting and elitist. And when you throw in the fact that dogs are put in harm's way, it's unconscionable.
Andrew Voigt	All of it	Yes	I think if implemented and followed trough with it would be a start to getting our wolf problem under control	we need to have a over winter wolf population of 200 animals	1	
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	Nothing- 178 pages is ridiculous for the average person to read and understand	What part of plan addresses effect on deer herds	1	
	Most of it	Yes	We are finally going to have a long overdue plan.	Departure from original population goal of 350 max.	3	
	All of it	Yes	very detailed	what is the population goal?		
	Just the parts I am interested in	Yes	The fact that they are a useful tool in ecology but need to be managed more than deer and bear as deer and bear are less invasive in killing livestock and hunting dog and pets we have a no limit on coyotes who cause the same amount of damage as a wolf and we consider them a nuisance and not a major part of the ecosystem so with that being said a sustainable number of 300 or so as recommended before sounds fair	The fact that there is so much discussion on why to keep the numbers of wolves up	3	
	Most of it	Yes	I like it that you have representation from the tribes and a cross section of interested parties participating in the plan development. Managing for a stable (and growing) wolf population is ecologically smart	N/A	9	My hope is that the wolf remains listed as an endangered species, it occupies significantly less of its historic range and those animals we have in our part of the world are precious and an important part of a healthy, diverse ecosystem
	All of it	Yes	Having a harvest.	Proposing a 29% harvest. We can harvest more, do not move the goal post of having 350 wolves. Everything after that is surplus.	2	Get on board with residents and regulate/control an appropriate harvest. If not, you will lose out on control and revenue.
	All of it	Yes	The education component and the identification of conflict areas	Many of your studies are 20 to 17 years old.	4	Most environmentalists are tired of the WDNR's reliance from hunters and trappers. In short if you are killing, say 130 wolves you only issue 130 tags. ALso I believe that WDNR underestimates poaching of wolves. Up here it is shoot, shovel and shutup.

A (Name; optional)	B (Read plan?)	C (Resident?)	D (Likes)	E (Dislikes)	F (Rate 1-10)	G (Open comments)
Joe Weiss	Most of it	Yes		I'm wondering what kind of harvest can be approved in zones 1,3 and 5. According to what i read, those zones would not likely have a "wolf hunt" due to the fact that they are considered core areas for wolves. The problem with that is that I feel most residents in those areas would be more supportive of a hunt since they live among the wolves and have more contacts with them. Deer hunters in particular are concerned about excess wolves in those "core areas"	5	
Roxanne	All of it	No	I do not approve of your so called HARVEST! WTH do you think your doing just say it's a friggin KILL! So big corporation cattle pig etc big barn slottering of animals just for big money! Don't you think it's time to protect all wildlife inc fish waters etc!instead of killing everything for money in big deep pockets! This is wrong the balance of nature must be first after all WE HUMANS ARE CROSSING BOUNDERIES OF THE WILDLIFES LANDS! It's thier land NOT HUMANS! And definitely not big corporations an cement building! Nature will rebound '	Every bit of it is WRONG! Let's just start harvesting humans!	0	Harvest humans not wildlife
	Just the parts I am interested in	No	I do not like like any plan that includes ANY type of hunting of wolves.	Your hunts in the past just about decimated this keystone species. NO hints on wolves at all.	1	Redo it with NO wolf hunting. This would represent science and conservation.
Jenna Fastner	I have not read any of the draft plan	Yes	Thanks for all your hard work!	Thanks for all your hard work!	10	You guys rock!